

SECOND EDITION



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Strategies and Resources

Marc J. Dollinger

Indiana University

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP Strategies and Resources



Preface

Since the publication of the first edition of Entrepreneurship: Strategies and Resources, the field of entrepreneurship has grown even faster than I would have predicted. There are more courses and schools teaching entrepreneurship than ever. The major business periodicals, Business Week, Fortune, and Wall Street Journal continue expanding their coverage of entrepreneurs and their companies. Success magazine has begun a ranking of top business school entrepreneurship programs. Business plan competitions at the graduate and undergraduate level continue to proliferate and the prizes get larger and larger. International interest in new venture creation has grown exponentially and some of this has been delivered through the internet in distance learning formats. I personally participated in one such effort between Indiana University and City University of Hong Kong. The technology enabled us to form joint ventures between students in the United States and Hong Kong for the purpose of starting businesses. It was marvelous.

In this second edition of *Entrepreneurship: Strategies and Resources*, I have tried to improve upon the foundation set in the first edition. This book is designed to be friendlier to the user, beginning with its new design and softcover. A number of new features will help make the text easier to read and understand. Dozens of new examples and mini-cases, called "Street Stories," have been added. International examples and applications are integrated throughout the book.

Organization of the Book

Entrepreneurship: Strategies and Resources is organized into three parts. Part I introduces the major themes and theory of the book. Chapter 1 describes the roles that new venture creation plays in the international economy, defines entrepreneurship, and shows how three factors—individuals, environments, and organizations—come together to create the entrepreneurial event.

Chapter 2 sets this textbook apart from others because it casts entrepreneurial phenomena in terms of the predictive theory of the resource-based framework. In this chapter we present the basic concepts and model of the resource-based theory. There are six types of resources in our theory: financial, physical, technological, human, organizational, and reputational. The theory says that entrepreneurs can create sustainable competitive advantage for their ventures when they possess or can acquire and control resources that are rare, valuable, hard to duplicate, and nonsubstitutable. Here we emphasize the importance of human resources, especially the entrepreneur.

xvi PREFACE

We then explain how these resources are a source of profit and rent for the entrepreneur and how the new venture needs to protect these rents and profits through isolating mechanisms and first mover advantages. Lastly, we offer a model of resource-based feasibility analysis to guide the student throughout the rest of the book.

Part II of Entrepreneurship: Strategies and Resources describes the environment for entrepreneurship. It presents the tools and techniques for analyzing business and competitive conditions and evaluating entrepreneurial opportunities. It is comparable to the strategy formulation phase of corporate strategic management. The purpose of this section is to show how the environment affects, directs, and impinges on the strategy formulation problem in new venture creation. It does this in two ways that can be expressed by the resource-based model: the environment helps determine what is rare, valuable, imitable, and substitutable and it is the source of resources that possess these four attributes. The strategy formulation problem in new venture creation can be stated as follows: What configuration of resources will provide the new firm with the best chances of achieving a competitive advantage?

Chapter 3 covers the aspects of the macro and micro environment that affect entrepreneurship and new venture creation. We present a process model for environmental analysis and then describe a six-element model of the macro environment: political, economic, technological, socio-demographic, and ecological factors. Next we offer the elements of the competitive environment. We incorporate the Porter Model (5-forces model) into the analysis. We begin by asking two questions of utmost importance to the entrepreneur in the early stages of new venture creation:

- 1. Is the industry the entrepreneur about to enter an attractive one?
- 2. What are the best ways to compete to increase the chances of creating a high profitability venture?

To address the first question, the chapter depicts an industry's profitability as a function of buyer and supplier power, the threat of substitutes, entry barriers, and the state of inter-firm rivalry. Students are shown how to do this analysis in sufficient depth and with limited data by resorting to the basics of microeconomic theory. To address the second question we discuss the ways that the possession and acquisition of the four-attribute resource-base provides the entrepreneur with tools to overcome strong industry forces and exploit weak industry forces. The resource-based model is incorporated into this discussion by demonstrating its applicability as a screening device for new venture ideas. We create and describe a resource-based implementation matrix—the four attributes of sustainable competitive advantage by the six types of resources: financial, physical, technological, reputational, human, and organizational resources.

Chapter 4 presents types of new venture strategies and examines different positions that entrepreneurs take regarding the resources required for their firms. We present the basic entry wedges available to the new venture and develop the set of resource-based strategies. We look at how the industry life cycle influences strategy choice. New ventures can be created successfully across the life cycle, but each poses its special challenges. The chapter concludes with an overview of strategic postures and orientations that entrepreneurs can take.

Chapter 5 presents the major tool for formulating and creating new ventures: the business plan. We offer an in-depth outline for a business plan, including all the key

sections and tips on how to structure the plan and the financial proposal for maximum effectiveness. The chapter continues with a discussion of the criteria and techniques for evaluating business plans. At the end of the chapter we offer proven tips for the format and presentation, writing, and editing of successful business plans.

Part III of Entrepreneurship: Strategies and Resources makes the transition from the formulation of entrepreneurial strategy to the implementation stage. The section covers strategic choice, implementation issues, and the problems of securing resources.

Chapter 6 discusses the implementation of a marketing strategy for the new venture. The special problems of marketing a new venture are covered. In addition, the traditional "4 Ps" of marketing are refocused as problems of resource acquisition: access to markets, products, channels of distribution, and creative promotional campaigns. Chapter 6 provides the link between market analysis and marketing. The chapter concludes with a series of methodologies that can be employed by entrepreneurs to make sales forecasts. We complete the chapter with a comprehensive case showing an example of effective sales forecasting for a start-up business.

Chapter 7 begins where Chapter 6 leaves off—the first element of any financial analysis begins with the top line, the sales forecasts. We discuss how financial resources can and cannot be a source of advantage for the new venture. Then we show how the venture can determine its financial and cash flow needs. After reviewing the types and sources of potential financing, we present three methods of new venture valuation. The chapter has two appendices: a case depicting the actual calculation of start-up expenses for a new venture, and a brief introduction into the process of going public.

Chapter 8 shows how entrepreneurs actually obtain investors and structure the financial deal. We look at the characteristics of various types of investors and how to appeal to their needs. The basic elements of the deal structure are presented, and then more advanced elements, such as phased financing and the use of options, are introduced. The chapter concludes with a review of the legal and tax issues raised by seeking outside investors. This chapter has an appendix describing the negotiable terms to a financial agreement.

Chapter 9 examines the creation and development of the organization. We begin with a discussion of the top management team and provide guidelines for effective top management processes. We do the same for boards of directors. Then we discuss the design of the new venture. The organizational design question is: What are the boundaries of the new venture? What things should the new venture do for itself and what things should it subcontract and procure on the market? Similarly, the physical resource question is: What things should the firm own for itself and which things should it lease or contract for? Both of these questions can be handled within the resource-based theory. Last we offer a vision of the entrepreneurial workplace. We discuss how culture, ethics, and personnel practices can help make organizations unique and therefore provide a competitive advantage.

Chapter 10 discusses corporate entrepreneurship (intrapreneurship) and the factors that lead to successful intrapreneurship and those that hinder large corporations from being entrepreneurial. The second section discusses franchising. We discuss what elements make a business concept a legitimate franchise opportunity, and what factors potential franchisees should evaluate before buying a franchise. For both sections we offer guidelines for effective decision making.

Pedagogic Features

The second edition of *Entrepreneurship: Strategies and Resources* provides several features that are designed to aid the learning process:

- Chapter outlines at the beginning of each chapter inform the students about what they should know about entrepreneurship when they complete the reading.
- Chapter objectives blueprint concepts the student should understand upon completion of the chapter.
- **E-Notes** capsulize important entrepreneurship concepts for the student in a boxed format throughout each chapter.
- Theory-based text enables the student to analyze, evaluate, and predict the prospects for various business concepts and plans and make recommendations that increase the venture's chances.
- **Practical applications and guidelines** are offered in all the chapters to show the student how to deal with the real-world of entrepreneurs, markets, and competitors.
- Street Stories is the name of our boxed series of mini-cases. Each chapter contains these real-life examples drawn from the pages of the business press. Each Street Story illustrates the application of good theory to everyday new venture creation.
- Tables and figures throughout the book help illustrate difficult points and summarize the material for the student.
- Extensive references at the end of each chapter provide documentation for all of the arguments offered and enable the student to follow-up with additional reading.
- End of chapter case and questions provide the basis for stimulating discussion. Adapted from real situations described in the business press, these short cases are provocative illustrations of what can go right and what can go wrong in the process of new venture creation.
- **Key terms** are listed at the end of each chapter so that the student can be familiar with the language in use of entrepreneurship.
- Chapter discussion questions can provide the basis of classroom debate as well as be used for written assignments.
- Chapter exercises are designed for two purposes. The first is to aid the student in the development of his or her own business plan. The exercises guide the students to complete the portion of their plan covered in the chapter. Chapter exercises can also be used to complement the classroom experience by having the student go out into the business community to observe entrepreneurship first hand.
- End of text cases provide an in-depth learning exercise for the student. We have prepared 10 cases for analysis. The cases deal with the problems and opportunities of new venture creation, of securing resources, of building reputations, and of operating in a competitive market. The instructor's manual offers a comprehensive teaching note for each case.
- Venture capital simulation is a hands-on, multiple period, interpersonal team exercise that simulates the preparation, presentation, and negotiation of the terms of a venture capital investment. This gives the students the opportunity for personal and emotional learning, since the simulation produces much of the

same sort of tension, frustration, excitement, and exhilaration that entrepreneurs report. Detailed instructions on how to use the simulation and tips on making it a success are included in the instructor's manual.

- Name and subject indexes at the end of the book aid in finding topics and key people and companies.
- State-of-the-art design makes the book more readable and enhances learning.

Acknowledgments

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Marc J. Dollinger is Professor of Management in the School of Business, Indiana University. He is also a Fellow of Indiana University's Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. He received his PhD in Business and Economics from Lehigh University in 1983. Prior to receiving his doctorate, he was the Program Administrator of Lehigh's Small Business Development Center. Professor Dollinger conducts research in entrepreneurship and small business and teaches undergraduate and MBA entrepreneurship, venture growth management, new venture business planning, and small firm creativity and innovation classes. He has published articles in the Academy of Management Journal, Academy of Management Review, Strategic Management Journal, Journal of Management, Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice, Journal of Small Business Management, and many others. He has served on the editorial review board of the Academy of Management Review, Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice, Journal of Small Business Management, and the Journal of Small Business Strategy. In 1990, Professor Dollinger's research was recognized by the Academy of Management Review when he received the Best Paper Award. In 1993 he received the Alpha Kappa Psi award for Teaching Excellence in Management. He is a participant in the national Entrepreneurship Research Consortium, which is currently conducting the largest study of nascent entrepreneurs ever attempted. His students have frequently been finalists in national business plan competitions.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP Strategies and Resources



Brief Contents

Indexes

539

Preface	XV
Chapter 3	1 A Framework for Entrepreneurship 1
Chapter 2	2 Resources and Capabilities 24
Chapter 3	The Environment for Entrepreneurship 52
Chapter 4	4 Entrepreneurial Strategies 91
Chapter 5	5 The Business Plan 131
Chapter 6	Marketing the New Venture 161
Chapter ?	7 Foundations of New Venture Finance 202
Chapter 8	8 Securing Investors and Structuring the Deal 240
Chapter 9	9 Creating the Organization 280
Chapter 3	10 Corporate Venturing, Networking, and Franchising 317
Case 1	Prolingua 355
Case 2	Fumero Artfabrics, Inc. 368
Case 3	e-station 385
Case 4	TV Answer: An Interactive Video Data Service 405
Case 5	Blitz 422
Case 6	Bright Ideas 453
Case 7	Rubio's: Home of the Fish Taco 485
Case 8	Suzy's Zoo 500
Case 9	Potatoquick! 509
Case 10	Windsor Industries, Inc. 528



Contents

χV

Preface

CHAPTER 1 A Framework for Entrepreneurship	1
Entrepreneurship and Your Future 2	
What Is Entrepreneurship? 4	
Creation 5	
Economic organization 5	
Risk and uncertainty 5	
Where Is Entrepreneurship? 6	
Economic growth and freedom 6	
Around the world 8	
The New Entrepreneur 9	
Dimensions of Entrepreneurship 11	
New venture creation 11	
Resources, capabilities, and strategies 11	
Individuals 15	
Environment 15	
Organizations 16	
Organization of the Book 18	
A Final Word 19	
CHAPTER 2 Resources and Capabilities 24	
Identifying Attributes of Strategic Resources	26
Valuable resources 28	
Rare resources 28	
Hard to copy resources 28	
Nonsubstitutable resources 31	
Resource Types 32	
Physical resources 32	
Reputational resources 32	
Organizational resources 33	
Financial resources 33	
Intellectual and human resources 36	
Technological resources 37	

viii CONTENTS

A Psychological Approach 38		
Personality characteristics 38		
Inadequacy of the trait approach 39		
A Sociological Approach 40		
Impetus for entrepreneurship 40		
Situational characteristics 44		
CHAPTER 3 The Environment for Entrepreneurs	hip	52
Schematic of the New Venture's Environment	53	
Processes of Business Environment Analysis	55	
Scanning 55		
Monitoring 55		
Forecasting 56		
Assessing 57		
Political and Governmental Analysis 57		
Stakeholder analysis 57		
Global and international issues 58		
National issues 58		
State, regional, and local issues 61		
Macroeconomic Analysis 63		
Structural change 63		
Cyclical change 63		
Technological Analysis 64		
Pure invention 64		
Process innovation 64		
Sociodemographic Analysis 67		
Demographics 67		
Social trends and values 67		
Ecological Analysis 68		
Sources of Opportunity 69		
The unexpected 69		
The incongruous 69		
The process need 69		
Industry and market structures 70		
Demographics 70 Changes in perception 70		
New knowledge 70		
Competitive analysis 71		
Industry Analysis 72		
Buyer Power 72		
•		
Supplier Power 76		
The Threat of Substitutes 77		

Entry Barriers 77
Structural barriers to entry 80
Retaliatory barriers to entry 80
Price cutting 80
Legal challenges to new ventures 81
Rivalry between Firms 81
Competitor Analysis 82
Identifying the competition 82
Ranking competitors 83
CHAPTER 4 Entrepreneurial Strategies 91
Entrepreneurship and Strategy 93
Entry Wedges 94
Major wedges 94
Minor wedges 97
Resource-Based Strategies 101
Rent-seeking strategies 102
Isolating Mechanisms and First-Mover Advantage 102
Types of isolating mechanisms 103
Sources of first-mover advantage 103
Growth strategies 104
Quality as a strategy 105
Strategy and Industry Environments 106
Emerging industries 107
Transitional industries 110
Maturing industries 113
Declining industries 115
Fragmented industries 117
Global Industries 118
Sources of global momentum 119
Impediments to globalization 121
Evaluating Strategy and Entrepreneurial Opportunities 121
Stage 1: Identification 122
Stage 2: Capabilities 123
Stage 3: Competitive advantage 124
Stage 4: Strategy 124
Stage 5: Feedback 124
CHAPTER 5 The Business Plan 131
Why Write a Business Plan? 133
The costs of planning 133
The benefits of business planning 133

x CONTENTS

Elements of the Business Plan 135 Preliminary sections 137 Major sections 141 Concluding sections 149 Critiquing the Plan: Questions Likely to Be Asked 152
Management 152 Resources 152 Projections and returns 154 Exit 154
Format and Presentation 155 Physical appearance 155 Writing and editing 155 Prewriting 156 Writing and rewriting/revising 156 Editing 156
CHAPTER 6 Marketing the New Venture 161
The Marketing and Entrepreneurship Interface 162
Marketing Concept and Orientation 164 Customer orientation 164 Marketing research 165 Marketing Strategy 172 Selection of markets and segments 173 Marketing activities 176
Sales Forecasting 187
CHAPTER 7 Foundations of New Venture Finance 202
Determining Financial Needs 204 Working capital and cash flow management 204 Across the venture's life cycle 209 Start-up financing 210 Sources of Financing 211
Equity-based financing 212
Debt-based financing 216
New Ventures Valuation 225
Asset-based valuation 225 Earnings-based valuations 226 Discounted cash flow models 229
CHAPTER 8 Securing Investors and Structuring the Deal 240
Approaching Investors 242
The ideal investor 243
The ideal entrepreneur and new venture 244 Investor processes 246

Structuring the Deal 252	
Segmenting the investor market 252	
Risk sharing 255	
Staged financing 257	
The option to abandon 257	
Warrants 259	
Pitfalls and problems to avoid 260	
Legal and Tax Issues 261	
Legal forms of organization in the United States 261	
Private placements under U.S. securities laws 266	
U.S. bankruptcy laws 267	
CHAPTER 9 Creating the Organization 280	
The Top Management Team 282	
Creating the top management team 283	
Maintaining top management teams 288	
The entrepreneur as personal leader 289	
Three Approaches to Leadership 290	
Benefits and pitfalls of TMTs 292	
The board of directors 293	
Guidelines for successful boards 295	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
The Organization's Boundaries 297	
The virtual organization 297	
Traditional organizational structure 298	
The Entrepreneurial Workplace 304	
The entrepreneurial culture 304	
Entrepreneurial ethics 306	
Most successful human resource practices 308	
CHADTED 10 Composed Verticing Naturally and E.	17
	17
Intrapreneurship 319	
The need for intrapreneurship 319	
Comparison with entrepreneurship 320	
The process of intrapreneurship 322	
Opportunities and barriers to intrapreneurship 326	
Guidelines for success 327	
Networking and Alliances 328	
Benefits and motivations for networking 328	
Types of networks 331	
Alliance behaviors 332	
Partner selection criteria 336	
Processes of reciprocity 338	
The Franchising Alternative 339	
Theoretical foundations 240	