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Entrepreneurship

02/03



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Entrepreneurship 02/03

Fourth Edition

EDITOR

Robert W. Price

Senior Research Fellow, Global Entrepreneurship Institute

Robert W. Price is a Senior Research Fellow at the Global Entrepreneurship Institute. As a business adviser, he works with small- and medium-sized global entrepreneurial firms. As an adjunct professor, he teaches classes and seminars for entrepreneurial management programs and executive MBA programs in southern California. Mr. Price received his bachelor's degree from Ohio State University and master's degree from Pepperdine University's George L. Graziadio School of Business Management in Malibu, California.

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The home page of the FTC can direct you to many useful online links, covering such topics as consumer protection. Valuable business guidance is provided.

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Sheffield University Management School

http://www.shef.ac.uk/uni/academic/l-M/mgt/research/research.html
The Current Research page of this British management school will lead to links on a broad array of real-world management issues: economics, finance, technological change, labor economics, and industrial relations.

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To the Reader

In publishing ANNUAL EDITIONS we recognize the enormous role played by the magazines, newspapers, and journals of the public press in providing current, first-rate educational information in a broad spectrum of interest areas. Many of these articles are appropriate for students, researchers, and professionals seeking accurate, current material to help bridge the gap between principles and theories and the real world. These articles, however, become more useful for study when those of lasting value are carefully collected, organized, indexed, and reproduced in a low-cost format, which provides easy and permanent access when the material is needed. That is the role played by ANNUAL ED ITIONS.

As I write this at the end of September 2001, a terrible cloud of insecurity lingers over our business economy. Rebuilding the spirit of business through entrepreneurship will become more important than ever because the United States was founded and has thrived on the principles of entrepreneurship. The imagination, boldness, and boundless energy of entrepreneurs combined with the involvement and persistence of experienced professional service providers—angel investors, venture capitalists, attorneys and accountants—have created new technologies, that have in turn increased the productivity of the nation's economy and workers.

To provide a better understanding of entrepreneurship and the process of creating and growing a new venture, this fourth edition of *Annual Editions: Entrepreneur*ship has been revised and updated to incorporate the most current information. It is divided into four major units: "Mastering Entrepreneurship," "Creating and Launching the New Venture," "Financing the New Venture," and "Managing Rapid Growth and Creating Harvest Options."

Looking back over the years since our first edition, I have noticed a big change. Entrepreneurship has become mainstream. More than 850,000 new small businesses are created each year—today, one in 12 American workers are self-employed. The number of small- and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) has soared 75 percent in the last 20 years to 25 million. If U.S. small businesses were a nation of their own, that nation would have the third-largest gross domestic product in the world.

Starting a business is never easy. But it once was a whole lot harder than it is today. People can take advantage of exciting new programs at universities and colleges to learn more about entrepreneurship. At the beginning of the last decade, business schools were not teaching the fundamentals of entrepreneurship. Currently more than 1,200 postsecondary institutions in the United States offer courses pertaining to entrepreneurship or related disciplines, and every major school has a business-planning contest.

Students are motivated to study entrepreneurship for a variety of reasons. This text is aimed at preparing them to initiate their own venture, work in an emerging venture, or be employed in a company that provides goods and services to emerging firms. *Annual Editions: Entrepreneurship 02/03* is the product of more than 21 years of experience. Intended to be a practical tool that accompanies

other texts, handouts, speakers, and in-class business planning projects, this text will provide you with a view of the entrepreneurial process from idea to IPO.

You will discover that entrepreneurship is as dynamic as it is diverse. The topics you study in this book and course explore an exciting process of economic renewal that makes entrepreneurship hard to define, but it is also what makes the field so exciting to study. Let us hope that, in the years to come, entrepreneurship will be an essential part of rebuilding our great nation.

Robert W. Price Editor

UNIT 1

Mastering Entrepreneurship

Unit Selections

- 1. The Origin of the Entrepreneurial Species, George Gendron
- 2. Who Are the Self-Employed? Yannis Georgellis and Howard J. Wall
- 3. How a Start-Up Evolves, Rob Landley
- What It Takes to Start a Startup, Brian O'Reilly
- 5. Top Ten Entrepreneurs, Red Herring
- 6. The Man and His Money, Howard Means
- 7. Michael Dell, Richard Murphy
- 8. Success Rules! Thomas Melville
- 10 Stupid Things Entrepreneurs Do! Supreet Manchanda
- 10. Go Global, Wendy M. Grossman
- 11. Lights Amid the Gloom, Karen E. Klein

Key Points to Consider

- What is entrepreneurship? Why is studying entrepreneurship important? What is your definition of a typical entrepreneur?
- What is the typical path of a new business venture? How can entrepreneurs be more successful in their startup ventures?
- · What are the different types of entrepreneurs? What characteristics will separate the winners from the losers?
- · What are some of the problems and barriers to entrepreneurs "going global"?



Links: www.dushkin.com/online/

These sites are annotated in the World Wide Web pages.

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http://www.morebusiness.com

Entrepreneur Magazine

http://www.entrepreneurmag.com

International Page

http://www.cob.ohio-state.edu/ciberweb/

Krislyn's Favorite Advertising & Marketing Sites

http://www.krislyn.com/sites/adv.htm

Startup Biz/Do-It-Yourself Resources

http://www.startupbiz.com/Doit/seven.htm

United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurs (USASBE)

http://www.usasbe.org

William Davidson Institute/University of Michigan Business School

http://www.wdi.bus.umich.edu

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On the following pages a number of Web sites have been gathered specifically for this book. They are arranged to reflect the units of this *Annual Edition*. You can link to these sites by going to the DUSHKIN ONLINE support site at http://www.dushkin.com/online/.

ALL THE ARTICLES THAT RELATE TO EACH TOPIC ARE LISTED BELOW THE BOLD-FACED TERM.

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What do entrepreneurs do? Who starts a business and becomes an entrepreneur? When and how do they do so? What makes an entrepreneur successful? Most will agree that the answers are not simple. Few will disagree that never in the history of business in the United States has the entrepreneurial spirit been more alive. As previously stated in the Preface, the SBA estimates that more than 850,000 new small businesses are created each year—joining some 25 million that already exist. The combined economic value to the nation is staggering.

Entrepreneurship begins with an idea and the implementation of that idea. Its meaning can be found in the exciting process of putting together a unique team of creative individuals in pursuit of a limited opportunity before anyone else does. But being an entrepreneur also means taking on risks. No "venture team" led by an entrepreneur can control all the necessary "critical capital resources," such as employees, equipment, raw materials, and startup money, because pursuing such opportunity requires a bridging of the resource gap. Prudent decision making requires that the entrepreneur act in a manner that is consistent with risk reduction and growth.

Entrepreneurs' firms are critical to the health of America's economy; they create two out of every three new jobs and are twice as innovative as large companies. Entrepreneurs in the United States have created an economic sector that is worth trillions. The entrepreneur has also become increasingly important in restoring the competitive position of many U.S. companies in the global marketplace. In theory, entrepreneurship includes several subdisciplines, including small business, women-owned business, high-technology startups, home-based business, joint ventures, global startups, and family business. In this unit entrepreneurship will include all of these subdisciplines.

The exciting lure of entrepreneurship draws a lot of people who really aren't prepared for it into trying to be entrepreneurs. In fact, this is one reason why so many new startups fail, and, obviously, not all startups are profitable. The average annual net income for the millions of sole proprietorships in the United States is less than \$20,000. And about 25 percent of these ventures do not make a penny of profit during a typical year.

Faced with these odds, entrepreneurs exhibit many of the qualities of the early pioneers because they are prepared to take enormous risks. They innovate in areas where most say that it cannot be done. They work incredibly long hours over extended periods of time, and even suffer personal problems, all for the excitement of developing a product or building an enterprise. Their passion brings a concentrated focus to their projects. Most have an ability to sell themselves and their ideas, but few understand that they cannot do it all by themselves.

Entrepreneurs essentially start with nothing more than an idea. They create "venture teams" that have the ability and re-

sources to develop ideas to the point at which the startup can sustain itself and internally generate a positive cash flow. Typically, they are starting from scratch; they have no offices, no salespeople, no computer, no suppliers, and no customers. Their job at hand is to quickly gain a "critical mass" by putting all the ideas and resources together and yet somehow make a profit as quickly as possible. Professional or "serial" entrepreneurs are masters of this process. They know how to overcome hurdles and they know how to bounce back from roadblocks and failures.

Essentially what they become good at is starting up new ventures. Some typical beliefs of entrepreneurs are: (1) they are in control of their own destiny, (2) they are capable of solving any problem, (3) the climb to becoming a CEO requires owning the ladder, (4) there are no limits on personal income, and (5) their internal strength and wisdom comes from overcoming risks.

An entrepreneur is someone who perceives a new idea and creates an organization to harvest the opportunity; the activity involved in that pursuit is called the entrepreneurial process, which is very much a series of fits, starts, and brainstorms. What makes an entrepreneur successful is the ability to navigate through uncharted waters and, when faced with a tough challenge, continue on. The economist Joesph Schumpeter said, "As the inventor produces ideas, the entrepreneur gets things done."

The education of potential entrepreneurs is a difficult task, one that is complicated due to the absence of any clear career patterns. Also, there is really no such thing as a "true entrepreneurial profile" from which to learn. Entrepreneurs come from a variety of educational backgrounds. It doesn't take an MBA graduate to start and harvest a business successfully. Entrepreneurs have a special way of thinking, reasoning, and obsessing with harvesting an opportunity. In a holistic approach, they create teams that are leadership balanced, injecting imagination, motivation, commitment, passion, teamwork, and vision. A definition of tomorrow's entrepreneur may be as follows: one who is involved in the process of finding, leading, and coaching a close-knit group of talented people committed to pursuing an idea, as well as providing, marshaling, and allocating the resources needed to take advantage of a limited opportunity.

Some say that entrepreneurship is like driving fast on an icy road. To survive the journey, it requires unique industry insight through domain expertise, anticipation, and "traction" with sales. More important, it is a matter of finding the right balance between the individual and the opportunity. Entrepreneurs are rewarded with the freedom to do what they want, the ability to selectively control and reduce risks; they are rewarded with the potential to generate unlimited amounts of income. To accomplish this requires a good, solid plan and a far-reaching vision.