



Doug Richard

Former Dragon & Founder of School for Startups

Doug Richard tells stories: stories drawn from 25 years of experience in starting and growing high technology businesses. In his time he has started, grown and sold 4 companies, run a NASDAQ listed public software company, invested in over 20 startups, invested over \$120 Million USD into high tech companies in the UK as an institutional investor and taught over 10,000 people how to start their own company through his social enterprise School for Startups. Due to his development and leadership of technology and software ventures, Doug featured in the first two TV series of Dragons' Den. He is an active angel investor, the Founder of School for Startups, was Chairman of the Conservative Party Small Business Task Force, is non-executive director of BrightPearl Software Love2scoot. Between 1996 and 2000 Doug was President and CEO of Micrografx, a US publicly quoted software company. Prior to that he also founded and subsequently sold two other companies: Visual Software and ITAL Computers.

Doug holds a BA in Psychology from University of California at Berkeley and a Juris Doctor at the school of Law, University of California at Los Angeles. In 2006 Doug was the first American to receive The Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion, in 2007 he became a fellow of the RSA. In 2009 Doug received an Honorary Doctorate of the University of Essex for his contribution to entrepreneurship education. In 2010 Doug was awarded Enterprise Educator of the Year. In 2010 and 2011 he was a guest lecturer on Entrepreneurship at Cambridge University for the Nanotech Masters and PHD programme

Strong Beliefs

"Entrepreneurship can be taught and must be learned."

Themes

The Biggest Mistake I Ever Made

(How he made his fortune, lost it and made it back again)

Everything You Need to Know to Start a Business in an Hour

(Think: Reduced Shakespeare Company for Business)

What Comes Next

(The next big things in technology, media and the Internet)

How to Make Social Media Stand Up and Dance for You

(Tip, Tricks and Insights into how social media can be exploited to grow a business)

The Five Best/Worst Business Pitches of All Time

Contact

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