

ESTHER DYSON

Esther Dyson, 48, is chairman of *EDventure Holdings*, a company focused on emerging information technologies worldwide in the United States and Europe (including Eastern Europe). In 1997, Dyson published her first book, *Release 2.0: A design for living in the digital age*. *Release 2.1*, the paperback upgrade, is now available. Publishers in 19 languages include Broadway in the United States, Viking/Penguin in the United Kingdom, Droemer Knauer in Germany and Shueisha in Japan.

Dyson is also chairman of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, the independent non-profit body that sets consensus policy for the Internet's Domain Name System and its technical infrastructure. Her role is to guide the establishment of this new international organization representing the will of the Internet's many and diverse interest groups. By ICANN's own statutes, she must leave this (unpaid) post by year-end 2000.

Dyson spends most of her time on EDventure itself and on its portfolio of start-ups, but she is also active in industry/social affairs in addition to ICANN. She donates time and money as a trustee to the Santa Fe Institute, the Eurasia Foundation and Bridges.org, and sits on the board of the Internet Policy Institute.. She also advises various government figures and organizations on a less formal basis, in the US and elsewhere.

Dyson is the 1999 recipient of the Women in Communications Matrix award and the 1996 recipient of Hungary's von Neumann Medal, awarded for "distinction in the dissemination of computer culture." Naming her Number 12 in its Elite 100, Upside magazine wrote that Dyson's "stature is based entirely on her ability to influence others with her ideas rather than directly control companies or huge amounts of capital." *Fortune Magazine* named Dyson one of the 50 most powerful women in American business. She holds honorary degrees from Clarkson and George Washington Universities, and received Barnard College's Medal of Distinction in 1999.

EDventure Holdings

Founded in 1982, EDventure Holdings, majority-owned by Dyson, is managed by president and ceo Daphne Kis. It publishes *Release 1.0*, a monthly newsletter, and sponsors two annual conferences, *PC (Platforms for Communication) Forum*, and EDventure's *High-Tech Forum* in Europe. *Release 1.0* focuses on new developments in software and software design, text-based applications, intellectual property issues, wide-area networking, electronic communities and infrastructure, and the changing legal and technical telecommunications infrastructure. *Release 1.0* is widely quoted and known for its witty commentary and early insight into industry trends. As editor-in-chief of *Release 1.0*, Dyson guides its coverage and oversees editor Kevin Werbach; she still contributes occasionally.

EDventure's *PC Forum* is now in its 23rd year, and routinely attracts 700 computer/communications industry leaders. The 24rd annual *PC Forum* will take place next March 25 to 28 in Scottsdale, Arizona. EDventure's next *High-Tech Forum in Europe* will take place November 1 to 3 in Barcelona.

EDventure Holdings also managed *EDventure Ventures*, a venture capital fund dedicated to active investment in software and information start-ups in Central and Eastern Europe, now being distributed to investors. The fund's companies serve local markets with local value-added. Its investments include New World Publishing, publisher of the Budapest, Warsaw and Prague Business Journals; Poland

Online, an Internet-based information services company recently sold to Poland's Softbank; and enterprise/Internet software vendor Scala Business Solutions.

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Outside her own business, Dyson is a frequent public speaker at industry events and active in advising other organizations. She sits on the boards of APP (Prague), Aristotle (San Francisco), Audumbla (Stockholm), BrunswickDirect (Stockholm), New World Publishing (Warsaw *LanguageWare.net (Boulder, Colorado), *Graphisoft (Budapest), IBS (Moscow), Gibeta (New York), KeySystem (Prague), *MedicalLogic/Medscape (Portland, OR/New York), NewspaperDirect (New York), *Scala Business Solutions (Amsterdam), Sounceree (London), Talus Solutions (Atlanta), TerraLink (Moscow), *Thinking Tools (New York), TrustWorks (Amsterdam), *Uproar.com (New York.), *WPP Group and wpp.com (London); and on the advisory boards of iGabriel (London), *Internet Capital Group, Municel (Stockholm), Rambler Group (Moscow), *Swissair Group (Zurich), Tacit Information Systems (Mountain View), Twest (Munich). (She has investments in almost all of them; public companies are starred.) She also has active investments in other private start-ups including Aurigin, Bright Light, Cambridge Display Technology, CV-Online (Estonia), DPI (Moscow), FEED, Firedrop, Internet Publishing Group, Legion Crowd Dynamics (London), Nibblebox, Obongo, Orchestream (UK), Payermentor, pgLife, PocketScience, Prediction Company, Pressflex (Paris), Rocketboard, Stagecast, and Stockpower. She is a limited partner of Mayfield Software Partners. Also, she has written articles on various topics for the *Harvard Business Review*, *The New York Times*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Wired Magazine*, *The Financial Times*, *Forbes Magazine*, *Brill's Content*, *Business 2.0*, *Transition* and Russia's *CompuTerra* magazine, among others. Currently, she writes a fortnightly column for the New York Times syndicate called *Release 3.0*.

On the public-service side, in addition to the Santa Fe Institute and the Eurasia Foundation, Dyson serves on the advisory boards of the Software Entrepreneurs Forum (Silicon Valley), the Russian Internet Technology Center, the Soros Medical Internet Project and The After-School Corporation.

Dyson spent five years learning the dynamics of the computer and software businesses as a securities analyst (New Court Securities, 1977-80; Oppenheimer & Co., 1980-82). She began her serious career -- and got a business education -- as a reporter for *Forbes Magazine* (1974-77).

Dyson graduated from Harvard in 1972, with a BA in economics. Instead of going to classes, she spent much of her time there working on *The Harvard Crimson*, a daily newspaper. At Harvard she picked up the habit of swimming for an hour every morning, which she continues to do faithfully.

To do all this, Dyson travels widely; she studies airline schedules the way some people study restaurant menus. She has been featured in full-length interviews in *Upside Magazine* and *Micro Times*, and profiled in *Wired Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times Magazine*. The *San Jose Mercury's* Sunday magazine included her in a feature on Silicon Valley's 100 most influential people, while Russia's *Who's Who in the Computer Market* lists her as Number 23 of the most influential people in Russia's computer industry -- quite a coup considering that she lives in New York City!

Contact: Irene Lawrence, 1 (212) 924-8800; irene@edventure.com; edyson@edventure.com