

Michael Dell

Michael Dell founded the Dell Computer Corporation in 1984 with \$1,000 and a novel idea — to sell computer systems directly to customers. Having started by selling computers out of his dorm room at the University of Texas in Austin, the Houston native now serves as chairman and chief executive officer of the fastest-growing major computer systems business in the world.

Now known as Dell Inc., the company reported revenues of \$41.4 billion for the past four quarters. Dell Inc. employs approximately 46,000 staff worldwide and has offices in 34 countries. Its corporate headquarters are in Round Rock, Texas, which is also home to the regional business unit for the United States, Canada, and Latin America. Dell also has regional headquarters in England for Europe, the Middle East, and Africa; in Singapore to serve Asia-Pacific; and in Kawasaki, Japan, for the Japanese market. The company manufactures computers in six locations: Texas, Tennessee, Brazil, Ireland, Malaysia, and China.

Michael Dell has been honored many times for his visionary leadership. In 2003 he was named one of the 10 most powerful people in business by *Fortune* magazine, the fourth most respected world leader by the *Financial Times*, and the best CEO in the I/T hardware industry by *Institutional Investor* magazine. In 1999 he wrote a best-selling book, *Direct from Dell: Strategies That Revolutionized an Industry*. The Michael and Susan Dell Foundation supports programs that benefit children.