



John Chambers

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Former Chairman & CEO, Cisco
Founder & CEO, JC2 Ventures

John Chambers is the founder and CEO of JC2 Ventures. In his role, John focuses on helping disruptive startups from around the world build and scale, while also promoting the broader development of startup nations and a startup world. He invests in companies across categories and geographies that are leading market transitions, such as Aspire Food Group, Balbix, Bloom Energy, Dedrone, IoTium, Lucideus, OpenGov, Pindrop, Privoro, Rubrik, SparkCognition, Sprinklr, and Uniphore. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Bloom Energy, OpenGov, Pindrop, and Sprinklr.

In addition to investing in and mentoring startups, John is focused on promoting entrepreneurship, gender equality, and accelerating overall new business creation around the world, as he believes that startups will be the core driver of economic growth and job creation in the Digital Age. He was appointed Global Ambassador of the French Tech by President Emmanuel Macron of France. John is also the Chairman of the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). He will work closely with business and government leaders in France, India and the U.S. to create meaningful opportunities that have the power to change the lives of citizens.

Prior to founding JC2 Ventures, John served as CEO, Chairman and Executive Chairman at Cisco Systems. During his 25+ years at Cisco, he helped grow the company from \$70 million when he joined in 1991, to \$1.2 billion when he became CEO in 1995, to \$47 billion when he stepped down as CEO in 2015. As Executive Chairman, a position John held until December 2017, he led the Board of Directors and provided counsel to the CEO and leadership team on strategy, digital transformation and strategic partnerships. John also spearheaded the creation and development of Cisco's country digitization program, where he partnered with government leaders across the world to

harness the power of technology to create economic opportunities.

With countless lessons learned during his tenure at Cisco, as well as from his experiences working with startups, John wrote *Connecting the Dots: Lessons for Leadership in a Startup World* in 2018, sharing the management, leadership and business principles that brought him and his teams unmatched success for decades. *Connecting the Dots* unleashes new rules for disruption and lasting success in the Digital Age that gives readers a playbook on how to act before the market shifts, tap customers for strategy, partner for growth, build teams, and disrupt themselves.