



## ONE HUNDRED YEARS, ONE HUNDRED PERCENT READY

WE STARTED IN 1919 IN SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, AN ANSWER TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY A CHANGING WORLD, WHERE PEOPLE MOVING FROM THE FARMS TO THE CITIES LACKED THE SKILLS AND SUPPORT NEEDED TO FIND THEIR WAY FORWARD. WE ENDURED THROUGH THE GREAT DEPRESSION. WE GREW NATIONALLY WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM AND GLOBALLY WITH THE ADVENT OF THE JET AGE. AS THE ECONOMY MOVED FROM MANUFACTURING TO SERVICE, WE ENTERED THE NATION'S CLASSROOMS. WE WERE ONE OF THE FIRST ORGANIZATIONS TO BRING COMPUTERS INTO SCHOOLS AND RAN GLOBAL BUSINESS SIMULATIONS YEARS BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD WIDE WEB. INTERNATIONALLY, WE PERSEVERED THROUGH THE CHANGING TIDES OF HISTORY OFFERING HOPE IN THE TOWNSHIPS OF SOUTH AFRICA IN DEFIANCE OF APARTHEID. HELPING TO REBUILD LIVES IN EASTERN EUROPE AFTER THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL. GIVING YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS THE TOOLS TO NAVIGATE EMERGING ECONOMIES AROUND THE WORLD. AND EMPOWERING YOUNG WOMEN IN THE FACE OF THOSE WHO WOULD SEEK TO MARGINALIZE THE. WE HAVE ENDURED DEPRESSIONS, RECESSIONS, WARS, CONFLICTS AND APATHY. WE HAVE REACHED ONE HUNDRED MILLION PEOPLE AND HAVE HELPED THEM BECOME MORE LIKELY TO FINISH SCHOOL, EARN A DEGREE, START A BUSINESS AND ESCAPE POVERTY. OUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN LAUDED BY EDUCATORS, UNIVERSITIES, CEOs AND WORLD LEADERS AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, BY THOSE WHOSE LIVES WE HAVE HELPED CHANGE FOR THE BETTER. NOW, WE BEGIN OUR NEXT CHAPTER. IN 2019, WE ARE TURNING ONE HUNDRED AND WHILE WE HONOR OUR HISTORY, IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT WE VIEW IT AS THE FOUNDATION FOR OUR FUTURE. TODAY, SIXTY PERCENT OF EMPLOYERS SAY RECENT GRADUATES LACK BASIC JOB SKILLS. NINETY PERCENT OF BUSINESSES FAIL IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS. AND SEVENTY-TWO PERCENT OF AMERICANS SAY THEY STRUGGLE WITH MONEY RELATED STRESS. OUR GOAL IS TO ENSURE THAT THE NEXT GENERATION IS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT READY TO TAKE ON THE WORLD. SOME MAY SAY THIS IS WORK BETTER LEFT TO THOSE THAT ARE YOUNGER, NEWER TO THE SCENE, MORE INNOVATIVE BUT YOU DON'T MAKE IT THIS LONG WITHOUT BEING INNOVATIVE,