



## Odyssey Career Discovery

*Meet A Unique Inventor  
& Entrepreneur!*

**DAN GELBART**



**During the Odyssey Career Discovery visit, students will have the opportunity meet Dan, tour his unique research lab and see demonstrations of innovative technology and scientific processes.**

Dan Gelbart is an extraordinary engineer whose genius for invention has resulted in significant contributions to communications and electro-optics. Described by his colleagues and friends as a modern-day Edison, Dan Gelbart has over 100 US patents to his name.

Gelbart demonstrated a passion for science and hard work at an early age. As a young boy of eight, he had a laboratory in his parents' home. At the age of twelve, he received an award for child inventors from the prestigious Weitzman Institute. He subsequently obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in electrical engineering at the Technion in Haifa, Israel.

Since immigrating to BC in 1973, Dan has devoted himself to inventing and developing products on the leading edge of technology. Sales of these products to date are in the billions of dollars. Among his inventions are an improved mobile radio data terminal used in many taxi and police cars all over the world; the digital film recorder that was used by NASA to generate the famous photos of Mars; an optical tape recorder; and a new method of generating digital printing plates using the thermal action of a laser instead of the photonic action, which became the dominant method of making printing plates all over the world.

Dan Gelbart co-founded Creo in 1984 - a high tech company that developed laser-based products for the printing industry. He served as President and then Chief Technology Officer until 2005, when Creo was sold to Kodak for \$1 billion US. At the time of the sale, Creo had 4000 employees and was the largest player in its field. A significant portion of Creo's award-winning technology was developed by Dan Gelbart. Gelbart also developed patented technology that served as the basis for two Vancouver based companies: Cymbolic Sciences, in imaging, and MDI, in telecom. Both companies also experienced rapid growth and were acquired by large corporations (Schlumberger and Motorola).

Gelbart has received multiple awards, including the British Columbia Science Council Gold Medal for Innovation, Institute of Printing Gold Medal, Honorary Doctorate (Simon Fraser University), and 1999 Entrepreneur of the Year, by Ernst & Young.

Dan Gelbart continues to create exciting, new technologies in his private research lab in Vancouver and acts as Technology Advisor to Kardium, a company that delivers breakthrough solutions for cardiovascular diseases.