

# BERNARD CHARLÈS

Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors



## **2024**

EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## **2023**

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
& CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## **2016**

VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
& CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## **1995**

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## **1988**

PRESIDENT OF STRATEGY, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

## **1986**

FOUNDER OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGIES,  
RESEARCH & STRATEGY DEPARTMENT

## **1983**

"SCIENTIFIQUE DU CONTINGENT" AT DASSAULT  
SYSTÈMES (seconded as an engineer to Dassault  
Systèmes during military service)

# CREATING THE FUTURE



Bernard Charlès has positioned Dassault Systèmes, world leader in virtual universes, as the preferred partner for innovation. The inspiration behind digital mockup, product lifecycle management and **3DEXPERIENCE®**, Charlès firmly believes that virtual technology is about connecting imagination and science: **3DEXPERIENCE** universes are the most powerful vehicle for testing concepts and creating the future, bringing dream and reality together, and stretching the limits of science and imagination to drive progress in society.

**B**ernard Charlès has been Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Dassault Systèmes, since January 2024. He served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer from 1995 to 2022, and was Chairman & CEO in 2023. Today, the Company, world leader in virtual universes, is a global top ten software company.

Charlès has helped instill a culture of ongoing innovation to further consolidate Dassault Systèmes' scientific capabilities and make science part of the company's DNA. He joined Dassault Systèmes in 1983 to develop new design technologies. In 1986 he founded a dedicated New Technologies, Research & Development, and Strategy department. In 1988 he was appointed president of Strategy, Research & Development, helping establish CATIA as the world's number one product design software. A firm believer that technology should contribute to progress in society, Charlès has positioned Dassault Systèmes as the preferred partner for sustainable innovation.

In 1989, he was part of the inspiration behind digital mock-up (DMU), allowing design engineers to produce full-blown 3D models of products. And in 1995, he initiated the DMU of the Boeing 777, the world's first all-digital designed aircraft. In 1996, Charlès orchestrated the flotation of Dassault Systèmes on the stock market, providing a strong and stable platform for growth. He had become member of the Board of Directors in 1993.

In 1997, he expanded and strengthened Dassault Systèmes' commercial footprint with the acquisition of SolidWorks to serve businesses large and small. The Company also resumed control of its entire distribution network in 2010, which had previously been in the hands of IBM.

In 1999, Charlès pioneered the concept of product lifecycle management (PLM), extending the concept of the digital mock-up to the entire lifecycle of a product. In parallel, he embarked on a series of key acquisitions and brand creation: ENOVIA in 1998, DELMIA in 2000 and SIMULIA in 2005.

In 2012, Charlès announced the launch of the **3DEXPERIENCE** platform, broadening the scope of virtualisation and simulation to include the consumer experience. Dassault Systèmes rounded out its portfolio with social innovation and information intelligence applications (3DSWYM, EXALEAD and NETVIBES). Charlès provided the impetus for Dassault Systèmes to develop B2C applications such as 3DVIA and experiential 3D marketing projects (including Paris3D Saga and Khufu Reborn). He positioned the Company into more diversified sectors, notably with GEOVIA to model and simulate the planet we live on and with BIOVIA to transform biological, chemical and material innovation; and in 2019 also with the acquisition of Medidata, world leader in clinical trials, to transform medical practice.

In 2016, he was appointed Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors. In February 2020, he announced the Company's ten-year ambition: to shift "from things to life" and extend its leadership to three major sectors of the economy: Manufacturing Industries, Life Sciences & Healthcare, Infrastructure & Cities.

These strategic developments reflect Charlès' firm belief that virtual universes open up new frontiers in innovation, and make it possible to imagine sustainable innovations capable of harmonizing product, nature and life, serving the citizen, the patient and the consumer.

In 2015, he created La Fondation Dassault Systèmes of which he is Honorary Chairman. He is co-author with philosopher Pierre Musso of *The Industry Renaissance*, which discusses the power of virtual universes to sustainably transform industry. Bernard Charlès is a foreign member of the US National Academy of Engineering and a member of the French Academy of Technology. He holds the rank of Commander in the "Légion d'honneur" (French Legion of Honor).

Bernard Charlès is a graduate of the Ecole Normale Supérieure engineering school in Cachan and has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering majoring in automation engineering and information science. He also holds an agrégation — the most senior teaching qualification achievable in France (specializing in mechanical engineering).