

CURIOSITY | Eric Schmidt |

Former Chairman & CEO, Google
Former Executive Chairman, Alphabet

ABOUT ERIC

As CEO and executive chairman, Eric Schmidt helped grow Google from a Silicon Valley startup to a global leader in technology while maintaining a strong culture of innovation. Before Google, Eric was chairman and CEO of Novell and chief technology officer at Sun Microsystems.

Though not the first search engine, Google made searching easier and more effective through its innovative PageRank algorithm. Google.com is now the most visited website in the world, but Google has also expanded its products far beyond search to include online advertising technologies, cloud computing, hardware and software.



CURIOSITY

“The combination of persistence and curiosity is a very good predictor of employee success in a knowledge economy.” When Eric Schmidt was the CEO, Google had a famous “20 percent rule” that allowed employees to spend one out of five work days working on a project that they believed in. Drawing on their curiosity and motivation, employees came up with such landmark projects as Gmail, Google Maps, Google News and AdSense.