

Kathy Harless

Katherine J. (Kathy) Harless has had significant success leading growth, turnaround and IPO for several multi-billion dollar businesses in consumer and B2B markets as CEO/President. She is currently active on multiple boards of directors, corporate and non-profit.

She served as President and CEO of Idearc Media Inc. from 2006-2008. She led the successful spinoff of Idearc Media from Verizon Communications and navigated the company from print centric to a multi-platform media company. Idearc brands include the second largest national yellow pages directory and Superpages.com among the top 50 most accessed websites. Idearc renamed itself SuperMedia Inc and listed with NASDAQ in 2010.

Previously, she served as President of Verizon Information Services, the nation's most advanced provider of yellow pages and related shopping information, from 2000-2006. Before that (1996-2000), she was President of GTE Airfone, where she directed overall operations, and pioneered the expansion of air-to-ground public telecommunication services in the United States and other countries.

Harless worked for GTE from 1973 to 2000, starting in her hometown of San Angelo, Texas, and carrying out assignments of increasing responsibility in finance, sales, marketing and operations. She was appointed Regional President for GTE Telephone Operations in Texas and New Mexico in 1994. At GTE she was the first woman President of a GTE subsidiary company and first woman Vice President in GTE Telephone Operations.

Harless serves on the board of directors for the Toro Company, on its Audit Committee, Compensation and Human Resource Committee, as well as the Nominating and Governance Committee. She was a member on the Idearc Media board and Verizon Foundation board. She is a lifetime member of and serves on the Advisory Board for the University of Texas McCombs School of Business. She twice served as Chairman of the Yellow Pages Association board.

Harless is a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD), Women Corporate Directors (WCD) and Committee of 200. She was featured in the September 2010 issue of The Agenda Diversity 100 as "Top Diverse Board Candidates You've Never Heard of" and also in the November/December 2005 issue of Profiles in Diversity Journal as one of the "Women Worth Watching in 2006."

In 1998, she was inducted into the Hall of Fame at the University of Texas at Austin, the business school's highest honor for outstanding achievement.

Harless earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Texas at Austin.