

IRWIN JACOBS, CHAIRMAN AND CEO, QUALCOMM

- Irwin Jacobs is best known for being involved in the manufacture of boats of all types and running one of the biggest companies in the country.

Jacobs also owns and operates Forrest L. Wood Outdoors, the largest professional fishing organization in the world.

- Research on the use of digital technology to transmit information inspired Jacobs to write a textbook while teaching at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the late 1950s, and later compelled him to create the OmniTracs tracking system for the transportation industry.
- Jacobs also is an inventor of the Code Division Multiple Access technology used in digital wireless applications.
- In the 1980's he made tens of millions of dollars in stock transactions as a result of takeover runs against Disney, RCA, Kaiser Steel, Avco, Holly Sugar, Phillips Petroleum, ITT, AMF, Minstar, Internorth, Tidewater Inc
- Irwin Jacobs confronted ITT chairman Rand V Araskog at annual meeting and reiterates his proposal that company spin off operations to restructure itself into three or four separate companies May of 1985
- Awarded the 1994 National Medal of Technology
- His penchant for acquiring troubled concerns, and selling them off piece by piece, has earned him the nickname Irv the Liquidator. "There's nobody that can buy or sell as well as Irwin Jacobs,"
- Jacobs made the first cell phone call from an airplane July 15th, 2004. (He called Steve Largent)