

board, and completely overhauled the management. Through some very astute maneuvering, Lofwyr made Saeder-Krupp an even larger corporate empire, shooting it straight up into the AAA league. The dragon has lived quite happily ever after.

YAMATETSU

Ever the upstart and revolutionary (probably another reason they eventually renamed themselves “Evo”), Yamatetsu Corporation sprang on the scene in 2041 to everyone’s dismay. These punks were determined to get themselves a seat on the Corporate Court and weren’t taking any negative answers—how dare they? At least that’s what other corps kept saying until Yamatetsu managed it in 2042, hauling themselves up to AAA status and thumbing their noses at the naysayers. They’ve continually had to oust the deadwood, those who would hold the company back, but otherwise have consistently attempted to remain at the forefront of technology, recently delving into many transhumanist endeavors as Evo.

RENRAKU

Originally Keruba International, Renraku got its name changed after the Crash of ’29 when a corporate hotshot named Inazo Aneki bought it and completely restructured it. It became a key player in rebuilding the information network after the Crash, and thus made wagonloads of money. But it got a bit too big for its own britches when it began dabbling in the creation of semi-autonomous knowbots (SKs) in 2049; though this launched it further ahead of the tech curve and thus the market share, its applications toward the Seattle Renraku Arcology laid the groundwork for the insane AI Deus and its part in the second Crash.

AZTECHNOLOGY

Aztechnology made an extremely poor judgement call when it ordered Aztlan to nationalize all foreign-owned businesses. This act of economic war prompted the Corporate Court to mandate the very first “Omega Order”—essentially a green light for every other corp to go after the offender with extreme prejudice. It took a few years for the megacorps to respond to this, but they did so in style: in 2048, the joint, Corporate Court-backed Operation Reciprocity struck Aztechnology’s Ensenada facilities. AZT couldn’t run to the bargaining table fast enough, and the resulting Veracruz Settlement forced the megacorp to pay direct compensation to all affected companies. Somehow in the negotiation process, the megacorp managed to arrange things so that other megas could only establish local subsidiaries in Aztlan, and the major shareholders of those subsidiaries had to be Aztlan citizens or majority-owned Aztlan corps. Devious, no? It simply highlights just how blood-thirsty they really are ... pun intended.

WILL TO POWER

The period between 2050 and 2060 shook up the status quo for everyone, and that can all be laid at the very large talons of the great dragon Dunkelzahn. In life and in death, the dragon constantly questioned, instigated, and proved to be a very talkative lizard; maybe too much so, because he certainly made very powerful people pretty nervous. He was the primary motivating

force behind many political, economic, and social movements for at least a decade, and maybe beyond.

PRESIDENT DUNKELZAHN

If you’d asked your typical SINless sprawl resident what he thought of dragons, much less Dunkelzahn, you’d be greeted with blank stares or shrugs. Before 2057, no one really cared because the wizworms didn’t touch their lives in any way, shape, or form. But then it came to light that the 2056 UCAS election had been rigged, and President Steele and Vice President Booth were impeached. President pro tem Betty Jo Pritchard (incidentally our first female President) called for a new election, and Dunkelzahn announced his intention to run. All of a sudden, the question of eligibility came to light, meaning that he’d need a SIN in order to run—and the act of granting the dragon his SIN injected a bit more light and hope into some people’s lives.

Eight months later, the great dragon Dunkelzahn became the first non-human President of the UCAS. Before he could do anything more than celebrate, however, the wurm was assassinated outside his inaugural ball at the Watergate Hotel, leaving a large and visible astral rift. Though there were many with plenty of motives to eliminate him, even the Scott Commission could not find a satisfying scapegoat on whom to pin the blame. The dragon’s running mate, Kyle Haeffner, became President; his interpreter, Nadja Daviar, was nominated and became Vice President.

DUNKELZAHN’S WILL

The biggest shocker, however, came when the new Vice President not only also became the Chairman of the new Draco Foundation, but also had a will from President Dunkelzahn to read. This will seemingly contained the vast majority of the dragon’s hoard, which ranged from money paid out to lowly accountants, orichalcum in sock drawers, and stocks in various (mega)corps, to advice, warnings, and calls for help to various and sundry persons known and unknown. It created organizations, asked for rescues, and put monetary support behind a myriad of projects and ventures for which we have yet to understand the reasons. Artifacts and other objects were also given, both to metahuman acquaintances and fellow dragons. In other words, this will created a largesse of business opportunities for shadowrunner and law-abiding citizen alike.

Mega Shuffle

What no one except perhaps Dunkelzahn and a few others realized, however, were the repercussions this would have in the corporate world over the next four years or so. In between all of the bequests of music or money were entries entitling people such as Miles Lanier (the right-hand man of Fuchi co-owner Richard Villiers) or Nadja Daviar (the dragon’s spokesperson) to all or a portion of the dragon’s stock in this or that company.

This sparked quite a bit of corporate maneuvering, which in the end led to the end of Fuchi and the creation of Novatech. Renraku took a severe hit thanks to its pet creative (an elf claiming to be Leonardo) disappearing and seemingly erasing his data when he did so; this left the megacorp with little in the way of proof to defend itself against Fuchi’s claims that Lanier gave Renraku proprietary data, allowing Renraku to dominate

