

EDWARD WOOD

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Non-Executive Director

An articulate, detail orientated and capable executive credited with combining expertise in accounting, finance, project management and conflict resolution to deliver substantial revenue growth in highly competitive business markets. Successfully grown SMEs to total P&L accountability for businesses with investments in the region of £500m employing up to 1,500 staff. Routinely recognised for delivering insightful analysis, inspirational leadership and demonstrating strong personal character. A problem solver by nature with the ability to see the big picture, including end to end business impacts. A responsive leader who meets challenges head on and has attained credibility for getting results. Adept in both hands on and leadership roles as dictated by corporate circumstances and resources. A negotiator, and business introducer, with a wide range of contacts.

Areas of Expertise

- Accounting Functions
- Organisation Leadership
- Process Analysis & Improvement
- Marketing Strategy & Development
- Time Management
- Cross-Functional Skills
- Competitive Intelligence
- Staff Mentoring & Management
- Problem Resolution
- Project Management
- Communication Skills
- Strategic Planning

Professional Experience

RUNWAY ADVISORS LTD CEO

2018- PRESENT

“Helping businesses to make more money and have more fun doing it”- that is the ethos I have shared with hundreds of businesses of all sizes and sectors throughout a career of almost fifty years. Our clients are hugely diverse, from start-ups to larger companies. We specialise in the management of change, supporting companies that feel ‘stuck’ to overcome obstacles and grow, or helping them to navigate the danger zone of their early years.

EDWARD WOOD & CO. PRINCIPAL

2008 – PRESENT

- Consultancy advising corporate clients on Business Strategy and Change Management in both Executive and Non-Executive capacities. Acting as Non-Executive Director, Non-Executive Finance Director, Chairman, Trustee or Advisor to a number of companies operating in various sectors including Real Estate, Agriculture, Renewables, Racing, Political Lobbying & Technology.

BIG STAR BUSINESS MANAGEMENT LTD

2016 – PRESENT

- Chairman – Financial and Business Management to a range of clients in the music and entertainment sectors.

STANDON CALLING LTD

2014 – PRESENT

- Non Executive Director – long standing Music Festival in Hertfordshire.

THE OXTON ESTATE CHAIRMAN OF THE TRUSTEES

2007 – PRESENT

- Led the reorganisation of this diverse rural estate operating in agricultural management, real estate, green waste management, golf course and natural burial ground.

VARIOUS PROPERTY COMPANIES MANAGING DIRECTOR

1977 – 2011

- Involved in all aspects of property development and investment in London and regionally based companies.
- Established and managed assets of some £150 million with a workforce of around 100 including permanent and contract staff.
- Chaired investment committees which identified, acquired and managed portfolios of some £67m of Industrial, £46m of Residential & £22m of Commercial and Retail properties.

- Arranged loan finance from institutions, utilising innovative schemes, and established SPVs to ring fence investments.

AXA SUNLIFE

2000 – 2001

CONTROLLER NEW WORLD PROJECT

- The £144m multi-phased Blueprint Programme was set up to deliver a communications centre, customised product engine, supporting business processes and technical infrastructures to improve efficiencies and deliver increased profitability and market share.
- Controlled the New World part of the Blueprint Programme, involving a spend of £48m on resources and £12m on Capex. Programme was consultant driven and managed by Accenture, deploying around 500 consultants.

ENVISION LICENSING LTD

2000

PROJECT CONTROLLER

- Contractors to the BBC for the £80m annual National TV licence collection programme in Great Britain, Channel Islands and Isle of Man.
- Contracted to establish systems and forecasts and to manage the special projects arm of the national TV licence collection programme, liaising with the BBC.

THE EIGER CORPORATION PLC

1999 – 2000

MANAGING DIRECTOR

- Engaged in the supply and sale of drug prevention and detection products and services for the workplace.
- Spearheaded this start up SME and established overall Strategic Business Plan; Financial, Management, Operating and Reporting systems; Key Strategic Partnerships; and Fund Raising programme.

ENGLISH CHURCHES HOUSING GROUP

1999

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- One of the leading registered social landlords with annual revenues of around £60m from 25,000 lettable units with a value of some £.5bn across the UK.
- Established key initiatives following a major re-organisation, when ECHG was under supervision by The Housing Corporation.
- Recommended and designed a tactical cost reduction programme, and established a central purchasing system, thereby increasing profitability by making substantial Revenue and Capex cost savings of some £4m p.a.
- Reviewed staffing in corporate headquarters and reorganised divisional structures.
- Explored the business case for a merger and made recommendations thereon.
- Liaised with the regulator to re-establish confidence in a challenging and time sensitive situation.

Career Note

MFH HELICOPTERS LTD

1988 – 1998

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR

CENTRAL LONDON

1980 – 1990

MAGISTRATE

THE MAGDALEN HOSPITAL TRUST

1983 – PRESENT

TRUSTEE

Education & Training

Eton College, 1964-1969. A levels in English, History & French

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAEW)

Ernst & Whinney (Formerly Turquands Barton Mayhew), London, 1974 – 1981

Commercial Helicopter Pilot, CPL (H), 1989

Personal

Married with 4 daughters & 2 granddaughters. Interests – Writing, Politics, Public Speaking, Rotary Aviation, Equestrian Sports

