

Steve Foster



Steve Foster is a serial connector who has taken on multiple executive leadership roles in the Colorado technology ecosystem. He is the current Chief Evangelist for RAS & Associates and serves on the board of directors of the Colorado Technology Association fostering growth and opportunity for Colorado's technology industry; as a Board of Directors member, Founders Seat, of Convercent (Formerly Business Controls) a SaaS GRC/solutions provider and also is the CEO/Founder of Connect13, LLC. In his role as Chief Evangelist he is responsible for leading the company's vision, strategy and execution regarding business development, operations and growth of the organization to include; sales, sales operations, business development, professional services and development of new markets.

Convercent (Formerly Business Controls) employs a team of trained consultants backed by a global SaaS GRC software system that addresses employee compliance, culture and ethical issues. CEOs and other C-suite officers hire us specifically to create a system-wide, silo-busting safe and ethical workplace strategies that have literally saved millions in lawsuits and wasted resources. That work expands anywhere people work including corporations, schools and governmental agencies at the federal, state and local levels.

Connect13 exists to drive energy and passion around strategic business growth for companies within the technology ecosystem. As a respected and experienced experts providing strategic direction and advice with respect to all levels of business operations, more specifically in the area of business development and analysis of the Company's brand, positioning, current and future client relationships and revenue generation regarding its product and service offerings. Connect13 drives the connections and relationships that matter.

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Foster's 30 years of unique and diversified executive and operational leadership experience combines enterprise Governance, Risk & Compliance expertise, and expert knowledge regarding convergence of security and technology, as well as top level consulting, investigations and training in EEO/Internal Controls related to employee misconduct. Mr. Foster's expertise is rooted in developing integrated SaaS technology solutions in the Governance, Risk and Compliance space. Mr. Foster frequently lectures across the country on the topics related to risk management, ethics and corporate compliance and the convergence of technology and security. He is a recognized Federal Court Expert Witness in the areas of Security Assessment, Analysis and Implementation of systems and process.

Mr. Foster has had senior executive level experience in developing security systems, investigatory guidelines, processes and procedures for corporations, schools and governmental agencies at the federal, state and local levels. He has unique experience protecting, developing and testing physical security programs for US Military Priority "A" Resource Facilities and Governmental Sensitized Compartmental Information Facilities.

Mr. Foster has spoken throughout the United States on various topics to include Convergence of Physical & Data Security, Governance, Risk & Compliance, Personnel Security, Security Principles & Practices, Legal Challenges in Human Resources and Business Principle & Practices. He is a frequent guest on television and radio making regular public appearances. He has worked with many organizations in the development of corporate ethics and compliance programs, facility security manuals and emergency plans.

He has received numerous certifications and completed many specialized training programs. Prior to entering the business world Mr. Foster was a law enforcement officer in both civilian and military organizations. In his military and law enforcement career Mr. Foster received over 20 awards and medals for bravery and heroism.

Mr. Foster is the Co-Founder and former President of Business Controls, Inc., (Now Convercent) Business Controls has worked with organizations, colleges and universities, and government entities of all sizes using SaaS Technologies and Professional Services they developed to mitigate internal risks related to employee misconduct. Since inception, Business Controls has served over a quarter of the Fortune 1000 companies and over one million client employees in more than 128 countries. Mr. Foster currently is a Board Member, Founders Seat, on the Board of Directors of Convercent. (August 2001 – Present)

EXPERIENCE

Mr. Foster is the CEO/Founder of Connect13, Headquartered in Denver, Colorado. Connect13, LLC exists to drive energy and passion around strategic business growth for companies within the technology ecosystem. Connect13's consultants are respected and experienced experts providing strategic direction and advice with respect to all levels of business operations, more specifically in the area of business development and analysis of the Company's brand, positioning, current and future client relationships and revenue generation regarding its product and service offerings. Connect13 drives the connections and relationships that matter. (August 2008 – Present)

Mr. Foster serves on the Board of Directors Executive Committee as Chair (2015) and was formerly 2012 Chair for the Colorado Technology Association; Chair of the "C-Level @ Mile High" Technology Networking Event (Colorado's largest C-Level networking event). He is an active member of the Public Policy and Economic Development Committee. (January 2006 – Present)

Mr. Foster served as a Board of Directors member, Investor and Shareholder for MyForce, headquartered in Denver, Colorado. MyForce transforms your mobile device into a real-time, monitored and concealed personal alarm service for those situations when your safety is a concern. (July 2010 – July 2012)

Mr. Foster served as a Board of Advisors member for Credera, headquartered in Dallas, Texas. Credera is a full-service business and technology consulting firm. We work with Fortune 1,000 companies, medium-sized businesses, government organizations and clients across a broad range of industries, and we give them the experience and perspective to solve today's toughest business and technology challenges. (July 2010 – December 2012)

Mr. Foster served as a Board Member and Shareholder of PressPay/EZPay, which merged with 34Commerce in 2013. PressPay's "Mobile Platform as a Service™" enables Web-based business to quickly and cost-effectively extend their Web service to mobile worldwide, by removing the cost, risk and technical barriers standing between the Wired-Web and the Mobile-Web. (December 2008 – January 2013)

Mr. Foster served as a Founding Board Member for The Colorado Innovation Network. (COIN) is a catalyst for economic prosperity through innovation by partnering with government, business and civil society to foster collaboration around global ideas, talent, capital and the entrepreneurial spirit. With a vision to help Colorado blossom into the most innovative state in the nation. (January 2012 – April 2013)

Mr. Foster served as Co-Chair/Founder of the Colorado Public Private Partnership Advisory Council. CPPPAC was formed as a partnership that worked toward building relationships within the Colorado Technology Ecosystem to deal with issues surrounding Information Technology and the delivery of services to its citizens. (January 2012 – March 2013)

FORMER POSITIONS

Mr. Foster served as an advisor to CEO Jeff Myers of Access Communications. For over 20 years, Access Communications has been a leader in providing innovative communications solutions that will boost productivity and reduce costs for our customers. Much more than just phone systems, together, through their strategic partnerships with industry leading suppliers, they provide a complete range of communications, technology and structured cabling services designed to take businesses further.

Mr. Foster served as an advisor to the executive management team at Latisys. Latisys provides an end-to-end suite of premier IT Outsourcing solutions, including data center colocation, managed hosting, managed services and cloud solutions that extend and enhance your company's IT infrastructure. They deliver the technology, expertise, scalability, flexibility and control that companies require from our Tier III, SAS70 Type II compliant data centers. He held this position for 18 months.

Mr. Foster serves as an advisor to CEO Maureen Upton of Resource Initiatives. Resource Initiatives provides sustainability-consulting services to global organizations, with an emphasis on the natural resources sector. Whose clients embrace the principles of sustainable development in their businesses and offer widespread benefits to the communities where they operate. They help promote an understanding of these benefits by developing issue-specific research publications, corporate responsibility reporting, presentations and policy recommendations.

Mr. Foster served as advisory/acting CEO for Notion ONE. In that role he helped guide the Founders in growing N1 from a two person application development shop to 27 employees and 3+ million in annual revenues in 18 months. He successfully exited that role after the Founder's buyout of his equity stake in the organization.

Mr. Foster is board certified in Security Management (CPP designation) and in Case Management for Internal Investigations (PCI designation) by ASIS International and is former National Chair of the ASIS Business Practices Council and an ASIS National CPP Review Course Instructor.