



William Gabbard, CFE, President and Member of The Executive Committee



William started his own company immediately after college. Two years later he began franchising his concept and by 1996 he had a total of over 800 units in 26 countries.

Following the sale of his company owned and franchised system, William began consulting as the CEO/President of a publicly traded firm in the International and Domestic management of established franchise operations. Subsequently, William took a position as the Vice President of Domestic/International franchise operations for an established 20-year-old franchise chain starting a new concept and awarded over 100 franchise territories within 4 years.

In 2004, William identified an entrepreneurial 14-year-old small concept in the children sector and partnered with two other well known franchise experts to acquire and grow through franchising an indoor 10-15,000 square foot kid friendly challenge climb, zip-lines, Burma bridges, rock walls, tree houses, tunnels. This franchise is targeted to ages from 2-12 and provides a unique safe, healthy and fun environment for the entire family. In 2008, the International Franchise Association awarded this franchise system "The Rocky Mountain Excellence in Franchising" award for "Best New Concept".

William has assisted franchise systems from the QSR and casual dining sectors to service franchisors in the packaging, logistics, children's learning, and mobile operations to business to business, to business to consumers. His efforts have led to the awarding over 40 master licenses for numerous franchise firms around the world.

Mr. Gabbard speaks to graduate students studying international business at the Denver University's school of management. He was awarded by Entrepreneurs Magazine "Top CEOs Under 40" "Top 40 fastest Growing Franchises in America" "Number one Service Franchise in America" The 50 Best Low Investment, High Profit Franchises" as well other leadership, honors and awards. Mr. Gabbard is on Board of Directors for profit and non-profit companies. William is an active member of the International Franchise Association.

In addition to senior executive level Client management, his specialty is franchise development expansion, master and area development expansion, contract negotiations, development analysis, and Project management, implementing the training and discovery days, franchisee and franchisor relationship management, problem analysis and resolution.

wgabbard@edwardsglobal.com

