

J. Graham Russell



Born, brought up and educated in the UK, Russell has spent the last 32 years in the US, largely in CEO roles in the transportation and environmental services industries. He conducted one of the first major consolidations in the environmental testing industry in the late 1980s, building a highly profitable company with revenues of \$50 million.

In recent years, he has devoted himself to consulting work, mainly in the recycling, environmental services and cleantech sectors. For several years he was a Board Member of CORE (Connected Organizations for a Responsible Economy, the largest business association in the Rocky Mt. region dedicated to the promotion of more environmentally and socially responsible business practices).

In 2006 Russell was responsible for creating the first Annual Sustainable Opportunities Summit, which has become the largest sustainability conference in this region, attracting nearly 650 people to the Colorado Convention Center in Denver in March 2009.

He was President of the organization for a short time in early 2007 before embarking on an extended, private equity funded assignment in the water services industry. Upon completion of that assignment in the fall of 2007, he committed to develop CORE's educational programs. He has led a number of initiatives that have positioned CORE as a leading provider of formal educational services to assist smaller businesses to understand the financial benefits of making their operations more socially and environmentally responsible.

He assumed the role of Executive Director of CORE on August 1, 2008 and is now expanding CORE's role as an educator on the financial advantages to companies that adopt green and sustainable business practices. He has built working partnerships with the City of Denver, University of Colorado Denver Business School, the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado, Boulder, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and others.

He is a frequent presenter on sustainability issues and has been featured in local news media in connection with the Sustainable Opportunities Summit.

Russell's education comprises a BA from Cambridge University and an MBA in Finance from the UK's Cranfield School of Management.

June 2009