



Partner Biographies

Bill Kassling is chairman, president and chief executive officer of Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corporation (Wabtec), a company he and other key management purchased from American Standard Incorporated in 1990. Prior to Wabtec, Kassling oversaw the operations of American Standard in the capacity of vice president, group executive, of the company's Railway Products Group. He has also served American Standard as vice president of strategic planning and development and later as vice president, group executive of the Building Specialties Group.

Kassling is an active and involved member of his community, where he serves on the boards of Aearo Corp., Parker Hannifin Corp., the Pittsburgh Penguins, Scientific-Atlanta, Inc., and SmartOps Corp. Kassling is also a trustee of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, Shady Side Academy and the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. Kassling holds a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial management from Purdue University.

Robert Brooks, executive vice president of strategic development for Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies Corporation (Wabtec), is renowned for his expertise in financial analysis and reporting, acquisitions and mergers, investor and institutional relations, and strategic planning and organizational systems development. Brooks completed a business degree from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania before signing on with some of the country's most prestigious institutions: WABCO, the innovator in ABS and EBS braking systems, American Standard, and Chrysler Corporation. In addition to serving as a director at Wabtec and its many subsidiaries, Brooks also sits on the board of directors at Crucible Materials Corporation, SUEBRO, an investment company, and a charitable foundation.

Brooks is actively involved in sports as an investor in the Pittsburgh Pirates, the Pittsburgh Penguins, the Altoona Curve, the Wheeling Nailers, and the Pittsburgh Indoor Sports Soccer & Lacrosse Center. Brooks resides in Murrysville, Pennsylvania, where he has served as city councilman for more than 14 years. He is married with four grown children.

Jim Apple is a successful businessman with an extensive track record of successful real estate ventures. Apple currently serves as managing general partner of Aspen Plaza Ltd. and Napa Town Center Real Estate. He is also the majority owner of PickApple, a quick-serve restaurant concept in the San Francisco Bay Area.

During his more than 20 years as a commercial real estate broker, Apple has negotiated lease contracts, purchase agreements and build-to-suit contracts for many major companies. He has also been in charge of managing numerous major assignments, including Pac Tel Properties under a major third party contract, Westinghouse Aire Brake Technologies Corp., Scientific Atlanta and S&W Foods.

Apple holds a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial management from Purdue University and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of San Francisco. He currently resides in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Al Walburg is president of Walburg Realty & Investments Corporation. Walburg has been the driving force behind a formidable string of highly successful office and retail real estate projects, having developed or redeveloped more than 650,000 square feet of office and retail space throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. He is currently developing a 450,000 square foot office building project in Salt Lake City. In addition to his duties at the helm of Walburg Realty & Investment Corp., he serves as managing general partner of Aspen Plaza, Ltd., Country Square Shopping Center Ltd., and Napa Town Center Ltd. Walburg's career also encompasses tenures at some of the country's most prestigious financial institutions, including Grubb and Ellis, Touche Ross & Company and Madison & Burke Investment Corporation. Walburg completed an M.B.A. program at the University of Michigan, is a certified public accountant, and holds a real estate broker's license.