



W. FRANK BLOUNT

Chairman & CEO, JI Ventures

W. Frank Blount is currently chairman and CEO of JI Ventures, Inc., a high-tech venture capital company. From 2005 until 2007, he was chairman and CEO of TTS LLC, a private equity company and from 2000 to 2002, he was chairman and CEO of Cypress Communications Inc., a full-service communications company for small and medium businesses in the United States. In 1992, Mr. Blount was appointed CEO of Telstra, the principal telecommunications company of Australia, retired from that position in March 1999. Prior to the Telstra appointment, Mr. Blount was group president of AT&T in New York.

In addition, in 1991, at the behest of US President, George Bush, he accepted the position as the first CEO of the New American Schools Development Corporation – a nonprofit organization established by American business leaders to launch the design of high performance learning environments for children. Mr. Blount has held several board positions in the United States including chairman, National Technical Institute for the Deaf; trustee, Rochester Institute of Technology; Chairman, Advisory Board of Georgia Institute of Technology; director of LXE Corporation, Systems Center Corporation, Lead Director of Caterpillar Inc., Entergy, Inc., Lead Director at KBR, Inc. and Adtran, Inc. In Australia, he was previously chairman of B. Digital Pty Ltd; chairman of MyPrice Pty Ltd.; and a director of BHP, Inc., Pioneer, Inc., and National Australia Bank. He was also on the Boards of Hanson PLC in the United Kingdom and Alcatel-Lucent in France.

An electrical engineer from Georgia Tech by initial training, Mr. Blount also holds a master's degree in business administration (Georgia State University) and a Master of Science degree in management as a Sloan Fellow at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1999, Mr. Blount was awarded the Order of Australia by the Australian Parliament.