

William M. Coughran, Jr.

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PROFILE

Experienced business and technology leader. Investor.

EXPERIENCE

Sequoia Capital, Menlo Park, CA — 2011–present

Partner and coach to help founders build engineering-centric product companies.

Corporate Advisor, Google, Mountain View, CA — 2011–2015

Senior Vice President, Research and Systems Infrastructure, Google, Mountain View, CA — 2011

Senior Vice President, Engineering, Google, Mountain View, CA — 2007–2011

Vice President, Engineering, Google, Mountain View, CA — 2004–2007

Senior Engineering Director, Google, Mountain View, CA — 2004

Engineering Director, Google, Mountain View, CA — 2003–2004

At various points, responsible for engineering of Google's CIO organization, desktop clients, research, search, security, You Tube, and systems infrastructure. On Google's executive committee, most of the period.

CEO, VP of Engineering, Director & Founder, Entrisphere, Santa Clara, CA — 2000–2002

With co-founder conceived converged access system. Secured two rounds of funding. Grew team to 95. Delivered first product with less than \$12M; delivered product to trials. Recruited new CEO; transitioned to COO and then VP of Engineering role. Company later sold to Ericsson.

Bell Labs Research Silicon Valley Senior Vice President, Lucent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA — 1998–2000

Responsible for creating R&D organization focused on new business creation including a converged "softswitch" and access system as well as quality-of-service and network-monitoring businesses.

Computing Sciences Research Center Vice President, Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, NJ — 1996–1999

Head, Scientific Computing Research Department, Computing Sciences Research Center, Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, NJ — 1993–1996

Member of Technical Staff, Scientific Computing Research Department, Computing Sciences Research Center, Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, NJ — 1980–1993

Responsible for broad computer science research and product efforts including embedded software systems, protocol analysis, languages and tools, wireless and fiber-optic modeling, and next-generation access platforms. Algorithms research and development of semiconductor devices and circuits simulators, programming languages, visualization, and distributed systems.

Internet Software Vice President / Chief Technical Officer, Communications Software Group, Lucent Technologies; Liberty Corner, NJ — 1997–1998

Responsible for security appliance business.

Programmer/Analyst, Office of Personnel Services, California State University, Los Angeles — 1973–1974

Designed and developed a personnel database system.

Applications and Systems Programmer, Computer Center, California State University, Fresno — 1969–1972

Developed student grade processing and transcript system.

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA — Ph.D. in Computer Science, 1980; M.S. in Computer Science, 1977

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA — B.S. (with honors) & M.S. in Computer Science, 1975

ACTIVITIES

Boards and advisory groups: Caltech Information Science and Technology Council (2012–present), San Francisco Opera (2013–present), Cohesity (2013–present), Quantum Circuits (2017–present), Lilt (2018–present), Alkira (2018–present), Robust Intelligence (2020–present). Graphiant (2020–present), Oso (2020–present), Caltech Engineering and Applied Science Chair’s Council (2021–present), Stairwell (2021–present), Prelude (2021–present). Previously, served on other boards (e.g., Clearwell Systems, Metaswitch Networks, Metanautix, Altiscale, Wavefront, FireEye, UCLA’s Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Luminate Wireless, Tensyr, Barefoot Networks, Docker, Vector Launch, TheatreWork, Lightstep, Blue Danube Systems, Prismo Systems, Orbital Insight, Neeva), editorial bodies, and program committees. Past adjunct or visiting faculty positions at Duke University, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Zürich), and Stanford University.