



James Akerhielm, Chief Executive Officer



Jim Akerhielm has spent his entire career in the development, organization and operations of telecommunications companies. Since May 2004, Jim has served as the CEO of NuVox. Under his leadership, the company has achieved substantial revenue and profitability growth through its transformation to a provider of IP-based communications solutions. Further, Jim has led the company through two strategic mergers – NuVox and NewSouth Communications in 2004, as well as NuVox and FDN Communications in 2007 – and successfully guided the cultural, financial and operational integration of those businesses. During this period, annual run rate revenues and EBITDA have grown to over \$500M and \$100M respectively, thus establishing NuVox as a market leader that is favorably positioned to participate in the ongoing strategic consolidation of the competitive communications provider industry.

Prior to his position as CEO of NuVox, Jim served as the CEO of NewSouth prior to its merger with NuVox. At NewSouth, Jim led a turnaround and restructuring of the company while increasing revenue and bringing the company to a positive operating cash flow position in 2003.

In addition to his experience with NuVox and NewSouth Communications, Jim served as President and CEO of Triton Cellular Partners from 1998 to 2000. At Triton, he successfully built the company into the 15th largest cellular carrier in the US, driving annual revenue from zero to over \$170 Million in less than two years. Triton was sold in 2000 for \$1.25 Billion. Prior to working with Triton, Jim held various positions with Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems, Inc. and Bell Atlantic Corporation over a twelve year period. Recognizing the growth potential in wireless telecommunications services, Jim moved to Bell Atlantic Mobile in 1993. While at Bell Atlantic Mobile, now Verizon Wireless, he served as Vice President – Southeast Region where he managed over \$300 Million in annual revenue and over 500,000 customers. He also served as Executive Director – Network Planning, and Director – Northern New Jersey Network, during his tenure at Bell Atlantic Mobile.

Jim is a member of the Board of Directors and the Vice Chairman of the Executive Committee of Comptel, the competitive telecommunications industry's leading trade organization.

Jim is active in the community in which he lives and works. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the United Way – Greenville County and, in 2006, served as the annual campaign chairman for that organization. Further, Jim serves on the Board of Governors for the Greenville Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Directors for The Peace Center for the Performing Arts.

Education

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Lafayette College, graduated summa cum laude
Executive Master of Science in Engineering, University of Pennsylvania