

Mike Cherry, PE



**Executive Board Director, Advisory Board Member,
Former CEO, COO, and President**

Mike Cherry has a proven track record of strategic vision, transformational leadership, and executive corporate management, particularly in the energy space. During his 30+ years of executive leadership, he formulated and executed numerous mergers and acquisitions while delivering robust investor returns through performance-driven decisions in the competitive oil and gas M&A landscape. Mike demonstrates servant leadership, building collaborative effort to achieve transformative success.

Mike has developed a strong background as a board director, focused on corporate governance, risk management, and sustainability. He has been certified in Corporate Governance from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. He obtained a certification in Cybersecurity from MIT's Sloan School of Management and received a certification from Corporate Finance Institute in Environmental Social and Governance (ESG). With decades of executive experience, Mike brings extensive board expertise in M&A, risk management, sound corporate governance, as well as in talent identification and development.

During the course of his career, Mike has served on a variety of Board of Directors for business, academia, economic development, and fine arts institutions, nationally and throughout Texas. He currently serves as a national board director of the Private Directors Association (PDA), an organization dedicated to corporate governance for privately-held companies, and as a director-level member for Business Navigators for the Mergers and Acquisitions and Executives in Transition forums. Mike also serves as an advisory board director for the College of Science at The University of Texas at El Paso – his alma mater.

Mike served as the executive board director and president of R. Lacy/Crain Energy in Longview, Texas before he retired. Mike led the privately-held company to substantially monetize its assets, build a pool of talented professionals, and transform its business with cutting-edge technology and performance-driven industry tools. Keeping community service and engagement in the forefront, Mike served as an advisory board and committee member of the Longview Economic Development Corporation and the Longview Museum of Fine Arts. Mike had previously served as a board director and Chief Operating Officer at Bluestem Energy in Fort Worth, Texas, a private equity-backed company.

As Founder and Chief Executive Officer of CEC Energy Consultants, Mike consulted with public companies in Houston, Texas including Murphy Oil Corporation, Marathon Oil, and Constellation Energy as well as Helmerich and Payne in Tulsa. Mike provided expertise in strategic development and operational effectiveness driven by early technological advancements in the energy industry. He was known as a thought leader and technical trainer in data analytics and as a catalyst for growth in the competitive industrial markets. In his early career, Mike joined Amoco Production Company as their District Engineering Manager, leading reservoir engineering activities across the Permian Basin and Hobbs New Mexico.