

## **Michael A. West Jr.**

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Michael A. West Jr. is a strategic communications, marketing, corporate affairs and issues management executive. He has a proven background that is rich with experience and a track record of results based leadership. Michael is a solutions provider and collaborative leader who works to get the best out of teams while nurturing and growing talent.

Throughout his career, Michael has managed and led complex matters and provided strategic direction and counsel on a number of issues. He has served as a key and lead member on executive deal teams for various merger and acquisition efforts and led integration teams on both public and private sector initiatives.

In addition, he is accomplished and experienced a great deal in the financial and investor relations space including launching a new ticker symbol at NYSE, managing Tier 1 & 2 financial press, working with analysts, earnings call management, road shows and many other efforts.

Michael thrives in a challenge and has led or directed several crisis communications matters that have involved operational issues, litigation challenges, union issues, personnel matters and corporate reputation topics – all of which had brand degradation and/ or financial implications.

His combined in-house and agency experience allows him to deliver a formidable, unique balance and tangible expertise to any role and helps him provide a focused perspective.

As a Partner at Milk and Honey, Michael's responsibilities included nurturing reputations and assisting corporate clients from a variety of industries and private equity on the development of business strategy, crisis communications, brand building, message development and other mission critical issues.

Prior to Milk and Honey, Michael served as Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs for National Grid (NYSE: NGG). In that role, Michael was responsible for strategic communications, digital strategy, government relations (federal/state/ & local), community engagement and public affairs matters for North America. Prior to SVP, he served as Vice President for National Grid Ventures & Partners covering both UK and US markets and corporate development. National Grid Partners is a CVC that invests in early to mid-stage growth companies and is based in Silicon Valley with an incubator space in the Bay area.

Just before National Grid, Michael served as Vice President for Corporate Communications at AVANGRID (NYSE: AGR) a diversified energy company with operations in 25 states across the United States where he was responsible for the entire US market and all aspects of the team's work.

Earlier in his career, Michael held multiple key positions in communications, community relations, business and economic development for Ameren Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri (NYSE: AEE).

He also served as Press Secretary/Assistant Director of Communications for the Office of the Mayor in the City of St. Louis as a key advisor and strategist. Michael also was appointed by two governors for state critical initiatives.

Michael has a B.S. in Mass Communications and a Master of Business Administration with an Int'l business focus.

He believes in the power of collaborative solutions and demonstrates that through his community work and service as a Board member and Director for a number of people focused organizations.

In his spare time, Michael enjoys history, politics, music, sports and reading.

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