

# Clifton Gardiner



Clifton Gardiner has over 60 years' experience in the media, communications, high-tech manufacturing, and investment banking industries. He has been active in the broadcast industry since 1957. He built his first AM radio station in 1960, after filing for a CP while in college. His broadcast experience includes on-air work, engineering, sales and management.

He founded Rocky Mountain Radio Company in 1990, which became a nine-station regional group that was sold in 1998. In 1993, as a spinoff, he founded Radio One Networks, LLC, and provided innovative customized localized programming for radio broadcast stations. Gardiner is credited with creating the concept for computer-based radio programming automation systems that are now used worldwide. The network grew to provide programming to over 140 affiliates and became the nation's largest commercial production service for local radio stations.

In 1962 he was awarded franchise rights for a cable television system which grew into one of the early cable industry multiple system groups with properties in Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana. To fill an urgent need for a growing new industry, he founded an engineering and construction business that designed, constructed and provided marketing for some 400 cable television systems nationwide. The company had over 1400 employees when it was sold in 1980.

When satellite delivered cable television programming emerged in 1974, he founded Gardiner Communications Corporation, a satellite communications equipment manufacturer. He acquired a Texas company that manufactured satellite spy equipment for the CIA and repurposed it for video transmission. It was one of the first to provide equipment for satellite delivery of programming to cable television systems. Products included the industry's first computer-based line of video switching and commercial insertion equipment for cable television.

With his Starscan Division, he was the first to package and sell satellite equipment and programming for home usage. This was the early forerunner for the industry that now includes Dish Network and DirectTV. Starscan was the first to negotiate licensing arrangements for television programming that could be sold directly to home customers.

He founded his current company, Clifton Gardiner & Company in 1983. It has completed over 350 mergers and acquisitions, worth over \$800 million.

From 2007 until mid-2009 he took a "time-out" to serve as EVP in charge of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra's \$80 million concert hall rebuild project, until it was shelved due to the economic downturn. He then served Interim President and CEO until a new permanent CEO was selected.

He was a member of the Colorado Symphony Board of Directors for ten years and a member of the Executive Committee for four years, until 2007. From 1980 until 1984, he served as a Director of Communicom Corporation, a Los Angeles cable television company. In 1994, he was elected a Non-Executive Director of West 175 Media, Inc., a London based publicly traded media company. Mr. Gardiner also served as a Director of Logix Corporation, a laser equipment manufacturing company based in Knoxville, Tennessee.

**(623)336-7272** [clifton@cliftongardiner.com](mailto:clifton@cliftongardiner.com)