The Return of the Proxy Fight
Thursday, January 14, 2021
11:00 am – 12:00 pm Central time

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Tim Quast
Founder and President
ModernIR

Tim Quast is an Investor-Relations veteran and founder and President of Modern IR. ModernIR, launched in 2005, pioneered market-structure analytics that quantify the behavior of money behind stock-trading for investor-relations professionals.

Previously, Tim served as the first investor relations officer at SureWest Communications (Nasdaq:SURW), and before that, Tim spent six years at retail investor-relations services company Informed Investors, Inc., where he was a co-founder, and President and Chief Operating Officer through its merger with Wilink Plc (PrecisionIR) in 2001.

Tim began his capital-markets career in boutique investment banking at QBF Management Co., a private-banking British Virgin Islands firm, after earning a BA at Ambassador University in 1991.


Kai H.E. Liekefett
Partner
Sidley

KAI LIEKEFETT is a partner in New York and co-chairs Sidley’s Shareholder Activism Practice. He has 20 years of experience in corporate law in New York, London, Germany, Hong Kong and Tokyo. He spends 100% of his time on activism campaigns and proxy fights, and in the last 5 years, Kai has been involved in over 50 proxy contests, more than any other defense attorney in the country. Under Kai’s leadership, Sidley rose to the top of the activism defense league tables, including the No. 1 ranking by Bloomberg and FactSet for H1 2020.
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Kai has been named “2019 Dealmaker of the Year” by The American Lawyer for Sidley’s groundbreaking Wynn Resorts proxy contest. He has been recognized in the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 editions of Chambers USA as one of only seven leading attorneys for Corporate/M&A: Takeover Defense.

Kai speaks regularly about shareholder activism on panels and at universities around the world. He is frequently interviewed and quoted as an activism thought leader by the national and international media, including CNN, The Wall Street Journal, CNBC, The New York Times, Bloomberg, Reuters, Financial Times, USA Today, Forbes, Law360 and The Deal. Kai sits on the board of the New York Chapter of the NACD.

Kai holds a Ph.D., magna cum laude, from Freiburg University; an EMBA, summa cum laude, from Münster Business School; and an LL.M., James Kent Scholar, from Columbia Law School. He was in the top 0.1% nationwide in his First Legal State Exam (J.D. equivalent) and in the top 1.5% nationwide in his Second Legal State Exam in Germany.

Paul Schulman
Managing Director – M&A and Activism Advisory Group
Morrow Sodali

Paul Schulman joined Morrow Sodali in January 2020 with three decades of experience providing strategic counsel to boards of directors and executives of U.S. and international companies facing complex and contentious proxy, governance and shareholder challenges. Paul has developed a reputation as a leading advisor in friendly and contested M&A, privatizations, hostile takeovers, proxy contests, shareholder activism defense and complex corporate governance issues. Prior to joining Morrow Sodali, Paul spent 10 years in senior management at proxy solicitation firm MacKenzie Partners.

In addition to working with clients on contentious shareholder votes related to board, compensation and ESG issues, Paul has led and worked on over 250 mergers, tender offers, and contested or activism situations over his career.

His experience in activism situations and proxy contests spans a broad range of industries and market cap companies, including Procter & Gamble/Trian; AT&T/Elliott Management; PDC Energy/Kimmeridge; Ironwood Pharmaceuticals/Sarissa; Sandridge Energy/Icahn; Texas Pacific Land/Softvest; Casella Waste/JCP; Consolidated-Tomoka/Wintergreen Advisors; Boingo Wireless/Ides Capital and Caesarstone/Kibbutz S’dot Yam directors.
His experience in contested M&A situations include Rowan/Ensco; Carrizo Oil & Gas/Callon Petroleum; Rice Energy/EQT; Kindred Healthcare/Humana, TPG and Welsh Carson; BW LPG/Dorian LPG; Resolute Energy/Cimarex; and Denbury Resources/Penn Virginia.

In addition to his work in the U.S., Paul has handled over 20 assignments for companies based in China over the past few years, including contested privatizations at Sinovac, Yongye International and Harbin Electric.

Paul received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Tulane University.