

John E. Waters

Vice Chairman



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Experience Summary

John E. Waters – Currently Vice Chairman of Bright Automotive, Inc., Mr. Waters is an entrepreneurial and business development professional with over 25 years experience in enterprise development, strategic planning, and high-volume production of engineered products and solutions. Mr. Waters is currently leading a “dream team” of advanced automotive experts in the research and development of lightweight, Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs).

Previously, Mr. Waters was Vice President of the Transportation Practice at Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI). He initiated and established the practice, which provided advanced energy strategy for Fortune 500 companies (e.g., Alcoa, Pacific Gas & Electric, Wal-Mart, etc.).

Prior to RMI, Mr. Waters was the Vice President of Business Development for EnerDel, Inc. – a lithium battery joint venture with Delphi Corporation. He led establishing the joint venture and was responsible for developing new markets, commercial sales, strategic partnerships, state and federal lobbying efforts.

As Manager of Product Engineering at Delphi Corporation (2001–2004), Mr. Waters initiated strategic customer partnerships and launched a new lithium battery business for Delphi. He was responsible for the design, building, testing, and production of multiple lithium battery products for the Segway® Human Transporter and the iBOT® medical device. As Manager of Advanced Engineering (1997–2001), Mr. Waters also led the design, analysis and advanced manufacturing of advanced energy storage system products for use in hybrid-electric automotive applications.

Prior to Delphi, Mr. Waters worked for a division of General Motors where he led numerous projects, including the development and production of the battery pack system for GM’s first electric vehicle and subsequent electric vehicles (i.e., GM EV₁, and the Electric S-10).

He began his career at Texas Instruments, Inc., designing and implementing automated (robotic) manufacturing processes for the US Air Force and General Motors Engine Division. Mr. Waters has been awarded four U.S. patents, two international patents, holds two defensive papers in battery pack designs, and has received numerous industry awards. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering and a member of Pi Tau Sigma Mechanical Engineering Honorary Society.