

# Ernest R Drago



Ernest Robert Drago brings 40+ years of comprehensive experience in the international construction industry, contributing to the guidance and development of large to medium-sized organizations. His career reflects a proven ability to navigate complex political and risk-prone environments, coupled with expertise in acquisitions, client negotiations, and the management of confidential corporate affairs.

Mr. Drago offers C-Level management experience with strengths in project management and administration, from pre-tender phases through project closeout. His experience extends to all construction phases of project development, both onshore and offshore, including marine and swamp operations with intricate logistical challenges.

From Feb 2011 to Present, Mr. Drago served as the Group Managing Director ASIA/EMEA and Executive Director Government Division at Marking Services Inc. – Singapore / USA. He was tasked to further develop and drive US Based Organization into the Global Market and was resident in Singapore for 8 years and established branch operations in UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, and Australia. Mr. Drago initiated QMS & Safety systems corporate wide and achieved ISO9000 & OSHAS18000 certifications for Singapore & Korea. He led the International Division through the 2014 Oil Price collapse and restructured to rekindle growth in the International Business Unit. As of March 2020, he has been resident in the USA in charge of International Division Oversight while tasked as Executive Director to bring the company into US Government Contracting.

From June 2007 to Feb 2011, Mr. Drago held the role of Senior Manager Corporate Affairs at Julius Berger Nigeria Plc (Bilfinger Berger Group) – Nigeria, where he reported directly to the Managing Director, provided direct support to Executive Management, and was a founding member of the Petroleum Contractors Trade Section, Nigeria, as well as a Board Member of the Nigerian Business Coalition Against Aids.

Prior to that, from April 1996 to June 2007, Mr. Drago was the Business Development Manager for Bilfinger Berger AG – Gas and Oil Services Nigeria Ltd – Nigeria, where his prime duties were project acquisition and market development including corporate representation for international conferences and industry events. Secondary functions included general project management oversight including contractual guidance and negotiation support, critical analysis of internal functions including cost control, project actualization and technical procedures.

Mr. Drago's early career included roles with Bechtel International, Mannesmann Anlagenbau (in Singapore, Saudi Arabia, and Germany), HI Construction, Peter Kiewit & Sons, and others, spanning from 1978 to 1996.

Mr. Drago holds an Associate of Arts Degree and is Bachelor of Science Degree (Cor.) in Business Management. He has also earned several accreditations including Saudi ARAMCO Safety Training & Work Permit Course, OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 Hazardous Waste Training, Chevron HAZOP/SIMOP Workshop, and Navex Global certifications in areas such as Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) compliance, Ethics and Code of Conduct, and Workplace Harassment.