



## Family Business Governance Roundtable Hosted by the NACD Connecticut Chapter

**Overview:** The NACD Connecticut chapter is pleased to host the Family Business Governance Roundtable. Limited no more than twenty owners, executives and directors of family business, the roundtable provides a confidential and effective means for participants to discuss issues related to the set up and operation of effective boards of directors. Founded by Jack Moore, 4<sup>th</sup> generation former director with Benjamin Moore Paints, the roundtable first met in December 2007 and is now in its fourth year.

**Meeting Format:** The roundtable meets three times yearly, once in the fall and twice in the spring. This frequency has been sufficient to build a sense of community and trust among participants, which is critical to the value of this type of program. Participation is limited to twenty owners, executives and directors of family businesses. Meetings are coordinated and facilitated by David C. Tate, Ph.D.—an experienced facilitator—and focus on actual governance issues being faced by participants and their boards. Meetings have been held in Stamford, Fairfield, and New Haven.

**Meeting Content:** Each meeting addresses two or three issues of interest to participants. The group decides on issues to be discussed and when to invite a speaker as an expert resource to a given meeting. Some of the topics covered to date include: family councils, executive compensation, organizational culture, ownership succession, buy-sell agreements, operational challenges, insurance captives, and sourcing independent directors.

**Service Providers:** There will be no service providers attending the meetings, except if invited as an expert resource. Participants may decide to invite sponsorship to support an annual dinner with spouses or for other purposes, but meetings will be solely for family business leaders.

**Participants:** Current members include family CEOs and managers, non-family executives, family non-manager owners, and independent directors in family companies. Members have derived a great deal of value from their participation:

- “The NACD-CT Family Business Roundtable is an outstanding venue in which to share best practices, brainstorm creative solutions, and most importantly learn through the experience of others how to better manage the governance and operation of family businesses. It is rewarding to be a member of this group which is unique in providing one single venue in which to consult with business owners, owner employees, advisors, and executives collaboratively.”
- “As the senior-most non-family person in our company, discussing family business issues with executives from the family of NACD member companies has given me unique insight and has enhanced my ability to understand and communicate with our family owners. Additionally, I believe I have been able to add value to the participating family executives by offering perspectives from the non-family side of senior management.”
- “The true value of this forum is not only the sharing of common experiences, but the sharing of common solutions as a team, not as individuals.”

**Pricing:** The price is \$395 for one year’s membership. In the interests of building a cohesive group, participants will pay for the year’s set of three meetings in a single transaction and are expected to attend at least two out of three sessions.

For more information and to register, please contact Jim O’Leary, Chapter Administrator, at 203.368-8647, or [oleary@theacademygroup.com](mailto:oleary@theacademygroup.com).