Chairing the audit committee of a large public company is difficult work. Audit committees have broad mandates, ranging from the traditional task of ensuring reliable financial reporting, to an additional set of responsibilities tied to risk oversight. There are no one-size-fits-all solutions for these challenges. Success calls for judgment, developed from personal experience and from engaging with others who have faced similar situations.

Since 2012, the Southwest Audit Committee Network (SWACN) has convened a select, invitation-only group of audit committee chairs from public companies for private, peer-to-peer dialogue.

Tapestry Networks orchestrates SWACN, building on nearly two decades of convening board leaders for meaningful conversations designed to yield practical insights. EY supports the network as part of its continuing commitment to board effectiveness and good governance.

Meetings, whether in person or virtual, feature world-class guests, but the directors’ voices dominate the conversations and drive the agenda. Everything is done under a non-attribution agreement that ensures candor and protects personal and company confidentiality.

**Membership**

Curt Anastasio, The Chemours Co., Par Pacific Holdings
Mark Baldwin, KBR
Lee Canaan, EOT
John Carrig, Forum Energy
Vanessa Chang, Transocean
Marcela Donadio, Norfolk Southern, NOV
Barbara Duganier, MRC Global
Rodney Eads, NOW
Paulett Eberhart, LPL Financial Holdings, Valero Energy
Ryan Edone, LGI Homes
Marty Ellen, Eagle Materials
Donna Epps, Texas Pacific Land, Texas Roadhouse
Teri Fontenot, AMN Healthcare Services
Tom Gilligan, KB Home
Sue Gove, IAA
Lou Grabowsky, Griffon
Mark Hawkins, Toast
Jean Hu, Fortinet
Don Kendall, Talos Energy
Debbie Kissire, Celanese
Gerry Laderman, Kemper Corporation
Holli Ladhani, Marathon Oil
Cathy Lego, Guidewire Software
Teresa Madden, Cooper Companies, Enbridge
Gil Marmol, Foot Locker
Ellen Masterson, Insperity
Angela Minas, Crestwood Equity Partners, Vallourec
Royce Mitchell, Pioneer Natural Resources
Mary Ricciardello, Devon Energy
Don Robillard, Cheniere Energy, Helmerich & Payne
Brenda Schroer, Antero Resources
Dunia Shive, Kimberly-Clark, Trinity Industries
Janice Stipp, ArcBest Corporation
Hilliard Terry, Upstart Holdings
Valerie Williams, Devon Energy, DTE Energy
Billie Williamson, Cushman & Wakefield
Laura Wright, CMS Energy
The network convenes several times each year. In-person meetings typically run from 2:30pm through dinner. Virtual meetings consist of a series of interactive sessions scheduled in 60 to 90-minute increments.

- Before each meeting, members are provided with brief, curated materials designed to stimulate dialogue at the meeting.
- After each meeting, a ViewPoints is published. That document draws upon the meeting discussion and similar meeting discussions with other networks across the United States.
- Members are encouraged to share the ViewPoints with board colleagues and others in their professional networks.

"Well worth the time commitment for the value received. The network helps me be a better audit committee chair." – Member

"I learn at least one or two things and get at least one or two new ideas at every meeting, plus I've met some great people." – Member

Membership is by invitation and there is no fee to participate. The network includes:

- Audit committee chairs representing public companies with annual revenues typically exceeding $2 billion.
- A mix of operating and retired executives.
- A mix of EY clients and non-clients.

Members can expect to spend two or three days per year to prepare for and participate in network meetings. If a member has a conflict with a meeting date, they may attend a similar meeting of one of five similar regional audit committee networks in another part of the country.

Recent Discussion

- Oversight of special investigations
- Enhancing audit committee effectiveness in a complex risk environment
- Evolving practices in internal audit

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About Tapestry Networks and EY

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Since its inception, SWACN has been organized by Tapestry Networks pursuant to a services agreement with EY, under which EY pays Tapestry Networks a services fee and reimburses Tapestry Networks’ out-of-pocket expenses (including the expenses of some network members incurred in connection with attending network meetings).

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