Jeff Abbott

Four decades in executive leadership. Counsel to chief executives, grounded in aerospace and manufacturing operations.

CONVENE CHAIR EMERITUS · AEROSPACE & MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS



BIOGRAPHY

Jeff Abbott is an executive advisor and Chair Emeritus of Convene. For more than twenty years he has counselled chief executives, presidents and business owners on leadership discipline and organisational performance, following an operating career that included profit-and-loss responsibility as president and general manager of three aerospace divisions representing $105 million in revenue and 550 employees.

In that advisory capacity he has facilitated peer advisory groups built around accountability and strategy, conducted one-to-one counsel using structured diagnostics and leadership frameworks, and moderated monthly executive roundtables.

The counsel rests on the operating record. As president and general manager of Ducommun AeroStructures he secured advanced manufacturing contracts exceeding $200 million and carried three divisions through AS9100 and ISO 9001 certification, reducing defects by 66 percent. Lean and continuous-improvement programmes under his direction cut production lead times by 50 to 90 percent, eliminated more than 80,000 manufacturing process steps annually, and took end-to-end cycle time from over twenty days to eight.

Earlier, as president of Aerochem, Inc. — where the chief financial officer and vice president of finance reported directly to him — he grew the business from $22 million to $31 million in revenue while improving operating profit by 80 percent, established the leading independent position in laser-scribed skin chemical milling, and reduced environmental compliance costs from 14 percent to 1.5 percent through process innovation rather than abatement spending. He restored profitability and on-time delivery at a $20 million facility within nine months, cut costs and raised throughput across manufacturing through Lean Six Sigma, SPC, environmental innovation and management by metrics, and led quality turnarounds on Space Shuttle, Boeing, F-14 and GE Aviation programmes. His operating career has included post-merger integration and culture alignment across acquired businesses.

Mr Abbott serves as managing partner of The Barnabas Group, a 501(c)(3) organisation with a board of 90 marketplace executives, where he has led partner recruitment and stakeholder engagement and facilitated board meetings, member assemblies and strategic planning retreats. He holds a B.A. in Industrial Arts from California State University, Long Beach, together with a California K–12 teaching credential and bilingual/bicultural certification. He is a certified executive leadership and CEO advisory facilitator and a Lean practitioner, served as an infantry sergeant with the United States Army, and resides in California.

AREAS OF CONTRIBUTION

- Senior Leadership
- Operations & Business Strategy
- Human Capital
- Manufacturing
- Industrial & Aerospace
- Quality & Regulatory Compliance
- M&A and Post-Merger Integration
- Risk Management
- Finance & Financial Reporting
- Lean & Six Sigma

SCALE

- 20+ years advising chief executives
- $105M divisional revenue
- 3 divisions · 550 employees
- AS9100 · ISO 9001
- Board of 90 executives