

THARSTERN

EXECUTIVE BIOS



KEITH McMURTRIE

Chief Executive Officer

Keith is the Chief Executive Officer at Tharstern and has worked at the company for 31 years. He has been involved with software development since the day he first laid eyes on his grandad's VIC20 computer in 1982. He was instantly hooked and left school to work in the video games industry, becoming a freelance developer, working on popular games like Stormlord.

In the early 90's Keith's focus moved to the printing industry, when he took up the position of Technical Manager for Tharstern, at the time a small company of just 7 people. With a unique blend of commercial understanding and technical ability, his arrival resulted in a number of firsts in the industry. Over the following 26 years, he played a pivotal role in the company's growth, taking over the role of Managing Director in 1995 and then leading a management buy-out when the original founder's family sold the business in 2014.

Since then Keith, along with the rest of his management team, has worked hard to deliver on the company's plans for growth, leading his 60-strong team through a corporate rebrand, significant product developments, a move into purpose-built offices in Colne, and a launch into international markets. Known in the industry for his knowledge of integrated workflows and JDF, Keith is regularly asked to speak at partner events on these topics.

SPEAKING INVITATIONS & COMMENTARY:

Keith is open to speaking invitations and requests for commentary on the topics of:

- Software technology for the printing industries
- Integration and connectivity
- Software development
- Employee engagement
- Customer experience
- Industry news and trends
- Bionic businesses
- Value based pricing

GETTING PERSONAL:

Keith lives in Blackburn, Lancashire with his partner and 3.5 children, supports Manchester United FC and spends far too much time in his garage playing with his ever-growing power tool collection.

Media and PR contact:

Sophie Jackson | Marketing & Communications Strategist
sophie.jackson@tharstern.com

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ANTONY LORD

Chief Technology Officer

Antony is our Chief Technology Officer who oversees the Product Development team at Tharstern. He is also a shareholder at Tharstern, having been part of a management buy-out when the original founder's family sold the business in 2014.

Approaching his 30th year at Tharstern, he has spent most of that time overseeing the installation, implementation, and support of our software around the world. He now uses this operational experience, combined with his knowledge of technology and process, to oversee our Development teams for both the Desktop and Cloud Products.

SPEAKING INVITATIONS & COMMENTARY:

Antony is open to speaking invitations and requests for commentary on the topics of:

- General IT and IT infrastructure
- Cloud technologies and infrastructure
- Software technology in general
- Software development
- Agile, Scrum, and DevOps

GETTING PERSONAL:

Antony is a keen hillwalker, photographer, and general outdoors person. He spends quite a lot of his spare time out in the wild, exploring Britain, and his favourite place to visit is the Cairngorms in the Scottish Highlands.

Media and PR contact:

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LEE WARD

Chief Revenue Officer

Lee Ward is the Chief Revenue Officer at Tharstern and has worked at the company for 20 years. He briefly tried to leave us in 2010 to work for a Global Microsoft ERP partner selling Tier 1 ERP Microsoft products to large businesses across different sectors, but after 2 years of begging we eventually managed to convince him to come back as our Sales Director. He is now a shareholder at Tharstern, having been part of a management buy-out when the original founder's family sold the business in 2014.

As CRO, Lee is responsible for all revenue generating streams within the company, including sales, support and consultancy, and has worked hard to align these functions so they now work together as one Customer Success team. With his cross-functional knowledge and experience of both the printing industry and software technology, Lee is often invited to comment on both these areas and is a regular guest on industry podcasts and webinars.

SPEAKING INVITATIONS & COMMENTARY:

Lee is open to speaking invitations and requests for commentary on the topics of:

- Software technology for the printing industries
- Integration and connectivity
- Customer experience
- Software implementation projects
- Industry news and trends

GETTING PERSONAL:

Lee supports Liverpool FC, loves a good boxing match, and lives with his wife and two children in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Media and PR contact:

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NIGEL SHUKER

Finance Director

As Finance Director, Nigel has overall responsibility for Tharstern's financial matters – both in the UK and North America – and is responsible for HR matters such as Contracts, Payroll, Pensions and Employee benefits. Nigel has been a member of our board since joining us in 2016 and acts as our Company Secretary, looking after Tharstern's statutory filings, insurances and any legal matters that arise.

Nigel has worked in Finance for over 30 years, the first 9 in private practice where he gained his qualifications before moving into the commercial world. He has been a Finance Director for the last 19 years operating in the retail, food service and software sectors.

GETTING PERSONAL:

Nigel is a keen golfer and a member at Blackburn Golf Club where he can be found most weekends in the summer.

Media and PR contact:

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