

JOHN CRESSWELL

Major Career Roles

Chair, J Murphy & Sons Ltd
Operating Adviser, Lazard Asset Management
CEO, Bibby Line Group Ltd
CEO, Arqiva Ltd
COO & Interim CEO, ITV plc
COO, ITV Studios and Granada Content

Other Career Highlights

Independent Non-Executive Director, Capita plc
Non-Executive Director, Liverpool Football Club and Athletic Grounds Ltd
Non-Executive Director, Ambassador Theatre Group

John Cresswell is an experienced CEO and Chair who has enjoyed a diverse leadership career spanning three-decades in the fast-evolving broadcast, technology, creative and construction sectors.

Currently John chairs Maryland Group Holdings Limited and J Murphy and Sons Limited the family owned £1.7bn turnover international infrastructure construction business. He stepped down from his role as an operating adviser in Lazard at the end of February 2026.John has extensive experience of leading businesses through volatile, complex and uncertain times, providing clear direction around a shared strategic vision, rebuilding culture and delivering improved financial performance in both listed and privately held companies.

John spent two decades at ITV plc where he held a number of senior management roles and in 2006 was appointed to the Board. He was promoted from Group CFO to COO and CEO successfully steering the business through the 2008/9 financial crisis.

John's other leadership experience includes CEO of Arqiva the privately owned communications and media infrastructure company, where he led a cultural, strategic and financial turnaround over five years.

As CEO of the Bibby Line Group, a 200-year-old diversified family company, he completed a major rationalisation of the group portfolio and helped reshape the organisation for a sustainable future.

Additionally, John has served as a director of the following companies - Capita, where he chaired the Remuneration Committee, The Ambassador Theatre Group, Liverpool Football and Athletic Grounds, and Imaginarium Holdings.

John brings deep cross-sector expertise in:

• Broadcast, media & creative industries – leading large production and content businesses and navigating disruption in rapidly changing markets.
• Transformation, turnaround & crisis leadership – steering organisations through financial crises, strategic resets and complex cultural change.
• Private, infrastructure & family-owned businesses – serving as CEO and Chair in privately owned, infrastructure and long-established family enterprises.
• Board governance, finance & stakeholder management – combining CFO, CEO, Chair and Non-Executive experience to align boards, investors and management around long-term value.

He holds a degree in Economics and Politics from the University of Keele, has completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School and qualified as a Chartered Accountant.