

There are seven Contractor positions and five Supplier positions on the FIS Board. Vacancies for the new Board from 5 November 2021 are for four Contractors and one Supplier, and the appointments will be for two years. The candidates have been given the opportunity to present a profile of themselves in support of their candidacy.

There are three Supplier candidates for one Supplier vacancy. Please remember that when voting you may cast your vote for a maximum of one Supplier candidate only.

There are five Contractor candidates for four Contractor vacancies. When voting you may cast your vote for a maximum of four Contractor candidates only.

Contractor candidates	
 <p>Jim Brennan Managing Director Nova Plasterboard Systems Ltd</p>	<p>JIM BRENNAN I am a plasterer by trade for 17 years. I progressed from Drylining Supervisor to Contracts Manager to Construction Director. I am now Joint Managing Director of Nova Plasterboard Systems Limited.</p> <p>If I am elected, I will endeavour to pass on as much of my knowledge and experience to others within the sector. To embrace change and work with integrity and professionalism. To help try and make a change within our sector relating training, resourcing and management. To embrace others' views without negativity. To work alongside partners to learn and to teach.</p> <p>My passion is apprenticeships. We are lacking these young individuals that we desperately need in our sector. A change needs to happen and fast. I hope with experiencing first-hand issues that I can make a difference in the way we approach bringing new young individuals to our sector.</p>
 <p>Philip Brown Managing Director Meronden Ltd</p>	<p>PHILIP BROWN I have worked in the construction industry for over 45 years. After completing an electrical apprenticeship, I went on to project manage numerous interior works, gaining in depth knowledge and experience within the industry before joining Meronden Ltd in 1997 as director.</p> <p>Meronden has been an active member of the PIA, AIS and now FIS. I believe that as a specialist industry, by working in association with one another, we are able to share information, ideas, trends and best practice which will enable each member to succeed in today's challenging and ever-changing market.</p> <p>I have been on the FIS Board for four years. Going forward, I want to continue to build upon the good work that the board has achieved, actively encouraging the increase of new members, whilst maintaining the high standards achieved within the membership, and to increase the profile of the association within the industry ensuring it is associated with quality, commitment and prestige.</p>

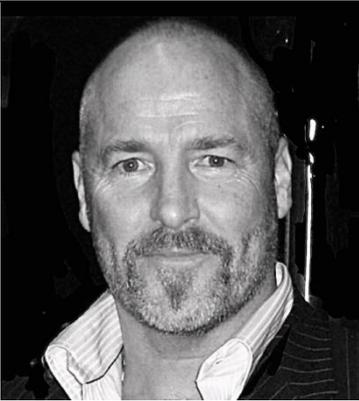


Rob Frank
Customer Experience Director
BW: workplace experts

ROB FRANK

I am an experienced CX Director with a demonstrated history of working in the construction industry. Skilled in Coaching, Customer Experience Design, Strategic Planning, Customer Analysis, and Business Process Improvement. I am a strong professional with an MBA focused in strategy and knowledge and will always get things done.

If I am elected, I will endeavour to improve FIS, get people to take pride in our industry, gather and spread best practice and innovation, seek feedback to improve the reach of FIS, learn and work with the current team to understand FIS touch points and journey members have and finally how we can all improve our industry



Richard Grimes
Managing Director
Grimes Finishings

RICHARD GRIMES

I have 44 years' experience in the plastering and drylining industry and from mixing my first bucket of plaster at 16 years of age, I still today, spend my working week on sites, around plasterers and dryliners.

I started my working life at J. Coen Plasterers in Birmingham as a young labourer and worked my way through the ranks to supervisor, contracts manager, director and eventually managing director, leading the company to its most profitable year since its incorporation in 1968.

In 2006 I started Grimes Finishings, just before one of the worst recessions in history and luckily we've weathered many a storm and continue to succeed in both the residential and commercial sectors of the construction industry.

I work with many of the largest house builders and construction companies in the UK and have forged many strong relationships, some lasting over 30 years.

I have been on the FIS Board for two years. If I am re-elected I will endeavour to promote the benefits of FIS membership to plastering and drylining companies who don't yet realise that none of us are as good as all of us together.

As a body of tradespeople, we can support and represent many of the smaller companies within our sector and not only give them a sense of belonging but also a source of reference.

I know too many of these companies who are almost going it alone, whereas if we could persuade them to get involved, I believe we could show them the great benefits of FIS membership.

The future and continuity of our great trade is future generations and the secret to this I believe is an increase in the value of what we do. Too many large construction companies force rates in our trade down to unreasonable levels and this can cheapen our great skill sets.

I would love the chance to continue to make a difference.



Ian Strangward
Managing Director
Architectural Wallsz
(International) Ltd

IAN STRANGWARD

Graduated in 1982 and joined Lucas Industries plc before moving to GKN plc. Final position was Plant Director for GKN Driveshafts Limited, employing 600 staff.

From 1994 – 2008, I acquired several small manufacturing businesses, including Apton Partitioning Limited (FIS member). The Apton business was sold in 2015.

From 2015, I started Architectural Wallsz (International) Limited as a specialist subcontractor. This start-up has grown to £4M sales within 5 years.

I have served on several trade association committees e.g. SMMT, BLMA and have been a non-executive Director for public and private sector organisations:

- Dudley Training and Enterprise Council
- Black Country Small Business Service (Chairman)
- I signed the Contract for Business Link on behalf of the Black Country

Within the FIS, I have been a member of the following committees:

- Training and Skills, Manufacturing member (Apton)
- Partitioning and Pods Working Group, Chairman

With knowledge of manufacturing office partitioning systems, I was elected Chair of the Partitioning and Pods Working Group from its inception. I was regarded by peers as independent having sold my manufacturing business. This group has successfully implemented the Acoustic Performance Verification Scheme. This achievement demonstrates the significant work, communication and endeavour to drive an FIS initiative through to completion.

If I am elected, I will endeavour to support and implement the objectives of the FIS Board, however, I will also try to influence the Board to consider:

- driving out corruption within the industry and create awareness of the problems
- driving the industry toward performance systems (properly certificated) and find ways of ensuring members endorse the Product, Process and People agenda
- to represent issues for SME manufacturers and Contractors as I have direct experience for both groups

Finally, I will endeavour to influence the FIS to move forward into the new world of digital construction and prefabricated interiors. Although, I believe strongly that this will be the future, I do recognise that we need to support our members in the 'conventional' interiors market and help them to make plans for their own future.

Supplier candidates



STUART ROBERTS

I am a vastly experienced and dedicated individual, working within the Drylining and Interiors distribution market for over 39 years with a number of independent and national suppliers.

Operating successfully in various regional and national roles from van driver to branch manager to my current position with CCF as Key Account Director.

I am currently an FIS board member. If I am re-elected, I will endeavour to provide the opportunity for people to gain employment within our fantastic industry, offering the ability for robust apprenticeships and training to fulfil their potential.

FIS has made great strides in helping recruit more individuals and I would dearly love to continue this journey, promoting excellence and good practice from our membership and raising awareness of mental health and diversity in the workplace.

<p>Stuart Roberts Key Account Director CCF</p>	<p>Continue to work collaboratively with the board and the membership to overcome the challenges in the months ahead, particularly with material and labour shortages and engage with members and promote the benefits to non-members</p> <p>Open, honest, empathetic, passionate and forthright, I would be honoured to continue my role with the organisation and to represent its members to the best of my ability.</p>
 <p>Dave Robinson Head of Technical Support British Gypsum Ltd</p>	<p>DAVE ROBINSON</p> <p>I am a time served plasterer by trade, with over 30 years industry experience. I have spent the last 15 years working in technical, specification and design roles, for contractors and manufacturers. I spent a number of years carrying out site inspections and trouble-shooting so have a good knowledge of what can and does go wrong on site.</p> <p>In my current role I am responsible for a team of 25 consultants, designers and advisor in the technical support function of British Gypsum. I also represent BG on the Science & Technical Committee of the GPDA.</p> <p>I feel passionate about raising standards in the drylining sector and see FIS as playing a major role in this. If elected, I will help shape the strategy of the association so the membership can move forward in terms of competency and use the oncoming regulation changes to improve our sector.</p>
 <p>Philip Thomas Business Development Manager Smiths Building Systems</p>	<p>PHILIP THOMAS</p> <p>For over 20 years I have worked within the partitioning, aluminium extrusion and building products field. Originally working for aluminium extruder gaining 1st hand experience of the extrusion process and finishing of profiles. Later moving onto an aluminium stock-holder where I gained further experience in fabrication, and production whilst designing and developing new profiles for the partitioning market. This also allowed me to develop my planning and estimating abilities.</p> <p>After that I moved into distribution of building materials, specialising in MF and suspended ceilings, drylining, partitioning and insulation, which allowed me to further develop my abilities as an estimator producing take-offs from architects drawings and tender specifications.</p> <p>My current role as Business Development Manager for Smiths Building Systems affords me the opportunity to be involved in many aspect of the business including branding, web development, safety, technical specifications, product development, improvement and design.</p> <p>If I am elected, I will endeavour to help other members and respect the rights and expectations of FIS whilst maintaining a high level of competency and commitment to the FIS staff team and FIS members. With an emphasis on strategy and performance, stewardship and conformance, whilst adhering to relevant legislation. I will uphold and maintain the FIS's core values and build on the honesty, trust and integrity that they have become synonymous with in the industry.</p>

Existing Board Members for Information Only:

Contractors	Suppliers
Helen Tapper – Tapper Interiors (President)	Andrew Smith – OWA (UK) (Immediate Past President)
Will Hart – Taylor Hart	Lydia Sharples – Nevill Long Vice President
Jonathan Riley – Locker and Riley	Alan Brown – Forza Doors

