

Richard graduated from the National University of Ireland, University College Dublin with a First Class honors degree in Economics and Econometrics. Every year he achieved first place in his examinations and won a number of scholarships and prizes. He is also a graduate of the seventh EC Executive Training Program (ETP VII) in Japan.

He began his career in 1977 as an Irish government employee, working for one year in the Comptroller & Auditor General's Office and thereafter in the Department of Communications. His first major assignment was in the aviation policy area, where he was involved in formulating Ireland's contribution to EC-level negotiations with the US on its "open-skies" policy and with a number of important legislative initiatives. As Press and Information Officer for the Department and later as Private Secretary to the Minister for Communications he supported the Minister in discharging his responsibilities for all aspects of transport, telecommunications, broadcasting and postal services in Ireland, as a member of Government and as President of the EC Council of Ministers of Transport.

Between 1985 and 1991 he worked with GPA Group Limited, a global aircraft leasing and trading group based in Shannon, Ireland. In 1987 he came to Japan and, following participation in ETP VII, he remained as GPA's Japan Representative with responsibility for equity placement, funding and the marketing of innovative aircraft investment structures. Through these assignments he gained deep experience in the design and documentation of complicated multi-jurisdictional transactions, with particular emphasis on accounting, taxation, documentation and regulatory issues.

In 1991 he joined AIG Financial Products, a subsidiary of the AAA-rated American International Group, specializing in the design and execution of complicated financial derivative products. During five years he learned to identify, quantify and manage financial risks within equity, fixed income and currency markets using advanced mathematical techniques. His main contribution was the establishment of a new global advisory business combining knowledge of derivative products, tax and legal structuring.

On joining the Deutsche Bank Group in February, 1996 he established a new team in Japan which designed and executed global transactions requiring participation by multiple product groups. This work required extensive knowledge of cash instruments, financial derivatives and complicated legal documentation. In addition, from mid-1998 he was asked to take global responsibility for the structuring and distribution of products based on Alternative Investment Strategies (investments in hedge funds and managed futures funds). He was also a member of the Executive Committee of the Deutsche Bank Group in Japan.

In April 2000 Richard founded Bdellium (www.bdellium.com), of which he is President and CEO.

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