



# CHAIRMAN'S NETWORK

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## **3 things I have learned as Chairman**

*By John O'Connell, Chairman of Mtivity and Helveta*

1. Understand your personal goals for taking on the role. Mine always are a. To make a difference b. Have a financial return c. Enjoy the stimulation of working with the right people and company, with the CEO and lead investors being key here All 3 criteria are equally important to me. If all 3 are not being achieved then either fix it or leave.
2. Being a founder yourself is no guarantee of being able to work with a Founder/CEO. Many are unmanageable or unscalable, but more are mentorable than not.
3. Investor Directors have the same fiduciary responsibilities as all other directors and are not on the board solely to look after their personal/investor interests. If there are any doubts re appropriate course of actions obtain expert advice and then ensure it is documented. Memories can be highly selective.