

Access to Experts



Ron Marshall
Chief Executive Officer
Claire's Inc.

Ron Marshall is a seasoned Chief Executive who has specialized in turning around troubled retail companies through cultural transformation, operation reengineering, financial restructuring and the development of innovative strategies. Most notably, Ron led the Nash Finch Company, a \$5 billion food distribution and food retailing company, from 1998 until 2006. During this period he created a performance driven culture committed to superior execution, world class customer service and outstanding shareholder return. As a result, earnings quadrupled over a six year period, EBITDA improved over 40% during the same period and the Company achieved the thirteenth highest five year total shareholder return (46.2%) in the Fortune 500 (1999 – 2004).

In addition, Ron led the turnaround from the brink of bankruptcy of Borders Group Inc., the second largest bookseller in the US with over 500 retail stores and an e-commerce business totaling \$2.6 billion in annual sales through financial restructuring, reengaging customers and instilling outstanding execution. He conceived and executed the Company's device agnostic e-book strategy including negotiating the strategic alliance that created the third largest e-bookstore, Kobo. Ron was also the CEO of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company.

Earlier in his career, Ron served in a series of positions of increasing responsibilities in companies including Pathmark Stores, Inc., Barnes & Noble Bookstores, Inc. and the Jack Eckerd Corporation. He has served as Director and Audit Committee Member on the Board of Directors of Claire's Stores, Inc. and Linens & Things, Inc., and as an Executive Committee Member of the Wright State University Foundation.

Ron graduated with honors from Wright State University and is a Certified Public Accountant. He is married with two college-age daughters. He enjoys marathon running, skiing, flying (multi-engine, seaplane, and instrument ratings), scuba diving, and reading non-fiction. He is also a member of Angel Flight Network.

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