Phil Friedman was born and raised in the former Soviet Union. After spending 12 years in numerous positions in the electronics industry, he immigrated to the United States and settled in New York City. In addition to his degrees in Electrical Engineering, Economics and Finance from his native country, Mr. Friedman also studied Information Systems in the United States.

In 1984, Mr. Friedman started Computer Generated Solutions (CGS), a diversified IT solutions and services company providing software, consulting, systems integration, training and help desk support. Today, with close to 8,000 professionals and a global presence spanning North America, South America, Europe, Middle East and Asia, CGS maintains a leadership position delivering end-to-end, award-winning solutions in over 48 countries around the globe.

Under Mr. Friedman’s leadership, CGS has been recognized by Inc. Magazine, Deloitte & Touche, Crain’s New York Business, among others, as one the fastest growing privately held technology companies in the United States. Mr. Friedman has expanded CGS through organic growth as well as the successful integration of several acquisitions.

In 1996, Mr. Friedman was named Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young, Inc., Inc. Magazine, Merrill Lynch and the City of New York. In 2007, Mr. Friedman was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. In 2007 and 2008, he was appointed to represent the State of New York on the Presidential Business Commission and to serve as an Honorary Chairman on the National Business Advisory Council.

Mr. Friedman’s contribution to the US economy and society where twice recognized by the United States Congress. In 2011, Mr. Friedman received an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Yeshiva University.