Rick Bawcum, CAE, CISSP, AAiP

Chief Information Officer · Chief Technology Officer

Orlando, FL · +1 (984) 325-3180 · rick@bawcum.net · linkedin.com/in/rickbawcum · bawcum.net

SUMMARY

Technology executive with 25+ years running enterprise IT, architecture, and managed services, from CRM, ERP, and data warehouse programs at national telecom carriers to consulting, managed services, and AI governance for associations, scientific societies, and the architecture-engineering-construction industry. Founder-CEO who built a $5M+ technology firm, so budgets, P&L, security, and delivery are owned end to end. CISSP, MIT Sloan AI strategy graduate, and author on responsible AI. Seeking a CIO or CTO role leading modernization, security, and AI adoption.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Technology Leadership:** IT strategy and master planning, enterprise architecture, program and portfolio management, high-availability infrastructure, 24x7 operations
- **Modernization:** CRM, ERP, OSS, middleware, data warehousing and reporting, web and e-commerce, digital transformation
- **Security & Risk:** CISSP, cybersecurity, risk management, resilient architecture, vendor oversight
- **Delivery & Operations:** managed services, distributed and offshore teams (India, Brazil), vendor management, P&L ownership
- **AI & Data:** AI strategy, human-in-the-loop AI, data governance, responsible AI, AI-assisted engineering (Claude Code, Claude Cowork)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder, cimbiotic *September 2026 – Present*

- Founded an independent AI assurance firm; designed a fixed-price AI assessment and quarterly testing service, and designed, built, and launched the cimassure platform, which independently tests AI assistants, using Claude Code and Claude Cowork on a stack that includes Anthropic, Gemini, LangChain, GitHub, and OpenTelemetry.

Founder & CEO, Cimatri (acquired by Blue Cypress)

Washington DC-Baltimore Area · June 2015 – September 2026

Founder & CEO, 2015–2020 · CEO after private equity acquisition, 2020–January 2026 · Strategic Advisor to Blue Cypress through a planned nine-month transition, January–September 2026

- Founded an industry-focused firm delivering consulting, managed services, and AI governance, bootstrapped it to $2.5M in revenue, led its sale to private equity, and grew it to a $5M+ annual run rate across consulting, managed services, and enterprise AI, with 90% revenue retention.
- Directed a team of 20+, supported by an offshore and contract workforce, on 100+ engagements in enterprise architecture, technology modernization, managed services, and AI strategy.
- Served as virtual CIO to the American Association of Physicists in Medicine and the Construction Specifications Institute, and provided IT strategy to the American Institute of Physics; led a team that embedded Construction Specifications Institute standards within architecture, engineering, construction, and operations platforms.
- Built the AI and Intelligence practice, advising boards on human-in-the-loop AI adoption and data governance; advised Blue Cypress leadership across its portfolio during the planned transition as the acquirer reorganized the business.

COO / CTO, Bross Group *Denver Metropolitan Area · March 2011 – June 2015*

- Senior management team member of a premier IT staffing and consulting firm: strategic planning, operations, practice development, risk management, managed services, and engagement management.

Management Consultant, Independent *Greater Wilmington Area · October 2003 – March 2011*

- Interim executive for portfolio companies; advised partners and major clients on business planning, capital formation, technology deployment, and operations processes.

Earlier Career, 1996–2003

- **Vice President, Technology Services, Iron Mountain DEN-1 (formerly FORTRUST)**, Denver, May 2002 – October 2003: owned the P&L of the Managed Services and Application Services business unit, including product management, deployment, and profitability.
- **Vice President, IT Technical Services and Business Integration, Rhythms NetConnections**, Denver, 2000 – 2001: IT physical infrastructure, strategic and capital plans, high-availability management, architecture, and 24x7 operations.
- **Vice President, IT Business Integration, CapRock Communications**, Dallas-Fort Worth, March – December 2000: planned and deployed OSS, CRM, ERP, middleware, enterprise data warehousing and reporting, and end-user development solutions; developed and executed the IT strategic plan.
- **Vice President, IT Strategy and Business Integration, Pagenet Paging**, Dallas-Fort Worth, September 1999 – March 2000: led IT governance functions, including strategic planning, program office, business planning, account management, core design, and quality assurance.
- **Director, IT Strategy and Information Management; Section Manager, IT Program Office, Verizon Wireless (formerly PCS PrimeCo)**, Dallas-Fort Worth, December 1996 – August 1999: led IT strategic planning aligned to the business plan and deployment of CRM, messaging and workflow, web and e-commerce, and data warehousing; established program management best practices and the IT Master Plan.
- **Additional industry experience:** technical architect, special assets division, NationsBank / Bank of America, during a period of major upheaval in banking; compliance and operator certification at Warner-Lambert during an FDA consent decree; operator training and certification with the American Petroleum Institute.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

- MBA, Computer/Information Technology Administration and Management, Western Governors University (in progress) · BS, Business Administration, Finance and Management, Regis University, cum laude
- Telecommunications Executive Management Program, SMU Cox School of Business · MIT Sloan Executive Education: Implications of AI for Business; AI for Business Strategy
- CISSP · CAE (Certified Association Executive) · AAiP (Association AI Professional) · Certified AI Consultant (USIDHR)

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, Ethical AI for Associations: Agentic Update (2025) · Contributing author, Ascend: Unlocking the Power of AI for Associations (2023)