

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UKRAINE



YOUR FULL NAME:

Alastair David McBain

YOUR JOB TITLE:

Chairman

YOUR COMPANY:

GeoAlliance

YOUR BRIEF BIOGRAPHY (250-300 words):

Alastair McBain is a graduate of Oxford University and has 40 years' experience in the oil industry. He spent the first 17 years of his career with Shell in numerous senior international postings including assignments in Singapore, Dubai, China and Venezuela. Prior to leaving Shell, he worked in their natural gas business with specific responsibility for the development of LNG projects. He joined the Vitol group in 1995 to head up the growth of the group's portfolio of upstream assets and became CEO of Arawak Energy in September 2002. Arawak was listed in Toronto and was admitted to the LSE in July 2008 before being privatized in 2009, becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of the Vitol Group, the world's largest independent energy trading company. Arawak acquired its initial stake in Geo-Alliance, a leading independent Ukrainian oil and gas group in August 2012, where Alastair serves as Chairman of the Board. In addition to Ukraine, Arawak and the Vitol Group explore for, develop and produce oil and gas from blocks in Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Mexico, Ghana Cote d' Ivoire and UAE. Current equity production is over 9,000 boe/d.



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2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

Why do you think membership in the American Chamber of Commerce is important for business operating in Ukraine?

Amcham is in my view the premier business organization in Ukraine, with an excellent reputation for integrity, professionalism and efficiency. Being part of this enables businesses to communicate with high levels in the government, to voice concerns, to hear the direction of travel and to shape their activities according to the business environment. Membership also enables participating companies to take part in the chambers numerous committees focused on particular business sectors where specific issues can be analysed in detail and dialogues with appropriate state authorities opened. In this way, problems or challenges can be addressed in the context of entire business sectors working in co-operation with government. This tends to produce more effective results than through the unilateral actions of businesses acting on their own.

The social side should not be overlooked either, particularly for companies starting up in Ukraine enabling top managers to make friendships, share experiences and to benefit from the views and experiences of US and other foreign investors and friends of Ukraine.

What motivates you to be a Chamber Board Member?

I relish the opportunity to share my experiences of investing in Ukraine with peers, to take part in the evolution of the Chamber in the light of the changing investment environment and hope we can contribute to positive changes for the benefit of Chamber members, for business and for Ukraine.

Why do you feel you are qualified to serve on the Chamber Board? What skills would you bring to the Board?

I have a deep knowledge of the international oil and gas business having worked in that area for some 40 years in several different countries, including a period of time as the CEO of an LSE and TSX listed company. This is an area of strategic importance to Ukraine and as part of the energy sector generally one where many matters have been dealt with effectively while others are lagging behind. I believe as a board member I can alert my peers to developments as they come up and ensure the board is well informed and fully appraised on energy matters, which can often turn out to be sensitive and politically charged.



How have you been active in the Chamber over the course of the last two years?

I have chaired the Energy working group.

What activity or Committee would you participate in and be responsible for?

I would be happy to continue in this role and any other roles which fellow board members may consider appropriate