

Phil Smith
CEO Cisco UK & Ireland
Chairman, UK Technology Strategy Board (TSB)

Phil Smith is UK & Ireland CEO of Cisco - the worldwide leader in networking for the internet. He was appointed as the Chairman of the UK Technology Strategy Board in December 2011 and hailed as one of the nation's most influential leaders in the Computer Weekly UKTech50 Awards. Phil has also been recognised by the Deputy Prime Minister and other influential figures at the Women of the Future Awards with the 'Mentor of the Year' accolade for his personal commitment to supporting UK women of the future in schools and business.

He has a thirty year track record within the ICT industry, advising leading global organisations in the private and public sector on how to drive transformation, productivity and sustainable growth. Phil is a passionate advocate of technology and innovation to the region's business and political leaders, sitting on a number of boards including Young Enterprise, The Employers Forum for Disability, Chairman of e-Skills UK and a member of the Foundation for Science and Technology, CBI, Intellect, CriticalEye and the Council for Industry and Higher Education (CIHE).

Cisco UK & Ireland was established in the early nineties when Phil joined the organisation and he has been a key player in creating the significant and recognised business that it is today, a 'Great Place to Work' and 'Times Top 50 Place Where Women Want to Work'.

Phil has been on Cisco's Europe and Emerging Markets Board for a number of years and in his previous role as VP, Technology and Marketing for Europe, Phil accelerated Cisco's external brand and the growth of advanced technologies such as video and virtualisation. Prior to joining Cisco, Phil worked for IBM and Philips Electronics and is an accomplished speaker on a number of topics including 'the future of the internet', innovation, Web 2.0, sustainability and transformational technology.

Over the past year, Phil has championed the British Innovation Gateway (BIG) programme in support of driving UK growth through technology entrepreneurship and STEM skills.

Phil is also the founding member of 'The Leaderboard'; a cross industry team of thirty UK CEOs who will compete in Triathlon sports to raise money for national charity, Comic Relief in the run up to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Phil has visited Malawi to support Comic Relief projects and the Leaderboard's contribution in the Olympic year will raise a significant amount of awareness and funds for projects in the UK and Africa.

Phil is a graduate of Glasgow University with four children and lives in Stratford with his wife.