

## **John Mathias Gasparac's CV**

**John Mathias Gasparac** is the Country Managing Partner of PwC Croatia and the Territory Assurance Leader.

John has 30 years of professional experience. He started his professional career with EY in 1988 in Vancouver, Canada. In 1997, he joined Price Waterhouse which at that time established its operation in Croatia, becoming PwC in 1998. Over the years he has been responsible for a portfolio of clients consisting of some of the most prominent companies in the Croatian as well as other markets in the region. In the period between 2004 to 2007, he was seconded to the Moscow office of PwC as a full time member of GACS (Global Accounting Consulting Services), specializing in IFRS and gaining extensive international experience working with a large portfolio of companies in the Russian market. In July 2007, John was promoted to partner, later becoming Territory Assurance Leader for PwC Croatia.

John holds a degree in commerce from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada and he is a member of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. Along with his professional interests, he has for many years supported and has been actively involved in the corporate responsibility activities of PwC Croatia.

### **1. Why do you think membership in the AmCham is important for businesses operating in Croatia?**

AmCham in Croatia is the leading business association, which has continuously put forth effort to bring closer together and foster dialogue between the private sector and public sector, keeping at the forefront of their efforts the interests of society as a whole. At PwC, our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. I believe that that purpose is very much aligned with AmCham's efforts to promote positive change in the business and societal environment. The stronger the business, the stronger the community.

We live in times when transparency, but also in very challenging times, and good business practices and integrity have never been more important. Those are the values AmCham and all of its members abide by. I believe AmCham is an organisation which will continue to greatly contribute to a more significant impact on the community.

### **2. What motivates you to be an AmCham Board Member?**

We have common goals, global goals. Being at the helm of a member of an international network, I am given the opportunity to help promote our common agenda. We continuously make contributions to capitalise on opportunities as a country. I would like to continuously create an environment for (new) companies, help create new jobs, insure that young people remain in Croatia, bring investment and create a more competitive environment, moving away from a crony economy towards a full market economy, as I have been doing until now. This is what motivates me and I believe other participants in Croatian business circles do too. I believe AmCham can help push that agenda.

### **3. Why do you feel you are qualified? What skills do you bring to the position of Board Member?**

My current position is the Country Managing Partner of PwC Croatia, a firm with 25 years of tradition in Croatia, and over 170 years overall, with my responsibilities extending to all Assurance Services in SEE. I've been in Croatia since 1997, longer than AmCham has existed in this market. Being born and raised in Canada, of Croatian parents, I have an in depth understanding of the business and social environment from both (east and west) perspectives, with a large network of local and international contacts, especially those

from the US and Canada, that I've been helping in their efforts to further invest into Croatia. I have extensive client managerial experience, and I would like to continue having an active role in helping AmCham take the next steps towards making an even greater public impact, as I have done in the past two years as the 1st Vice President.

**4. How have you been active in AmCham in the course of the past year?**

PwC Croatia has been a patron member of AmCham for over 2 decades. As a CEO of a patron member, I've attended and supported many AmCham organised events and given my support to staff participating in the work of AmCham committees. Also, in the past 2 years, I have been contributing to the activities of the chamber as the 1st Vice President.

**5. What activity or Committee would you like to participate in and be responsible for?**

I would like to participate and/or be responsible for the work of the Trade and Investment Committee.