

Link Howard III

President & CEO, Powerlink Facilities Management

Link Howard III, President and Chief Executive Officer of Powerlink Facilities Management is a successful entrepreneur, devoted leader of a Christian congregation and dedicated community leader. His path to achievement started in Detroit as a high school graduate, and it led him to a career as a military police officer serving in the height of the Vietnam War, into management in the private sector back in Michigan, and then to the launch of what has become a 400-employee company operating in several states and Canada. Throughout his career, Howard has achieved success by motivating others to do more than they thought possible.

When Howard graduated from high school he enlisted in the Air Force and was trained as a military police officer. He served in Vietnam, and when he returned he stayed in the federal service. Until 1997, Howard worked in military law enforcement and was the Equal Employment opportunity Manager, primarily at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. During that time, he also attended Northwood Institute, and Anchor Bay Bible College. In 1987 Howard became pastor of Faith Christian Community Church in Port Huron, Michigan. From 1987 until he left the federal service, Howard was Equal Employment Opportunity Manager for all Air National Guard civilian employees in the U.S.

Howard took an opportunity to work in the private sector at an automotive supplier in 1997, and he quickly rose through various sales and operations positions to become an operations manager, and ultimately a Vice President for Sales and Marketing, for Venture Industries. In 2002, Howard took what he had learned about leading and teaching others to form his own temporary staffing company, supplying primarily in the automotive sector. By 2003, Howard realized some automotive supplier customers were in financial trouble, so he re-launched his company as Powerlink Facilities Management with a focus on providing building management services to business customers, rather than temporary staffing. He also acted quickly to find customers outside the automotive industry. Part of Howard's success has been bringing the discipline of continuous improvement and rigorous metrics from manufacturing into housekeeping, groundskeeping and general facilities maintenance. Powerlink is an ISO 9001-certified company.

As he continues to lead Powerlink, Howard maintains his strong sense of faith and community by serving as pastor of his congregation, leading mission trips to Africa and providing educational opportunities for youth in Detroit and Flint. He is also an avid sports and fitness advocate, a husband for 38 years, father and grandfather.