

Lawrence Tomlinson Biography



Lawrence Tomlinson has grown an impressive business portfolio from a single care home in 1988 to the award winning LNT Group which employs over 2000 people across its five diverse core businesses; Ideal Care Homes, LNT Construction, LNT Software, LNT Solutions and Ginetta. Lawrence's business acumen and foresight has ensured the LNT Group remains one of the fastest growing companies in the UK, having been ranked 28th in the Sunday Times Fast Track 100 Companies in 2010.

With over 25 years of experience as a successful and philanthropic entrepreneur, Lawrence's passion for business remains undiluted. He is the Institute of Directors' Overall Director of the Year and advises Government on business issues as the Serial Entrepreneur in Residence in the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills. He is passionate about helping other businesses reach their full potential and is working in Government to remove barriers and boost growth.

Lawrence wasn't born into money, he grew up in Batley where he attended grammar school before going on to pursue his love of engineering at Huddersfield College at age 15. Early on in his studies, engineering company, Wellman Bibby, spotted his skills and clear potential and sponsored his engineering degree at Bradford University. He was head hunted by Holset Engineering for their Graduate Trainee Programme and since then Lawrence has never looked back.

Lawrence started in business importing ski boats and classic cars into the UK. In 1988, he bought out his parents care home company and, spotting a gap in the market for bespoke purpose built care homes, started to design, build and operate new facilities. From there he launched further businesses including LNT Software, which develops and sells bespoke software for the care home industry, LNT Solutions which provides climate protection systems for the worldwide transport network.

Lawrence re-entered the care sector in 2009 when he set up the innovative Ideal Care Homes, now the UK's fastest growing operator, with businesses that use 40% of the energy their competitors do.

In 2005 Lawrence acquired Ginetta, which has been building race cars since 1958. Since its purchase by LNT, Ginetta has grown to become one of the most significant players on the global motorsport scene. With racing pedigree throughout the business; Lawrence, Team LNT and Ginetta have raced at Le Mans with Lawrence himself winning the GT2 class at the 24 hours of Le Mans in 2006. Lawrence's significant contribution to engineering has been recognised by three Honorary Doctorates from Leeds Metropolitan University, the University of Huddersfield and the University of Bradford.

Lawrence is a great believer in the 'Made in Britain' brand, ensuring all his products are sourced as locally as possible, whether parts for a race car, versatile and exclusive fabrics for Ginetta Lifestyle or building materials for a new care home. Supporting the local economy and demonstrating the quality of British products and manufacturing is an important theme across the LNT Group.

Away from the office Lawrence enjoys spending time with his wife and their four children at their home near Harrogate. He is also a keen sportsman and as well as motorsport also enjoys golf and a variety of water-sports.