

# TORBEN RICK

Hamburg

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## SUMMARY

Experienced senior executive, both at a strategic and operational level, with strong track record in developing, driving and managing business improvement and development, change management and culture change.

Have worked with value-adding leadership and transformation creating simultaneous top line and bottom line growth.

Experience from management positions in Denmark, Germany, Switzerland and United Kingdom with a history of working in a variety of industries.

## EXPERIENCE

- 2020 - 2021 Head of Service Management - Interim (DE)
- 2011 - 2020 Managing Director (DK)
- 2009 - 2020 Group Business Improvement & Strategy Director (DK & UK)
- 2008 - 2008: Strategic Advisor & Interim Manager (DE)
- 2006 - 2007: Business & Financial Improvement Director (DK)
- 1999 - 2006: Chief Operating Officer (DE)  
Project Director (DE)
- 1998 - 1999: Commercial Project Director (CH)
- 1995 - 1997: Sales Support Director (DK)  
Head of Strategic Business Unit (DK)
- 1990 - 1995: Head of Logistics & Procurement (DK)  
Managing Director (DK)  
Head of Marketing (DK)
- 1989 - 1990: Project Manager (DK)
- 1987 - 1989: Project Manager (DK)  
Marketing Coordinator (DK)

## BOARD - EXPERIENCE

- 2019 - 2020 Non-executive member of the Board of Directors - Verdo Renewables Ltd (UK)
- 2016 - 2020 Executive member of the Board of Directors - Verdo Tele A/S (DK)
- 2014 - 2017 Chairman of the Supervisory Board - AnyCom A/S (DK)

## BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENTS

By constantly challenging the way things are done combined with the organizational refocusing programs have been the key factors in obtaining the results:

- Significant financial improvement
- Increasing customer base
- Increasing service level - customer service
- Increasing customer and employee satisfaction

### 2011 - 2020

- Due to heavy focus on business drivers - reduced cost-to base and increased customer base - EBITDA margin was improved from 2% to 39%
- Customer base increased from 5.500 to 12.200 in a stagnant market
- Market share up from 26% to 49%

### 2008

- Successful turn-around a high-tech company. Due to heavy focus on business drivers increased EBITDA margin from - 18% to + 10%

### 2006 - 2007

- Business improvement with a total cash-in of € 85m equalling to 9% of the total cost base

### 1999 - 2006

- EBITDA increased by 138% from € 29.7m to € 70.6m
- Revenue increased from € 700m to € 1.000m
- Customer base was more than doubled (to 3,4m)
- Customer and employee satisfaction increased significantly
- Best in class customer service

## EDUCATION

- M.Sc. (Business Economics)
- Customer Orientation for Value and High Performance Organizations, INSEAD Executive Education

## LANGUAGES

Native language Danish - Fluent in German and English

# TORBEN RICK

## VATER BUSINESS IT GMBH & VATER BANKIT GMBH, HAMBURG & KIEL, GERMANY

*Information Technology & Services*

### **Head of Service Management (Interim)**

**2020 to 2021**

Identifying and implementing financial and operational business improvements.

Merger of Vater BankIT GmbH and Vater Business IT GmbH.

P&L responsibility (Service) - Member of the management team.

## VERDO A/S, RANDERS, DENMARK

*Utility, Energy, Renewables, Fiber*

### **Managing Director**

**2011 to 2020**

Managing Director responsible for the fiber-optic communication company Verdo Tele A/S (sales – B2B and B2C, marketing, customer service, product management, billing, IT & technology and service engineer) and member of the Executive Management Board of Verdo A/S.

- Due to heavy focus on business drivers - reduced cost-base and increased customer base - EBITDA margin was improved from 2% to 39%. Successful changed the organization to be much more market, sales and service oriented
- Customer base increased from 5.500 to 12.200 in a stagnant market - market share up from 26% to 49%
- Customer satisfaction increased from index 67 to 85 - employee satisfaction increased to index 81 (Top performer)

After successful turnaround, the customer base and 25% of Verdo Tele A/S was sold to Nordlys A/S in 2016.

### **Group Business Improvement & Strategy Director**

**2009 to 2020**

Group business development and strategy, business and financial improvement, cross-functional business improvement.

## @MELIORATE SOLUTION, HAMBURG, GERMANY

*Interim Management*

### **Strategic Advisor & Interim Manager**

**2008 to 2008**

Strategic advisor, Energy Randers Denmark (Energy industry). Hired by the CEO to evaluate and improve a major strategic project.

Strategic advisor, Vopium Germany (Mobile VOIP). Hired by the board to develop "routes to market" in Germany.

Interim Business Development & Financial Improvement Executive, Comlog A/S Denmark & Germany (Telematic). Hired by the board and charged with turning around the company which was highly underperforming as to its financial performance and product quality.

- Due to heavy focus on business drivers increased EBITDA margin from – 18% to + 10%

## TDC A/S, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

*Telecommunication*

### **Business & Financial Improvement Director**

**2006 to 2007**

Reporting to the CEO of TDC Solution A/S, responsible for Business & Financial Improvement with 34 employees - Lean Management, Business Process Management and reduction of production and capacity needs.

- Total "cash-in" of € 85m equalling to 9% of the total cost base

# TORBEN RICK

**TALKLINE GMBH & Co. KG, HAMBURG, GERMANY**  
*Mobile Telecommunication*

## **Chief Operating Officer**

**2001 to 2006**

Member of the Board of Directors (Geschäftsführung), responsible for 480 employees covering customer service, eBusiness, marketing, product management, procurement and sales with a yearly revenue of € 1.000m

- EBITDA increased by 138% due to heavy focus on customer profitability and efficiency from € 29.7m to € 70.6m. EBITDA-margin increased by 82% to 7,0%
- Revenue increased from € 700m to € 1.000m
- Despite getting closer to market saturation the customer base has more than doubled from 1,7 m to 3,4m customers and customer satisfaction increased from index 100 to 124
- Best in class customer service 2001 and 2002 and second best in class 2003
- Employee satisfaction pushed from index 72 to 83 points

Talkline was sold to competitor Debitel/Mobilcom at € 560m

## **Project Director**

**1999 to 2000**

Member of Erweiterte Geschäftsführung (EGF), reporting to the CEO, responsible for business development

- Development and implementation of refocus program (Turn-around/Corporate Transformation) which included Cost Improvement and Revenue Improvement Program
- Successfully implemented Culture Change Program "Wir machen es einfach" (We make it simple)
- Reduced call volume by 35% with a wide range of self-services and churn by 45% with retention/prevention programs

**SUNRISE COMMUNICATIONS AG, ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND**  
*Telecommunication*

## **Commercial Project Director**

**1998 to 1999**

Reporting to the CEO, responsible for business development in a recently established communications company owned by TDC, British Telecom, UBS, Migros and SBB.

- Successful acquisition of an ISP, commercial and legal negotiations, due diligence, business plan and integration
- Successfully acquired Credit Swiss First Boston (London), global customer with an annual revenue of € 13m
- Successfully implemented balanced scorecard and culture program: "Let´s follow the sunrise... on a balloon trip around the world"

**TDC A/S, AARHUS, DENMARK**  
*Telecommunication*

## **Sales Support Director**

**1997**

Head of domestic and international sales support with 72 employees, including 7 function managers.

Responsible for domestic and international pre-sales support, project management, Total Service Management, contract administration, development and implementation of Balanced Scorecard.

- Reengineered the total sales supporting process in TDC
- Raised the professional level of competence in the organisation

## **Head of Strategic Business Unit**

**1995 to 1996**

Reporting to the Division Director, Total Service Management with 13 employees.

Business and market foundation in the newly established Strategic Business Unit starting from scratch. Responsible for development and implementation of services within IT Facility Management. Annual sales responsibility of € 13m.

# TORBEN RICK

## **DANADATA A/S, AARHUS, DENMARK** *Information Technology & Services*

### **Head of Logistics & Procurement**

**1992 to 1995**

Reporting to the CFO, responsible for procurement, warehouse, configuration and test center and dealer team with a total of 37 employees.

- Procurement of € 100m distributed on 4,500-5,000 article numbers with an average inventory turnover ratio of 11-12.
- Sale to retailers with an annual sales budget of € 30m.

### **Managing Director**

**1992 to 1995**

Responsible for the distribution company PC Distribution A/S of (50 percent owned by DanaData A/S). International contract negotiations in USA, UK, France and Germany.

### **Head of Marketing**

**1990 to 1991**

Head of the central marketing department with 4 employees. Overall responsibility for DanaData's operational & strategic marketing.

Responsible for international marketing activities in connection with International Computer Group (ICG) in Paris.

## **NYKREDIT, AARHUS, DENMARK** *Building Society - Financial Services*

### **Project Manager**

**1989 to 1990**

Responsible for operational & strategic marketing (B2B) and central sponsoring.

## **KREDITFORENINGEN DANMARK, COPENHAGEN AND ODENSE, DENMARK** *Building Society - Financial Services*

### **Project Manager**

**1988 to 1989**

Responsible for the project group: "Sales and Marketing" whose purpose was to draw up strategic proposals for the executive committee and the board of directors as part of the planning project "A plan for KD".

### **Marketing Coordinator**

**1987 to 1988**

Responsible for the decentralised marketing and sponsoring function in the Funen area with 2 employees.

## **EDUCATION**

M.Sc. (Business Economics), Aarhus School of Business (DK)  
B.Sc. (Business Economics), Sønderborg School of Business (DK)

**1987**  
**1984**

## **SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION**

Customer Orientation for Value, INSEAD Executive Education (F)  
High Performance Organizations, INSEAD Executive Education (F)

**2004**  
**2001**

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendations - <https://www.torbenrick.eu/recommendations/>

## **DATE OF BIRTH**

Septembet 29, 1962 - Sønderborg, Denmark