

# Speaker and Executive Biography

## Dr. Craig A. M. Jones

Dr. Craig A. M. Jones is a global executive, author, and keynote speaker specializing in digital trade, governance, and secure digital transformation across complex multinational environments. With more than thirty years of leadership experience spanning government, defense, and international economic systems, he advises senior leaders and institutions navigating digital risk, interoperability, and geopolitical complexity across ASEAN and the Middle East (MENA). Audiences value his ability to translate complex digital and geopolitical challenges into clear governance and leadership decisions.

Dr. Jones currently serves as Vice President for Asia Pacific Operations at Innovative Management Concepts, where he oversees a portfolio exceeding 268 million dollars in support of United States Army Pacific and multinational partners across seven countries. He is recognized for delivering mission-critical modernization at scale while sustaining 97 percent performance ratings, strengthening regional security, digital readiness, and cross-border interoperability in some of the world's most demanding operational environments. His speaking engagements focus on digital trade interoperability, board governance and digital risk, AI oversight, and leadership in complex multinational environments.

A graduate of the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program and a Carnegie Mellon University certified Chief Information Officer, Dr. Jones earned his Doctor of Business Administration in 2016. He retired from the United States Army the same year after a distinguished twenty-seven-year career. His expertise includes C5ISR modernization, secure network governance, cloud integration, AI-enabled analytics, data protection, and large-scale digital transformation supporting Indo-Pacific and multinational missions. He will attend the INSEAD International Directors Programme in June 2026, further strengthening his board governance and global oversight credentials.

During his military career, Dr. Jones held senior leadership and CIO roles across Korea, Iraq, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Japan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the United States. His assignments included serving as CIO and G6 for the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command in South Korea, Senior Liaison Officer to a Republic of Korea Army three-star general, Battalion Executive Officer during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and advisor to the Iraqi Provincial Police Headquarters in Baghdad. Across these postings, he led secure communications, coalition interoperability, command and control systems, and mission-critical modernization under high-risk conditions.

Beyond defense leadership, Dr. Jones is a recognized voice on digital trade facilitation, cross-border data governance, and digital identity integration. His forthcoming book with Palgrave Macmillan, *Advancing Digital Trade Interoperability: Lessons from Southeast Asia and the ASEAN Single Window*, scheduled for release in February 2026, builds on his doctoral research and peer-reviewed publications in the *Journal of ASEAN Studies* and the *Journal of Asian Economic Integration*. His work introduces practical governance models, including the Regional

Digital Ecosystem framework, which helps policymakers, trade authorities, and business leaders navigate the digital transformation of international commerce.

Dr. Jones provides thought leadership on board governance, AI oversight, cyber resilience, defense transformation, and the future of global digital trade. His career blends operational leadership, academic scholarship, and strategic policy engagement, positioning him as a connector between government, the military, private industry, and international economic institutions.

In 2025, Dr. Jones established Meridian Ecosystems as a thought leadership platform dedicated to advancing global digital trade intelligence. Through this platform, he publishes ASEAN and MENA focused insights supporting policymakers, industry leaders, and cross-border stakeholders. Full analyses and ongoing commentary are distributed through the Meridian Ecosystems LinkedIn channel.

Dr. Jones holds certifications including Project Management Professional, Certified Information Security Manager, and Six Sigma Black Belt. He is available for keynotes, executive briefings, policy forums, and board-level discussions on digital governance, trade interoperability, and strategic leadership in globally connected environments.