

Carlton L. Highsmith
Board Chair

A corporate executive turned entrepreneur, Carlton founded Specialized Packaging Group (SPG), in New Haven, Connecticut in 1983. By 2009, he had grown SPG into the seventh -largest manufacturer of paperboard packaging in North America, with revenues of \$200 million. He retired in 2010, after merging SPG with PaperWorks Industries.

Highsmith is a director of Cleveland, Ohio-based Key Bank, the nation's 13th largest bank, where he serves on the Risk Committee and the Nominating and Governance Committee. He is vice-chairman of the board of trustees of Quinnipiac University and a trustee on the boards of Yale-New Haven Hospital System and the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

Highsmith is the founding chairman of ConnCAT's board, as well as vice chair, secretary, and treasurer of ConnCORP, a community economic development corporation of ConnCAT. He also serves on the board of directors of the National Center for Arts & Technology, on which ConnCAT is based.

Highsmith earned a B.A. in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He holds Honorary Doctorate degrees from Quinnipiac University and Albertus Magnus College.