

Edward J. Nicoll

Ed Nicoll co-founded Waterhouse Investor Services, a retail brokerage firm. Waterhouse grew from a single office in 1978 to over 75 offices nationwide in 1995. Over those years, Ed's roles in the company included Chief Compliance Officer, Chief Technology Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and President. In 1987 Waterhouse went public, and in 1995 it merged with Toronto Dominion Bank.

In 1999 Mr. Nicoll was appointed CEO of Datek Online, a holding company consisting of Datek, an on-line retail brokerage firm, and Island, a pioneer in the automation of equity markets. In 2002 Datek and Island merged with competitors. Datek combined with Ameritrade in a merger of equals, making the resulting company the nation's largest on-line broker. Island merged with its larger competitor, Instinet Group, where Ed became CEO. Combined, Instinet and Island grew to become the largest electronic trading venue in U.S. equity markets.

In 2005 Instinet Group was sold to Nasdaq Group. Nasdaq adopted Island's technology platform for its core exchange business but regarded Instinet's brokerage division as a conflict. As a result, Mr. Nicoll led a management buyout of the division, Instinet Inc., which, among other ventures, created new automated trading venues in Europe and Asia to compete with traditional exchanges. The European venue, then named ChiX, grew to become the largest electronic trading venue in its markets. In 2007 Instinet Inc. was sold to Nomura Group.

In 2011 Mr. Nicoll became Chairman of GlobeOp Financial Services, a leading provider of administration services and software to the alternative investment industry. Mr. Nicoll had been an early investor in the Company and served in various Board capacities since 2004. In 2012, GlobeOp merged with SS&C Technologies.

Today, Ed Nicoll is a private investor with a focus on financial technology. He is a founding investor and director of Gerson Lehrman Group, a global learning and research company. He also serves on the Board of The Landrum Company, a Midwest bank. Ed received his Juris Doctor from Yale Law School.