

CARIBBEAN **BUSINESS**



Roberto García Rodríguez

President & CEO Triple-S Salud

Roberto García Rodríguez considers his diverse work experience to be a valuable asset in guiding Triple-S through the rough waters of the current economic climate in Puerto Rico. The chief executive sees the economy as placing "tremendous pressure on being more efficient, focusing on value creation and developing products and services that our customers can afford."

García Rodríguez is achieving this vital task by applying the vast experience he has amassed at Triple-S and elsewhere. "Before assuming my role as president of Triple-S. I was its chief operating

officer, in charge of all our business units—Triple-S Salud, Advantage, Propiedad, Vida and the Salus health clinic," he recalled.

"I also served as the company's vice president & general counsel from 2008 to 2013," he added. "Before joining Triple-S, I was vice president & general counsel of the Puerto Rico Telephone Co., and I started my career as the first executive director of Proyecto Península de Cantera, a community-based development initiative."

He considers this breadth of experiences to have given him the necessary perspective to "understand the needs of all our stakeholders."

Looking at those needs going forward, García Rodríguez is working to have Triple-S play a more significant role in reshaping healthcare delivery in Puerto Rico, and transform itself from a healthcare insurance company into a healthcare solutions company.

He sees teamwork as being an essential element in achieving that goal. "I believe in the free marketplace of ideas," he explained. "Exchanging ideas is what adds value to the work of a team, and I love the richness of that dynamic."

García Rodríguez credits his success in business to his commitment to education and learning. "The formal education that my parents made possible for me, and teaching me —through their example—the importance of integrity and hard work" were fundamental, he said.

He earned a B.A. from Harvard University, an M.B.A. from Stanford Graduate School of Business and a J.D. from Stanford Law School. "I also did graduate studies in international relations and diplomacy at Spain's Escuela Diplomática and completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School," he recalled.



Interlink Construction Leadership Team

Interlink Construction

Interlink firmly believes that you can never go wrong by doing the right thing. The integrated real-estate development, construction and asset-management company has lived by that truism for almost 40 years and its highly successful track record bears witness to its validity.

"Innovation plays an important role in our growth," observed Hermand E. Méndez, Interlink executive vice president & partner, "which has enabled the company to expand its services to adapt to current industry demands. We offer our clients and partners unmatched expertise in development, construction and asset management," he said.

Recent years have been challenging for the construction industry overall, but Interlink has made the necessary adjustments to remain competitive, he pointed out. "The company believes in Puerto Rico and we are proud to be part of so many projects that have a positive impact on our island's image and economy," Méndez explained.

Interlink is continuing its growth in the hospitality industry. "We purchased the former Ambassador Hotel in Condado and we are converting it to be a modern hotel under a new flag for the island," he said. The company also purchased the former El Portal Hotel, located at a prime Condado site, completely remodeled and re-branded it as The Wave Hotel.

Other major construction projects that have recently been completed include new suites at the San Juan Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, remodeling the BMW facility in Hato Rey and the Wyndham Margaritaville, where 201 hotel rooms were converted into 132 timeshare units, with corresponding improvements to the pool and other amenities. The company also completed the capacity enhancement project at the Luis Munoz Marín International Airport.