

Dennis D. Spice

Mr. Spice is Chairman/CEO of Institutional Advisors, Ltd., a consulting firm he founded in 1995.

He also currently serves as Director of Corporate Relations for the University of Illinois Fire Service Institute. He is a Managing Partner of Prairie Capital Partners, which leases equipment to companies in the Midwest.

Mr. Spice was the Founding Partner and Managing Member of Open Prairie Ventures I, LP, a \$40 million venture capital fund that focused on investments in Midwest based seed and start-up companies which was acquired in 2006.

He was a member of the Board of Directors for Nims Associates, Inc., which was acquired in February 2004 by Keane, Inc. (NYSE: KEA), a leading business and information technology (IT) consulting firm.

Mr. Spice is a member of the Eastern Illinois University Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences School of Technology Advisory Board. He is also a Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the University of Illinois Employees Credit Union. Further, he is a member of Champaign West Rotary.

A biographical listing on Mr. Spice appears in *Who's Who in the Midwest*, *Who's Who in Finance and Industry*, *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in America* and *Who's Who in the World*.

As a nationally recognized expert, Mr. Spice has testified on pension and investment issues before the Department of the Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service, the House of Representatives in Washington, DC, and the Illinois General Assembly. He has written articles for several pension, finance and information system journals, including the *Government Finance Review*, and has been the subject of feature articles in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Institutional Investor*, *Pensions & Investments* and *Crain's Chicago Business*. He also was a significant contributor to a book published in 2001 entitled, *"Inside Secrets to Venture Capital"* and the co-author of the March 2002 *Journal of Financial Planning* article entitled, "Venture Investing and the Role of Financial Advisors".

Prior to founding his own company, Mr. Spice was Executive Director of the State Universities Retirement System of Illinois (SURS). He joined the System in 1980 and was appointed Director in 1991, a position he held until 1995. As Chief Executive Officer, his responsibilities included the management of \$5.5 billion in fund assets. Before that, he was Employee Benefits Manager at Eastern Illinois University.

Mr. Spice grew up in northern Indiana on a second-generation dairy farm. He served nine years in the U. S. Marine Corps, including a tour of duty in Vietnam.

Mr. Spice's educational background includes an Associate in Arts degree from the University of the State of New York, a BA in Management from Eastern Illinois University, and an MBA from the Executive MBA Program at the University of Illinois.