

EXPLORER

THE BUSINESS OF EXPLORATION CONSULTING®

Explorer Consulting, LLC® provides consulting services on “the business of exploration” to companies and individuals engaged in international exploration. The company offers everything from legal and operational advice to a complete fulfillment of the client’s vision. Services cover every aspect of the business of exploration, including:

- Advising on the application of relevant domestic and international law.
- Securing corporate sponsorship and strategic partnerships.
- Full-scale expedition planning.
- Organizing logistics, including chartering ships, aircraft and equipment.
- Developing and implementing risk management plans.
- Producing content for multiple platforms, including print, film, television and the Internet.
- Recruiting and hiring team members.
- On-site expedition leadership.

While many of the company’s services are provided in-house, Explorer Consulting, LLC® also offers services through its international network of world-class affiliates, including cinematographers and photographers; film and television producers; ship, aircraft and equipment owners; providers of expedition medicine, insurance and private security; search and recovery experts; and media and public relations professionals. The company regularly works with academics and scientists to develop project-specific material, including research designs, archaeology plans, educational material, and plans for artifact conservation and exhibition.

Explorer Consulting, LLC® was founded in 2002 by David Concannon, an attorney who now has nearly 25 years of experience organizing and leading expeditions. Mr. Concannon has served as a legal and operational advisor to several international expeditions, including six expeditions to the *R.M.S. Titanic*, two expeditions to Mt. Everest, an expedition to explore the wreck of the German battleship *Bismarck* and the Atlantic Sands expedition. He has participated in or led numerous expeditions to remote parts of the world, including a climbing expedition in Africa in 1989 (before Western-guided climbs were common), three expeditions to explore the wreck of the *Titanic* using manned submersibles (in 2000, 2003 and 2005), an expedition that discovered the world’s deepest wooden shipwreck in the heart of the Bermuda Triangle, and an expedition that discovered two well-preserved F4U-1 Corsair fighter planes in fresh water. He organized and led the last expedition to explore the *Titanic* using deep submersibles and the Apollo F-1 Engine Search & Recovery Project, which found and recovered the F-1 rocket engines that launched men to the moon. Mr. Concannon has made deep submersible dives from 1,000 to 16,109 feet (300 meters to 4,910 meters), and he has climbed to altitudes in excess of 17,500 feet (5,340 meters).

Mr. Concannon is a Fellow of The Explorers Club and a member of the Sea Space Symposium. He was among the youngest members inducted into both organizations, and he has served on the Board of Directors of each. He currently serves on The Explorers Club’s prestigious Flag & Honors Committee, which vets expeditions going into the field and nominees for Club honors to ensure their adherence to high standards. As an attorney, Mr. Concannon has served as General Counsel to a number of organizations affiliated with exploration, including the X-PRIZE Foundation, The Explorers Club, Zero Gravity Corporation (a privately held space entertainment and tourism company), Rocket Racing League, the Academy of Underwater Arts & Sciences, the Anglo-Dutch Maritime Archaeology Team, and the Professional Shipwreck Explorers Association.

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Explorer Consulting, LLC® excels in helping clients explore remote locations and achieve goals that others could only imagine. For example, in 2010, Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos came to us with the idea of finding and recovering the Apollo F-1 rocket engines, which were used to launch men to the Moon. Mr. Bezos wanted to inspire young people to invent and explore. We turned the idea into a reality.

From 2010 to 2013, Mr. Concannon organized and led the Apollo F-1 Engine Search & Recovery Project for Bezos Expeditions, the private exploration company of Mr. Bezos. Mr. Concannon organized and led the 2011 search expedition that discovered the remnants the S-IC first stages from eight Apollo missions (Apollo 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16), and the 2013 expedition that recovered the F-1 engines from several Apollo missions, including *Apollo 11* and other lunar missions, from depths in excess of 14,000 feet (4,270 meters) in the Atlantic Ocean.



The Apollo F-1 Engine Recovery Team, 2013

Speaking from the recovery ship during its return to port on March 20, 2013, Mr. Bezos said:

“I’d like to call out a bunch of thank you’s. First of all to David Concannon who pulled together this team. The whole thing would simply have been impossible without the A-team, and I’m not sure anyone other than Dave could have brought them together.”

In March 2014, Apollo F-1 Project Team was awarded The Explorers Club Citation of Merit, in recognition of “an outstanding feat of exploration.” In receiving this award, Mr. Concannon, Mr. Bezos and the Apollo F-1 Project Team joined the ranks of other notable explorers that have received the same honor, including polar explorers Capt. Finn Ronne, Naomi Uemura, Robert Swan and Will Steger; the 1963 American Mount Everest Expedition; Gilbert M. Grosvenor, President of the National Geographic Society; and Robert Ballard, Ph. D. for the discovery of the *Titanic*. More importantly, the team achieved Mr. Bezos’ vision of recovering the Apollo F-1 engines that launched men to the Moon to inspire young people to invent and explore.



*Jeff Bezos and David Concannon receiving
The Explorers Club Citation of Merit.*

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