

# BIOGRAPHY



## **Brad Cowles**, President Core & Main

Brad Cowles is president of Core & Main, a leading distributor of waterworks and fire protection infrastructure products in the U.S, with net sales of \$5.0 billion in fiscal 2021. Cowles leads several areas for the company, including fire protection, water and wastewater supply, smart meters and geosynthetics and erosion control.



Cowles was named chief operating officer of HD Supply Waterworks and Fire Protection in 2017 and helped carve out the division to become its own company, in partnership with private equity. Rebranded as Core & Main in late 2017, the company has more than doubled in net sales and became a publicly traded company (NYSE: CNM) in July 2021.

Cowles has more than 25 years of leadership experience in growth-focused organizations. He joined HD Supply in 2005 to lead the information technology integration of more than 30 acquired companies, followed by a divestiture carve-out of the entire business from The Home Depot, and an eventual IPO. He progressed through a series of leadership roles including divisional chief information officer (CIO) for three business units, and ultimately, CIO of HD Supply. In 2016, Brad was recognized with the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Year Award from the Georgia CIO Leadership Association.

Prior to joining HD Supply, Cowles spent 10 years with Michelin in the U.S. and France where he gained experiences in research and development, quality and manufacturing.

Cowles holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering with a concentration in gas dynamics and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with honors from the University of Florida. He is fluent in French. Cowles serves as an outside director on the board of Johnstone Supply, a leading North American distributor of HVACR equipment, parts and services, with more than 400 locations across the U.S. and Canada.

### **About Core & Main**

Based in St. Louis, Core & Main is a leader in advancing reliable infrastructure™ with local service, nationwide®. As a leading specialized distributor with a focus on water, wastewater, storm drainage and fire protection products, and related services, Core & Main provides solutions to municipalities, private water companies and professional contractors across municipal, non-residential and residential end markets, nationwide. With approximately 320 locations across the U.S., the company provides its customers local expertise backed by a national supply chain. Core & Main's 4,500 associates are committed to helping their communities thrive with safe and reliable infrastructure. Visit [coreandmain.com](http://coreandmain.com) to learn more.

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