

Finding Aid to The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Al Zollar

Overview of the Collection

Repository:	The HistoryMakers®1900 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616 info@thehistorymakers.com www.thehistorymakers.com
Creator:	Zollar, Al, 1950-
Title:	The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar,
Dates:	May 10, 2014 and May 9, 2014
Bulk Dates:	2014
Physical Description:	14 uncompressed MOV digital video files (6:14:26).
Abstract:	Corporate executive Al Zollar (1954 -) was, executive partner with the Siris Capital Group. He worked at IBM for over thirty years in several leadership positions, including as president and CEO of IBM's Lotus Development Corporation and general manager of IBM Tivoli Software. Zollar was interviewed by The HistoryMakers® on May 10, 2014 and May 9, 2014, in New York, New York. This collection is comprised of the original video footage of the interview.
Identification:	A2014_114
Language:	The interview and records are in English.

Biographical Note by The HistoryMakers®

Corporate executive Alfred "Al" Zollar was born in 1954 in Kansas City, Missouri. He attended Paseo High School in Kansas City and then graduated from Mills High School in Millbrae, California. He went on to receive his M.A. degree in applied mathematics from the University of California at San Diego in 1976.

Zollar joined IBM Corporation in 1977 as a systems engineer trainee in the company's San Francisco office. After working in systems engineering for ten years, he was transferred to IBM's White Plains, New York headquarters in 1986 as a member of the corporate staff. Zollar was promoted to product manager for IBM's relational database software DB2 in 1989; and was made laboratory director at the IBM Software Group laboratory in Raleigh, North Carolina in 1993. In 1996, IBM bought software maker Tivoli and appointed Zollar senior vice president of development. He was promoted again to general manager of IBM's Network Computing Software Division in 1998; and, in 2000, was named president and chief executive officer of IBM's Lotus Development Corporation. Three years later, Zollar left Lotus to become the general manager of iSeries, IBM's range of servers aimed at small and medium-sized companies. He then served as general manager of IBM Tivoli Software, a global, multi-billion dollar business within IBM's software division, from 2004 until 2011. Zollar retired from IBM in January of 2011 and became an executive partner of the Siris Capital Group in 2014.

Zollar has served on the boards of the Chubb Corporation and PSEG Incorporated. He is also a member of the Executive Leadership Council, and a lifetime member of the National Society of Black Engineers. He was ranked #15 on *Fortune* magazine's 2002 list of Most Powerful Black Executives; named one of the 50 most important African Americans in technology by *US Black Engineer & Information Technology* magazine in 2004; one of the 100 most powerful executives in corporate America by *Black Enterprise* magazine in 2009; and one of fifty distinguished alumni of the University of California at San Diego in 2011. In addition, Zollar was a Harvard University Fellow in the 2011 cohort of the Advanced Leadership Initiative, and was issued a U.S. patent for

“Trust and Identity in Secure Calendar Sharing Collaboration,” in 2012.

Alfred “Al” Zollar was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on May 9, 2014.

Scope and Content

This life oral history interview with Al Zollar was conducted by Julieanna L. Richardson on May 10, 2014 and May 9, 2014, in New York, New York, and was recorded on 14 uncompressed MOV digital video files. Corporate executive Al Zollar (1954 -) was, executive partner with the Siris Capital Group. He worked at IBM for over thirty years in several leadership positions, including as president and CEO of IBM’s Lotus Development Corporation and general manager of IBM Tivoli Software.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access

Restrictions may be applied on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of The HistoryMakers®.

Restrictions on Use

All use of materials and use credits must be pre-approved by The HistoryMakers®. Appropriate credit must be given. Copyright is held by The HistoryMakers®.

Related Material

Information about the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview, as well as correspondence with the interview subject is stored electronically both on The HistoryMakers® server and in two databases maintained by The HistoryMakers®, though this information is not included in this finding aid.

Controlled Access Terms

This interview collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Persons:

Zollar, Al, 1950-

Richardson, Julieanna L. (Interviewer)

Stearns, Scott (Videographer)

Subjects:

African Americans--Interviews

Zollar, Al, 1950---Interviews

Organizations:

HistoryMakers® (Video oral history collection)

The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection

Occupations:

Corporate Executive

HistoryMakers® Category:

BusinessMakers

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Interview footage was recorded by The HistoryMakers®. All rights to the interview have been transferred to The HistoryMakers® by the interview subject through a signed interview release form. Signed interview release forms have been deposited with Jenner & Block, LLP, Chicago.

Preferred Citation

The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, May 10, 2014 and May 9, 2014. The HistoryMakers® African American Video Oral History Collection, 1900 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Processing Information

This interview collection was processed and encoded on 5/30/2023 by The HistoryMakers® staff. The finding aid was created adhering to the following standards: DACS, AACR2, and the Oral History Cataloging Manual (Matters 1995).

Other Finding Aid

A Microsoft Access contact database and a FileMaker Pro tracking database, both maintained by The HistoryMakers®, keep track of the administrative functions involved in scheduling, researching, and producing the interview.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Original Interview Footage

Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_001_001, TRT: 1:05:56 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_001_002, TRT: 2:30:30 ?

Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_001_003, TRT: 3:26:17 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_001_004, TRT: 4:31:26 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_001_005, TRT: 5:23:29 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_001_006, TRT: 6:22:39 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_007, TRT: 7:32:27 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_008, TRT: 8:31:13 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_009, TRT: 9:31:20 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_010, TRT: 10:29:37 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_011, TRT: 11:29:11 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_012, TRT: 12:33:14 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_013, TRT: 13:31:39 ?
Video Oral History Interview with Al Zollar, Section A2014_114_002_014, TRT: 14:15:28 ?