

## Alfred J. Roach



Alfred Roach is the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of tii Network Technologies. Born in 1915 in Harlem, Roach's experiences and careers have been wide-ranging, having been a prize fighter, a New York City fireman, a Longshoreman, a stock broker, and CEO of a brewery. At fifty, when most men are beginning to plan for retirement, he started his first business.

In 1964, after learning that transistorized telephones required fast-acting surge protection equipment, Roach flew to England to investigate the purchase of patents for this kind of product. The following year, he bought the patent rights and set up shop in the garage of his home.

This marked the beginning of tii, then known as Telecommunications Industries. The company rapidly made a name for itself in the surge and lightning protection field, introducing new products and technologies and expanding its manufacturing division to Puerto Rico, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. Because of tii's involvement in these regions, Roach was appointed to a presidential task force to evaluate the administration's Caribbean Basin Initiative in the mid-1980's.

In 1980, the company went public with a listing on the American Stock Exchange and in 1994 moved to the Nasdaq.

Roach served as CEO of the company until his retirement in 1995, and was Chairman of the Board of Directors until 2005, when he was elected Chairman Emeritus.