

THOMAS GERSTENECKER – International Security Risk Professional

Thomas Gerstenecker has more than 25 years of experience internationally in the safety and security industry and is a hands-on practitioner at both strategic and operational levels.

Thomas is the founder and principal advisor for Quillon Risk Solutions Corporation – a security risk management company that focuses on global security risk challenges for organizations. Recently, Thomas developed and implemented a full security management infrastructure to include security plans, evacuation, and crisis management protocols, followed by in-country training for staff and security managers for an international organisation with offices globally. In addition, provided support for the evacuation of high-profile/high-risk Women Human Rights Defenders during the fall of Kabul and several successful extractions for vulnerable people in Ukraine.



In his previous role as Founder and CEO of 3 Sixty Secure, he built the company from the ground up and within three years scaled it from an idea to a leader in the Canadian security industry with more than 650 employees across Canada and revenue exceeding \$30 m per annum.

Before starting 3 Sixty, Thomas spent 15 years with the United Nations (UN) and served in several operational and executive roles within safety and security across the world. During his time at UN Headquarters as Chief Special Operations, and as part of the UN General Assembly's resolution on strengthening safety and security globally (a 1-billion-dollar initiative), he led a project team to enhance the level of protection at UN Headquarters based in Manhattan.

Before that, and still based in Manhattan, he was Chief Security Advisor, Global Operations, and principal security advisor to the Under-Secretary-General (the former President of Chile) for UN Women, a newly created agency within the UN. Thomas developed and implemented a global security management system for the organization, aligned to the overall strategic plan and internal corporate culture, which spanned more than 100 countries and 5,000 personnel globally.

Prior to that, he was based in Copenhagen with the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) as Chief of Security, Global Operations. Gerstenecker developed and implemented a global security management system for the organization, aligned to the overall strategic plan and internal corporate culture, which spanned more than 150 countries and 20,000 personnel globally.

While at UNOPS, Gerstenecker also led the safety and security planning for a new "UN City" based in Copenhagen. The role required close collaboration with the Danish Ministry, the general contractor, and architects to design an aesthetically pleasing yet secure high-value state-of-the-art building.

Before that, Thomas was based in Cambodia as Chief of Security for the Hybrid Courts for the Khmer Rouge Tribunal (UNAKRT). He was tasked to set up the security mechanism, which included the design and build-out of the courts and detention facilities, work closely with his counterpart, the National Police Commissioner, and train national police on the arrest of former Pol Pot senior leadership – often arrested in the jungles north of the capital.

Other roles included his work in Afghanistan as a security advisor- negotiating with warlords the safe passage of aid to troubled and remote areas of Afghanistan and Kosovo as a UN Security Advisor ensuring staff and property were provided with appropriate levels of security and liaised with local government to negotiate safe passage of aid to those in need.

Prior to the UN, Thomas spent several years in the Canadian Forces - with Canada's elite special forces group Joint Task Force Two. He was also deployed with the military to Rwanda post-genocide to support efforts on the ground.

Thomas holds a master's degree in Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management from Leicester University and is a certified business continuity manager from the National Institute of Business Continuity, New York.

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