

Curt Cronin

Expert on Leading High-Performance Teams, Former Navy SEAL

Over his 20-year-long career as a Navy SEAL, Curt Cronin deployed 13 times and spent more than four years overseas. In that time, living and working in an environment where milliseconds made the difference between life and death and winning and losing, he honed his talent as a catalyst for transformation and rose to eventually lead the nation's premier SEAL assault force. As a SEAL leader, he maximized his team's effectiveness by forging unique and unlikely alliances. He transformed an offensive unit of Navy SEALs into a defensive Presidential protection unit in the midst of combat and single-handedly created the model for multi-disciplinary counter-terrorism operations out of a widely disparate patchwork of organizations as part of an Embassy team in the Middle East.

Curt's experiences as a SEAL reinforced his fundamental belief that the competitive edge for any organization in the information age is neither technology nor information, but the unparalleled power of an aligned team. Exclusively represented by [Leading Authorities speakers bureau](#), Curt addresses the art of leadership, organizational change for the information age, and the talent of harnessing your own courage and heroism to inspire and empower individuals and teams.

Curt's passion is to engage each person, team, or organization's highest aspirations, and help them connect to the "hero within." He has counseled organizations including AIG, Disney, HP, and the Miami Dolphins, and is an expert at maximizing human potential and synthesizing the strengths of a team to create unprecedented results in any context. His presentations address the importance of building a "meta-purpose" as Curt's expertise is in identifying and developing the talents of each member of a team and uniting them through shared ownership of a purpose-driven mission. He creates teams empowered to act decisively in any environment because they embody both the content and the context of a leader's vision.

In addition to his combat experience, Curt is an entrepreneur and innovator. As the Founder and CEO of Aiki Partners, he capitalizes on his combined experiences and lessons from the military, academic and business worlds to advise numerous organizations, ranging from Fortune 500 companies to niche startups on how to catalyze an exponential culture of execution and innovation. In 2016, he co-founded the Broadway Strategic Return Fund, the world's first professionally managed, data-driven fund focused on changing the world through story in the performing arts industry, which has grown to over \$160M in AUM and has won over 40 Tony Awards. His entrepreneurial career began with General Stan McChrystal and the McChrystal Group, where he served as a managing partner in transformational consulting.

Curt received his MBA at combined programs from the London School of Economics, New York University's Stern School of Business, and the HEC School of Management in Paris. Curt graduated fifth in his class from the United States Naval Academy and has been awarded two Bronze Star medals for combat valor and three Distinguished Meritorious Service Medals. He is married to his wife, Julia, and has five children.