Thorkil Sonne bio

Thorkil Sonne is a Danish citizen with residence in Delaware, USA.

Mr. Sonne graduated from Aalborg University, Denmark, as Cand. Geom. in 1988. He worked in the tele communication and IT business area until 2003 where he resigned as technical director in an IT start-up company to become social entrepreneur by founding Specialisterne (The Specialists).

Specialisterne is the first market driven company based on the competencies of high functioning people with autism and provides assessment, education, training and employment for individuals with autism.

Mr. Sonne founded the non-profit Specialist People Foundation in 2008 with the goal to enable one million jobs for people with autism and similar challenges across the world.

Mr. Sonne has experiences with autism from his youngest son and from volunteer work as president of a local branch of Autism Denmark.

Mr. Sonne has been board member of the Danish IT Industry Association.

Mr. Sonne has received a number of prizes including the Autism Prize by Autism Denmark and the IT Prize by the Danish IT Industry Association.

Mr. Sonne is an Ashoka Globalizer Fellow, a Schwab Foundation Social Entrepreneur and Expert to the WHO on capacity building for people with autism

Mr. Sonne is co-author of “Harnessing the Power of Autism Spectrum Disorder” MIT Innovation Magazine and “The Dandelion Principle: Redesigning Work for the Innovation Economy” MIT Sloan Management Review.

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