

KEYNOTE SPEAKER · TECHNOLOGY EXECUTIVE

RICHARD TEACHOUT

Chief Technology Officer, Ashley Furniture Industries

30+ years turning complex technology into plain-language business outcomes

WORK HARD — PLAY HARD



ABOUT RICH

Rich Teachout is **Chief Technology Officer at Ashley Furniture Industries**, the world's largest furniture manufacturer, where he leads a global technology organization spanning platforms, infrastructure, data, architecture, software development, and emerging technologies. He brings more than **30 years of hands-on experience** across software engineering, data platforms, distributed systems, and applied AI — including a prior role as CTO of El Toro, where he helped build **patented, privacy-forward advertising technologies**. A servant leader with a builder's credibility, Rich delivers candor, energy, and stories from operating at global scale — and audiences leave with frameworks they can use Monday morning.

AT A GLANCE

- **CTO** of the world's largest furniture manufacturer
- **30+ years** in software, data, distributed systems & applied AI
- **Patented ad-tech** innovator — former CTO, El Toro
- **Tampa, FL** — available worldwide, in person & virtual

SIGNATURE TALKS

The Agentic Enterprise: Leading When AI Joins the Workforce

What agentic AI changes about how global companies operate, organize, and compete — and what leaders must do now.

Big Data & AI: How Technology Will Change Everyday Life

What's real, what's next, and what it means for business, privacy, and society.

Building the AI-Ready Workforce

Reskilling, culture, and the new career ladder inside an AI-native enterprise.

AI at Global Scale: From Pilots to P&L

The honest path from demos to production — AI that moves revenue, margin, and supply chains, not just slide decks.

Digital Transformation: Suggestions from a CTO

Keeping brands relevant — honest lessons from transformation at one of the world's largest manufacturers.

Avoiding IT Burnout: A Workaholic's Perspective

Sustainable high performance for leaders and teams in the age of always-on.

Every talk is tailored to your audience, theme, and outcomes. Additional topics available on request.

WHAT AUDIENCES TAKE AWAY

01

Monday-Morning Frameworks

Practical tools they can apply immediately — not theory or hype.

02

An Executive View, Grounded

AI, data, and transformation lessons from real operations at one of the world's largest manufacturers.

03

Straight Talk on Leadership

Culture, delegation, and career growth from a servant leader who still builds.

FORMATS

- Keynotes (30–60 minutes, with Q&A)
- Fireside chats & panels
- Executive roundtables
- Half- & full-day leadership workshops
- Virtual keynotes, webinars & AMAs

IDEAL AUDIENCES

- Enterprise IT & engineering organizations
- Executive & leadership summits
- Technology & industry conferences
- Universities & emerging tech talent
- Manufacturing, retail & supply-chain events

WHAT ORGANIZERS SAY

“

[Testimonial placeholder — a short quote from a recent event organizer or attendee goes here.]

— NAME, TITLE, EVENT

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[Testimonial placeholder — a second quote about impact, energy, or audience response goes here.]

— NAME, TITLE, EVENT

WORK HARD — PLAY HARD

Off the clock, Rich is the **#wanderingCTO** — an avid off-roader and overlander who spends weekends conquering trails and documenting the journey. It's more than a hobby: it's where his talks on **burnout, resilience, and balance** come from. Expect a speaker who has lived the lesson, not just read about it.



AV & LOGISTICS

- Wireless lavalier or headset mic (podium as backup)
- 16:9 projection, HDMI/USB-C — presents from own laptop
- Confidence monitor & timer for keynote settings
- Final slides delivered one week before the event
- Recording welcome for internal use by prior agreement

BOOK RICH

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Speaking fees and a full rate card are provided upon request — send your event details and let's find the fit.