

## Brad Cowles

Chief Operating Officer, Core & Main  
President, Fire Protection

Brad Cowles is the Chief Operating Officer of Core & Main and President of Fire Protection, reporting directly to CEO Steve LeClair. He leads a team of professionals throughout the country focused on the company's core growth initiatives across all customer channels. With direct responsibility for the Fire Protection line of business, National Accounts, Treatment Plant, Metering, Fusible Piping and Market Development, he spearheads the company's key capital-intensive sales initiatives.

Prior to becoming COO in February 2017 and Fire Protection President in January 2018, Brad was the CIO and founding member of the IT leadership team for HD Supply. He led the business-focused technology organization through over 30 acquisitions, divestiture from The Home Depot under private equity ownership and through an incredible growth story to become a publicly-traded independent company. Brad originally joined HD Supply in 2005 as Sr. Manager, Mergers and Acquisitions, and was promoted to Director IT, Sr. Director IT, and V.P. IT roles culminating as CIO in 2015.

Prior to joining HD Supply, Brad spent 11 years with Michelin where he started as a Tire Design Engineer, with promotions to R&D Quality Engineer, Technical Services Manager and Program Manager. In 2016, Brad was recognized with the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Year Award from the Georgia CIO Leadership Association. He serves as an Advisory Board Member of Georgia CIO and Evanta Atlanta CIO Inner Circle.

Brad attended the University of Florida where he earned both an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering-Gas Dynamics and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering with honors. He is fluent in French.

