



PROFILE
FERGAL KEOGH

COMPANY
SIMTECH

TITLE
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE
& FOUNDER**



If you would like
to learn more about
Senior Enterprise
visit the website
www.seniorenterprise.ie

PROFILE FERGAL KEOGH

senior enterprise

experience never ages

Fergal Keogh is an example of Senior Enterprise in action.

Fergal Keogh, chief executive and founder of Simtech, has created a purpose built aviation centre of excellence for airline personnel and career pilots close to Dublin airport. Simtech, which employs 15 full time and 23 part time highly specialist administration and technical personnel, provides aviation flight simulation and aviation training for airlines and helicopter companies from all over the world including City Jet, Tiger Airways in Singapore, Aer Arran and airlines from Europe, Africa and the Middle East. (www.simtech.ie)

Fergal Keogh had returned to Ireland from a successful career in the Middle East. While in a position to retire, he felt the need to continue to engage with the world of work and decided to pursue that ambition by creating a new business. "It was very clear to me that getting another job now that I was over 50 was going to be much more difficult. I decided to leverage my years of commercial experience and use it to get a new business started. After all, there is only so much golf you can play!"

Looking for opportunities for a new venture in a range of industries, in 2004 Fergal Keogh saw the opportunity for pilot training. He knew that he would need a partner with the requisite technical skills. Hence he joined forces with Sé Party, an airline pilot. As it happened Sé was younger and so a partnership based on strong technical and commercial skills had the additional advantage of combining youthful enthusiasm with years of experience at a very senior level.

Fergal Keogh believes that people over 50 often do not realise the value of their own experience and skills until they get the chance to apply them. "Younger people haven't had the benefit of having made all the mistakes that we have along the way... and learnt from them."

In Fergal Keogh's experience, an older experienced person with strong commercial skills, partnering with a younger entrepreneur, often brings a form of comfort to the banks and other financial backers than might not be there otherwise.

Fergal Keogh is full of enthusiasm for his new career as an entrepreneur. "Establishing Simtech has been great fun and a source of real stimulation. It has offered me the possibility of creating something from scratch to leave behind me for the family. I am 63 now and hope to continue well into my 70s" he says.



> STARTING & PARTNERING

> INVESTING & ACQUIRING

> ADVISING & INNOVATING

