

RUSSELL GARABELIS

Public Relations Manager

Russell Garabelis joined Digi-Net Technologies in 2001 as the Public Relations Manager. Garabelis brings more than seven years of public relations experience specializing in technology, energy, retail and government. He is responsible for developing and maintaining a positive corporate image and improving Digi-Net's profile in the business and social community.

Prior to joining Digi-Net, Garabelis served as a Senior Account Executive for Hill and Knowlton International Public Relations, one of the largest public relations firms with more than 69 offices in 37 countries across the globe. While at Hill and Knowlton, he was responsible for developing and launching image, media and grassroots campaigns for numerous clients including Compaq Computer, Taubman Centers, Gulfstream Natural Gas, Williams Energy, American Heart Association and Super Bowl XXXV.

As a member of the executive team, Garabelis was involved in business development and media training. He represented clients at industry trade shows and conducted a statewide speaker's bureau where he served as the corporate spokesperson for numerous clients.

He has worked extensively with the media securing client placements in various outlets including USA Today, the WallStreet Journal, New York Times, The Tampa Tribune, St. Petersburg Times, Florida Trend, Tampa Bay Business Journal and various national and local TV and radio stations. Placements resulted in more than \$500,000 in advertising equivalency.

Prior to Hill and Knowlton, Garabelis served as a Public Relations Representative for Morton Plant Mease Healthcare in Clearwater, Florida. He was responsible for the day-to-day contact with health reporters across the state. Garabelis also worked closely with management in developing corporate messages, publicity materials and company publications to be distributed to media outlets, over 5000 employees and health system dignitaries.

Garabelis attended the University of Florida College Journalism and Communication and the University of South Florida in Tampa where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications with an emphasis in public relations.