



### **Simon Kimble**

Chief Executive Officer, *Clarion Events LTD.*

Simon served in the RAF for six years in the 1980s before entering the world of exhibitions in 1988. He then spent the first 10 years as a junior partner in a small entrepreneurial events business, launching and then selling exhibitions to larger competitors. In 1999, he became MD of the joint venture between Haymarket Publishing and the BBC, responsible for the portfolio of TV-related content events in the UK. In 2001 he joined Clarion Events, a small organiser that was a subsidiary of Earls Court and Olympia, building the business to become an independent operator owned by VSS since February 2008. Clarion Events is the largest independent and one of the top three events organizing companies in the UK, running exhibitions, conferences and seated events across Britain, Europe, the Americas, Middle East and Asia. Clarion's business-to-business and business-to-consumer events serve 15 different market sectors including defence & security, leisure, entertainment, finance, retail, gaming, fine art and energy. Clarion currently employs a staff of 300+ people in 10 offices in 7 different countries. These include London; Cape Town; Amsterdam; Dubai, Sao Paulo, Singapore and Connecticut, USA.