# Fortune unveils first LGBTQ+ leaders list



Fortune Magazine has introduced its inaugural LGBTQ+ leaders list, spotlighting the top 25 business executives around the world who are openly gay. This new ranking includes prominent figures such as CEOs, chairs, and co-founders and gauges their success based on their companies' revenue. This initiative underscores the significant impact LGBTQ+ leaders have on global business.

Apple's Tim Cook leads the list, followed by Jim Fitterling, chair and CEO of Dow. Sharing the third spot are Paramount Global's co-CEOs, George Cheeks and Chris McCarthy. Among UK executives, António Simões, head of Legal & General, ranks highest, securing the seventh position overall.

Dame Julia Hoggett, the first openly gay CEO of the London Stock Exchange, is also featured, placing 21st. Reflecting on her journey, Hoggett remarked: “In some ways, fewer things phase you after overcoming the very real fear of coming out.” She emphasised the importance of senior leaders using their positions to advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion, adding, “I have learnt that the braver I am, the braver I get, and that by speaking out I can help others to realise that there is a greater world of opportunity out there for them too.”

Other UK business leaders making the list include David Hynam, CEO of LV; Robyn Grew, CEO of Man Group; and Justin D’Agostino, CEO of Herbert Smith Freehills. Eugenio Pirri, co-CEO of the Dorchester Collection, was also recognised.

Alex Wood Morton, executive editor for Europe and co-creator of the list, commented on the significance of this initiative: “Representation matters. Today’s businesses should reflect who we are, and our shared values.” He noted that the creation of the list is both a testament to progress and a reminder of the challenges that remain.

Fortune's new list is poised to shine a light on the contributions of LGBTQ+ leaders in the business realm, recognising their role in driving success and promoting inclusivity. It is a significant step in acknowledging and celebrating the diverse leadership that mirrors the broader spectrum of society.