John Abel is a seasoned executive across a variety of business endeavors including business development for technology companies, securing venture investment, trade association and trade show operations, event planning and development, government policy making, advocacy, and the technology and business of broadcasting, broadband and telecommunication. John formed Lightbulb Communications, LLC along with three other professionals after serving for five years as Senior Vice President of Membership-Marketing-Business Development at the United States Telecom Association (USTelecom). At USTelecom he was responsible for all dues and non-dues revenue generating activities, including conferences, conventions, exhibitions, webinars, publications and membership marketing and development. Prior to USTelecom, he was President/CEO of his own telecommunication consulting company, Abel Wireless. Clients included several satellite and wireless telecom companies as well as terrestrial broadcasters and data broadcasting companies. From 1998 to March 2001, John was Vice President of Business Development for Geocast Network Systems, Inc., a company developing data broadcasting networks and applications for Digital Television (DTV) terrestrial and satellite channels. Major Geocast investors were Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, Mayfield Fund, Institutional Venture Partners, Hearst-Argyle Television, A.H. Belo Corporation, Thomson Multimedia, Royal Philips, Liberty Media, and Electronic Arts. Prior to Geocast, John was President/CEO of Datacast LLC, a partnership of U.S. broadcasters working to develop digital data broadcasting networks. Datacast developed technology, digital content and applications and distribution networks for broadcasting multimedia content to computers and other intelligent and memory devices using digital broadcast channels. Before Datacast, Dr. Abel was Executive Vice President of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) in Washington, DC. He was a founding Board member of the Advanced Television Test Center and was Vice Chairman of the Systems Subcommittee of the FCC's Industry Committee on Advanced Television Service. In "Defining Vision: The Battle for the Future of Television," (Harcourt Brace, 1998) authored by New York Times reporter Joel Brinkley, Dr. Abel is called the "father of HDTV." John was highly influential and instrumental in working with the Federal Communications Commission to establish the current (ATSC) terrestrial DTV broadcast standard. Prior to joining NAB, Dr. Abel was Chairman and Professor of the Department of Telecommunication at Michigan State University in East Lansing. He served as a consultant with the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. John is the author of numerous journal articles and research reports. He has served as a consultant to numerous radio and television stations, cable systems, communications law firms and other telecommunication firms. He is in demand as a speaker worldwide for his informative and challenging presentations on new communication technologies and their impact on existing and established media. Dr. Abel holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Indiana University in Bloomington.