

Where should fractional executives plant their flag?

A verified, research-backed comparison of 7 major fractional executive networks — July 2026

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	Go Fractional	vChief	GigX	Catalant	Fractionals United	PortfolioXD	+ RECOMMENDED 5FT View
Platform type	Curated marketplace + community	Managed ops leadership firm	Open CxO directory	Enterprise consulting platform	Peer community network	UK-based curated network	Curated, vetted collective + managed services
Talent vetting <small>How thoroughly talent is screened</small>	High Rigorous; avg. 12 yrs experience; curated pool	High Strict; 400+ leaders; avg. 18 yrs experience	Floor only: C-suite or director level required to join	Vetted for consulting and project experience	Application review; senior leaders required	High Selective; ~1/3 of applicants rejected; C-suite only	★ Best in class Validated and verified via 4-tier Genuine Fractional™ framework: Sole Contributor through C-Suite Advisory
KEY DIFFERENTIATOR Verified credential <small>Formal, portable professional designation</small>	—	—	—	—	—	—	✓ Genuine Fractional™ 4 tiers from Sole Contributor to C-Suite Advisory. The only verified credential in the fractional market.
Lead generation <small>Active client pipeline support</small>	Active matching; platform recommends talent to clients	Structured pipeline; operational roles (CoS, COO, CFO) only	None Talent self-sources entirely; no platform support	Limited; project-based matches only	None Networking only; no paid client access	Inconsistent; UK market only	★ Best in class Personalized marketing, proactive outreach, job board + pipeline management. Fractionals and 5FT View leadership collaborate on proposals based on client budget and desired retainer. Agreed shared revenue — no markup.
Back-office support <small>Contracts, invoicing, payments</small>	Full Contracts, invoicing, payments handled	Full Contracts, payroll, and admin handled	None Fully self-managed	Project admin only; no ongoing support	None Fully self-managed	Three-way contract model; limited scope	Full End-to-end admin support so talent stays focused on delivery
Community & learning <small>Networking, mentorship, skill development</small>	Active community, workshops + vendor demos	Limited peer networking	None	None	High 10,000+ members; Slack, local chapters, podcast, events	Limited	★ Best in class Active Slack community, weekly education, monthly networking, Marketing Office Hours, bi-monthly Expert Meetings + LinkedIn Posting Parties
Rate control <small>Who sets pricing; what platform takes</small>	Talent sets rate: 20% ongoing markup taken by platform on every engagement	Limited; retainer-based structure	Full Full control; no finder's fees or platform percentage	Limited; platform-managed pricing	Full Full autonomy over pricing	Limited; varies by arrangement	★ Best in class Each expert sets rates based on skills, experience, and worth. Revenue share of 90/10 to 75/25 in favor of the fractional, agreed per engagement.
Geographic scope	Global (US-primary)	US-focused	Global	US enterprise / Fortune 500	Global	UK only Scotland-based; limited relevance for US executives	US + Canada
Fees to join	Free to join; 20% ongoing on all engagements	No upfront; margin built into retainer	Free-\$89/mo (Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum tiers)	Not publicly disclosed	Member-supported; affordable tiered pricing	Not publicly disclosed	Membership \$27-\$87/mo · Revenue share 90/10 to 75/25 per engagement · Genuine Fractional™ credential: \$197 one-time
Best for	<i>Independent talent seeking curated matches with full admin support</i>	<i>Operational leaders (CoS, COO, CFO) in managed roles only</i>	<i>Self-starters who source 100% of their own clients</i>	<i>Enterprise strategy consultants on Fortune 500 project work</i>	<i>Peer networking, community building, and learning</i>	<i>UK-based SMEs and PE portfolio companies</i>	Fractionals who want a verified credential, active pipeline, and full support at every stage of their career

Sources verified July 2026 · Platform websites, Trustpilot, Tracxn, and independent reviews · ★ = category leader
5FT View Fractional Expert Collective · 5ftview.com · exclusive.5ftview.com