James A. Haslam III, a Knoxville native, joined Pilot Corporation in 1976 following graduation from the University of Tennessee, where he received a degree in marketing.

In 1980, Haslam was named vice president of sales, development and operations. At that time, total gallon sales were approximately 125 million, and Pilot operated 100 convenience stores. In 1981 Pilot opened its first travel center and shifted the main thrust of its business to travel centers. By 1996, when Haslam was named to his current position of president and chief executive officer, total gallon sales had soared to 1.2 billion, Pilot operated 96 travel centers and continued to operate 50 convenience stores. In 2001, Pilot Corporation attained yet another milestone when it partnered with Marathon Ashland Petroleum LLC to form Pilot Travel Centers LLC. In 2008, Pilot Corporation announced that CVC Capital Partners had acquired substantial interest in Pilot Travel Centers, facilitating the sale by Marathon Petroleum Company (formerly Marathon Ashland Petroleum) of its interest in Pilot Travel Centers. Pilot Corporation retained majority ownership of Pilot Travel Centers. Pilot’s convenience store operations continue to be fully owned by Pilot Corporation. On July 1, 2010, Pilot Travel Centers LLC merged with Flying J Inc.

The company, referred to as Pilot Flying J, operates in 43 states and six Canadian provinces. It is one of the top ten privately held companies in the United States and employs more than 20,000 team members. Pilot Flying J operates a network of more than 550 interstate travel centers and travel plazas.

Haslam’s civic involvement includes service on the boards of directors for University of Tennessee Athletics, the United Way of Greater Knoxville and Lakeshore Park. He formerly served as campaign chair for Knox Area Rescue Ministries and United Way of Greater Knoxville.

Haslam also serves on the boards of Innovation Valley Inc., the National Association of Truckstop Operators, First Horizon Corporation, Ruby Tuesday Inc., Anderson Media Corporation, Clayton Family Foundation, the Federal Reserve Board Energy Advisory Council, and on the National Association of Convenience Stores Leadership Council. In 2006, he served as Tennessee statewide campaign chair for the now United States Senator Bob Corker.

In 2008, Haslam became a part owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers, marking the first time ownership of the franchise expanded beyond the Rooney and McGinley families.

Haslam is married to Susan “Dee” Bagwell Haslam, CEO of RIVR Media. They have three adult children, Jim, Whitney and Cynthia.