



## Mr. André J. Gudger

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Manufacturing and Industrial Base Policy

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André J. Gudger currently serves in the Obama administration as the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manufacturing and Industrial Base Policy (MIBP). In this role Mr. Gudger is responsible for ensuring a robust, secure, resilient, and innovative industrial base to meet DoD's needs. Mr. Gudger supports the Office of the Secretary of Defense by providing detailed analyses and in-depth understanding of the increasingly global, commercial, and financially complex industrial supply chain essential to our national defense, and recommending or taking appropriate actions to maintain the health, integrity and technical superiority of that supply chain. In this role Mr. Gudger is also DoD's lead in all matters relating to mergers, acquisitions, and dissolutions of national security-related business.

Additionally, Mr. Gudger is the DoD lead for President Obama's National Network of Manufacturing Innovation, through which he has lead the establishment of manufacturing institutes focusing on additive manufacturing, lightweight metals technology and integrated digital design and manufacturing. These efforts aim to modernize and restore the nation's industrial commons through focusing on advanced manufacturing, applied research, and strategic programs that align industrial base capabilities with the DoD's current and future needs.

Prior to this role, Mr. Gudger served as the Director of the Office of Small Business Programs in the Department of Defense. In this role, Mr. Gudger served as the principle advisor to the Secretary of Defense on all small business matters, overseeing more than \$120 billion of annual awards to small business. In addition he assisted the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretaries of Military Departments, Under Secretaries of Defense, Directors of Defense Agencies and Major Commands in including small business planning into the readiness of the Department. During Mr. Gudger's tenure for the first time in history the Department of Defense met its small business prime contracting goal and its Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business goal. Throughout this time overall dollars to small businesses increased and small businesses are included into planning and contribute to the overall readiness of the Department.

In his time with the Department, Mr. Gudger has increased the visibility of small business within DoD and strengthened the industrial capabilities through developing and streamlining policies, modernizing programs to infuse small business capability into major defense acquisition programs and establishing dialogue with industry. Upon his appointment as Director, OSBP in March 2011, one of Mr. Gudger's first actions was leading the effort to accelerate over \$50 billion in payments to DoD's small business contractors in order to increase cash flow in the midst of the credit crisis. This policy was adopted across the federal government by the Obama administration and was recognized by the Harvard Kennedy School of Government Innovations in American Government Award Program. Mr. Gudger also administers and oversees over \$2.5 billion in science, technology and manufacturing efforts including Small Business Innovation Research, Small Business Technology Transfer, the Rapid Innovation Fund and the Defense Manufacturing Technology Program. Through these programs, Mr. Gudger increased

annual commercialization of innovative small business technologies funded to over \$1 billion annually and implemented the Rapid Innovation Fund which is a \$250 million dollar program that streamlined the acquisition process for innovative small businesses in line with President Obama's effort to reduce paperwork and write policies in plain language.

In his outreach efforts Mr. Gudger has spoken to over thousands of CEOs across the country and met with members of Congress, local elected officials, industry associations, and university presidents to exchange ideas on how to develop industries, reinvigorate the nation's industrial commons and strengthen supply chains. Mr. Gudger also served as the Functional Leader of the small business workforce serving as the subject matter expert relating to qualifications, career development requirements, and the shaping, education, training, and development of a high performing organization.

These initiatives along with other best practices have made Mr. Gudger a national and global leader on issues dealing with small businesses, entrepreneurship, the industrial base, advanced manufacturing, applied research, innovation and the development of new industries. Mr. Gudger has been engaged on these issues by other federal agencies, state and local government, and the governments across the world.

In addition to his role as DASD MIBP, Mr. Gudger also serves as the DoD lead for the White House Business Council, Business USA, the National Export Initiative, the American Supply Chain Working Group, Reinvest in America, the SBA Regional Clusters Initiative, the i6 Challenge and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership. He also serves as a co-lead of the Interagency Task Force on Veteran's Employment, the Interagency Task Force on Veterans Small Business Development, the White House Asian American and Pacific Islander Initiative, the GSA Task Force on Procurement Sustainability and an advisor to DoD's Strategic Sourcing Board. Of these initiatives Mr. Gudger is most proud of his support for our Veterans. As a co-lead for the DoD-VA Taskforce on Veteran's Employment Mr. Gudger developed the first entrepreneurship curriculum for separating service members who are interested in starting their own business, which is now integrated into the Transition Assistance Program. He also developed the first ever Veterans Entrepreneurship Portal on BusinessUSA.gov, which provides a single portal to government resources for veteran entrepreneurs. This led him to be recognized by the Veteran Community as a leader in government contracting reform and honored by the Vietnam Veterans of America for Leadership in service disable veterans and wounded warriors support.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Gudger had a distinguished career serving the defense, national intelligence, and investment banking industries. He worked on key technical and financial initiatives with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Union Bank of Switzerland, and AT&T. As the first Director of Small Business from industry Mr. Gudger served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Solvern Innovations, a corporate entity that provided acquisition support and cyber solutions through training, unique research and sponsored product innovation. Over an 8 year period he grew this company from a small business to a large business with more than 1,300 employees. Solvern Innovations had an agreement with the University of Maryland College Park, Human Computer Interaction Lab to provide software development and commercialization through technology transfer toward the university's data visualization and executive dashboard technologies. His successes at Solvern led the company to be recognized as one of the top 500 fastest growing companies in America in 2008 and 2009 and being the Best-Run Business in America by Inc. Magazine in 2009. Solvern Innovations was acquired by TeleCommunication Systems in 2009 which is a \$400 million company with over 150 patents granted. Mr. Gudger served as the Senior Vice President of TeleCommunication Systems Inc.'s Cyber Security Group.

Mr. Gudger has also served on several boards including the University of Maryland Baltimore County President's Advisory Committee, the Maryland BRAC Small & Minority Business Advisory Board, and the

Cyber Advisory Council. Mr. Gudger also served as the Senior Executive of the Art of Exploitation University a Cyber Center of Excellence, which is the architect of the Computer Network Operations training and scientific development program delivering services to the Department of Defense, and Telecommunication Systems program director for the National Cryptologic School, Center for Business Management, Acquisition, and Systems Engineering.

Mr. Gudger received his Bachelor's of Science degree from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and performed his Master's in Business Administration studies at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Erasmus University in Rotterdam, Tec de Monterrey in Mexico, FundacaoVargus University in Brazil, and Gdansk University in Poland.

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