



Richard Drinkward

Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Richard Drinkward joined Kellstrom Defense as Chief Financial Officer in 2017. His responsibilities include leadership of the finance, accounting, and treasury function for the overall KDA group of businesses. This key leadership role owns financial reporting, controls, and analysis, and he is a primary contact for banking and private equity investor relations.

Mr. Drinkward has over twenty-five years of experience managing finance and business teams for high profile public-equity and private-equity backed organizations in the aerospace and defense, medical, and technology markets. He is an accomplished leader with expertise in complex financial transactions, multi-site information systems, program management, M&A, and restructuring.

He was most recently engaged as the CFO and financial leader for a series of private-equity backed, early-stage medical device businesses, including RxSight, Gamma Medica-Ideas, and Alpine Biomed. He was instrumental in implementing strong financial controls, driving business improvements, engaging in fund raising to support aggressive growth targets, and guiding the businesses toward liquidity events.

Previously, Mr. Drinkward spent a lengthy stint at EATON (NYSE: ETN) as the segment CFO for the EATON Aerospace business. He partnered with the EATON Aerospace president to drive a growth strategy that doubled the size of the business through four major acquisitions, with a focus on product development and new business capture. Together, they transformed the maturity, profitability, and positioning of a portfolio of an aerospace engineered equipment OEM and aftermarket businesses.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Drinkward held leadership roles in finance, corporate development, and strategic planning at the Furon Company, McDonnell Douglas, and UNISYS.

He holds a B.A. in economics from Claremont McKenna College and an M.B.A. in management from California Lutheran College.

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Innovation.
Excellence.**

We have an aggressive goal to become the best at what we do!