

Adele Ratcliff

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Ms. Adele Ratcliff is the Director of the Department of Defense (DOD) Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) Program, which is overseen by the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manufacturing and Industrial Base Policy. During her tenure in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, she has focused on building strong interagency partnerships to address broad transition of manufacturing issues such as manufacturing readiness and the Advanced Manufacturing Enterprise. Currently, Ms. Ratcliff leads the effort in establishing the DOD-led national Institutes for Manufacturing Innovation (IMIs) outlined in the President's 2013 State of the Union address. These currently include America Makes, Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow, the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute, the Integrated Photonics IMI, and Flexible Hybrid Electronics Manufacturing Institute. Ms. Ratcliff has a long acquisition career, including Program Manager for the congressionally mandated Defense Acquisition Challenge Program, Deputy Program Manager for the Foreign Comparative Test Program, and more than 11 years in Air Force Test and Evaluation at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. She received the SECDEF Award for Excellence for her support of the Pilot Institute for Additive Manufacturing in March 2013. She is a proud alumna of the Mississippi State University Bulldogs, earning a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Science in Strategic Art from the U.S. Army War College (in-residence). She also graduated from the DOD's Defense Senior Leadership Development Program.