



The President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee



Committee Member Biography

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Matthew J. Desch
Chief Executive Officer
Iridium Communications

Mr. Matthew J. Desch is the chief executive officer (CEO) of Iridium Communications and serves on the board of directors. Mr. Desch joined Iridium in 2006.

Mr. Desch has more than 30 years of experience in telecommunications management and over 20 years in the global wireless industry. Before joining Iridium, Mr. Desch served as the CEO of Telcordia Technologies, Inc., and served on the board of directors at SAIC, Inc. Prior to Telcordia, Mr. Desch was president of Nortel Networks Corp.'s wireless networks division. He began his career in software development and strategic planning with AT&T Bell Laboratories.

Mr. Desch received the 2011 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of The Year, Greater Washington Area, Award and was named as a "Tech Titan" by *Washingtonian Magazine*. Based on Iridium's continued growth and realization of its plans for a next generation satellite constellation launching in 2015, he was named *Via Satellite's* 2011 "Satellite Executive of the Year." He serves on the board of trustees of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and has served on the boards of directors of a number of high tech companies over the past 10 years. Mr. Desch has been a contributor to a variety of industry associations, including the CTIA—The Wireless Association's Wireless Foundation and the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions.

Mr. Desch earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from The Ohio State University and a master of business administration degree from the University of Chicago.

