




Carey S. Hilton

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CAREY S. HILTON

Chief Executive Officer



As CEO, Carey Hilton has set a results-driven vision and mission for Vodik. He focuses on driving strategic business growth through the dynamic use of the company's disruptive technology portfolio, the development of strategic partnerships, and the growth of business operations within new geographies.


An accomplished entrepreneur, calculated risk taker, and inventor, Hilton has strong engineering and science slants. With more than three decades of experience, he has a reputation for developing profitable business strategies, incubating new business models, and building out channel programs. He has also been instrumental in identifying and securing unique intellectual property and market opportunities for the various companies he has led. The Dallas Business Press named one of his technologies the "Most Innovative Product of the Year." In his career, Hilton has led innovative and complex programs development through disparate project models for companies including Google, Yahoo, Starwood Worldwide, Travelocity, and the U.S. Department of Defense. He has also been a featured speaker at various industry conferences, and his comments have appeared in business and industry publications throughout the world.

In addition, Hilton has more than 10 years of executive consulting expertise in critical facilities management, business continuity, corporate image and branding, organizational strategy development, and design and process improvement.

He lives in Fort Worth, Texas, with his wife and two children.

chilton@vodik.com

OUR TEAM



ARGIE RUMANN

Argie Rumann excels at bridging the gap...

Contact us!

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Kirby A. Smith

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KIRBY A. SMITH

Chief Operations Officer



As a dedicated entrepreneur with a passion for international business, Kirby Smith brings a wealth of expertise and skill to Vodik.

With more than 20 years of experience in full life-cycle product development and manufacturing of a wide range of consumer and B2B products, Smith understands the importance of strategic relationships, innovation, quality control, and attention to detail.


While living overseas at the beginning of his career, Smith gained valuable understanding of the nuances of doing business in different cultures, from the Pacific Rim to Central Europe to Africa. His career began in Taiwan as an assistant OEM production manager for Lerado Technologies Group. He was quickly promoted to manager and worked in the company's many offices throughout Asia. While working in this industry, he recognized a need for a resource that would connect American and European companies with Asian-based manufacturers and factories, helping them navigate the language barriers and unfamiliar business cultures. With this knowledge and experience, Smith founded an international product development/procurement company that takes worthwhile ideas and turns them into market-ready product lines.

Smith holds a BBA in marketing and international business from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

ksmith@vodik.com

SEARCH

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Engineering & Science Team - USA

NOT FULL STAFF



Argie Rumann
Chief Engineer

Served as lead engineer at five NASA Space Centers and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, as well as for the U.S. Army Research Lab and the US Air Force Space Command.



Preston Pinson
Military & Government Liaison

With vast relationships and a 27.5 year career in the cockpit of the EA-6B "Prowler," an aircraft carrier-based tactical electronic warfare jet.



Ben Chao, PhD
Materials Scientist

15 years Hydrogen Technologies research and development experience. Recently retired from BASF Batteries Division.

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Argie Rumann excels at bridging the gap between science and engineering with distinction and diplomacy. A seasoned manager, he is recognized as a passionate leader with a multidimensional vision of how to use disruptive technologies and scientific discoveries to engineer unique solutions.

Rumann has been an accomplished computer simulation developer since 1978 and a professional engineer in Texas since 1990. In his 30 years of working in the fields of applied sciences, engineering, and management, he has gained expertise in a wide range of industries, including aerospace, defense, oil and gas, energy and power, metals and materials, plastics, pulp and paper, food processing, medical systems, and communications.

Since 1986, Rumann's longest engagement has been with NASA. He served as lead engineer at five NASA Space Centers: Johnson, Kennedy, Goddard, Langley, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and as senior engineering consultant for the U.S. Army Research Lab (ARL) and the US Air Force Space Command. His accomplishments include projects for the Space Shuttle, International Space Station, Hubble Space Telescope, and Mars Science Lab (Curiosity) Rover. From 2008 to 2015, he was program manager and chief engineer of a \$250 million contract at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. There, he led as many as 125 direct reports that he personally recruited, interviewed, and hired to serve in various engineering, science, and design

disciplines serving more than 60 spacecraft and flight instruments for the U.S. space program.

Rumann holds bachelor's and master's degrees in aerospace engineering from Texas A&M University.

Preston Clay Pinson has been a defense/military/Native American market business development consultant for Vodik since 2009.

Pinson has an extensive military background, which began when he voluntarily chose to serve in the United States Navy. After earning his Naval Flight Officer Wings of Gold, he began his 27.5 year career in the cockpit of the EA-6B "Prowler," an aircraft carrier-based tactical electronic warfare jet. In the cockpit, he accumulated over 3,000 flight hours in Prowlers and over 1,000 carrier arrested landings. He was designated an Air Wing Strike Leader and Air Wing Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD) Strike Leader, as well as an EA-6B Squadron Commanding Officer.

Other Navy and Joint Service experience includes various Flag/General Staff tours as US Northern Command's Chief Officer in Charge of the Global and Regional Satellite Communications Support Centers, Operations Officer for the Nuclear Aircraft Carrier USS CARL VINSON/CVN-70, Commanding Officer of USS RAINIER/AOE-7 and US SEVENTH FLEET Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations. His awards include the Legion of Merit (three awards), Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards) and Strike/Flight Air Medal (four awards).

He is a graduate of the Navy Safety Center Aviation Safety Officer School/Naval Aviation Command at Sea Safety School/Naval Major Command at Sea Safety School, US Army Defense Language Institute/Russian, Navy Postgraduate School/MA National Security Affairs Soviet Union/Eastern/Western Europe, Air Command and Staff College/JPME 1.

Pinson holds a hotel and restaurant management/business administration degree from Oklahoma State University.

Business Development Team



Jeff Stamps

Business Development

Jeff Stamps has more than 20 years of experience with commercial and residential construction projects up to \$100 million.



Steve Sikes

Vykon Sales

Steve Sikes brings more than four decades of leadership and sales experience to VODIK with 44 years from AMSCO Steel Company



Clayton Sikes

Sales

Clayton Sikes has more than 10 years of experience in the steel service center industry.

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Jeff Stamps has more than 20 years of experience with labor, inspection, supervision, and leadership on public bid, commercial, and residential construction projects up to \$100 million. Much of his career has been spent as a project manager, operations manager, and business owner in the utility construction industry, helping to build roads, bridges, and utilities across Texas. His business philosophy is to continually strive for excellence and develop new skills and abilities.

Stamps has a reputation for delivering quality projects on time and within budget while limiting changes. He provides hands-on leadership – out in the field and in the office – to deliver the best results, and always seeks to create a positive and safe working environment for employees. He also develops and maintains relationships with engineers, regulators, and owners to enhance Vodik's reputation, expand market share, and diversify the client base.

Steve Sikes brings more than four decades of leadership and sales experience to Vodik. Before he joined the company, he worked for 44 years for AMSCO Steel Company – the last 10 years as chairman and chief executive officer. The company had plants in Fort Worth and San Antonio, as well as a joint relationship with a company in Mexico. The company was sold in October 2015.

Sikes has an extensive background in all aspects of the steel industry, from sales and marketing to production and purchasing. He also has expertise in metallurgical testing, applications for steel sheet and coil, sheet forming, chemical analysis, and metal fabrication.

Very active in the North Texas community, Sikes has served as chairman of the board for several prominent organizations, including Harris Methodist Hospital and Texas Health Resources, Harris Health Plan, and the Texas Rangers law enforcement organization. He is also past president of Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth. He currently serves as the chair of the brand/inspection committee for the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, and is a member of the Metal Service Center Institute and Precision Metal Forming Association.

Sikes holds a BBA in marketing and management from Texas Wesleyan University.

Clayton Sikes has more than 10 years of experience in the steel service center industry, working in and overseeing several integral roles within the company. Whether he's fostering new relationships or maintaining existing ones, Sikes feels that service and quality always come first in order to exceed expectations.

Sikes began at the family business – AMSCO Steel Company – in 2003, starting at the ground level and quickly moving into logistics, where he oversaw the company's fleet of vehicles to make sure products were delivered on time, every time. From there, he moved into sales and purchasing, developing an intimate understanding of the company's supply chain and the specialized needs of customers. Working closely with suppliers and customers, he helped to develop new products, leading to new business opportunities. Having worked on both ends of supply chain management, Sikes understands clearly that relationships are the major driver of business success.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Sikes studied business at Texas State University.

Finance



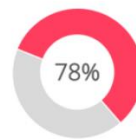
Steve Pike

Chief Financial Officer

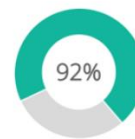
Steve is a financial professional with over 30 years of experience in manufacturing environments. He has operated the last 20 years as an entrepreneur, leading the financial and administrative functions of multiple businesses. His conservative, long-term approach has helped produce winning results for his partnership group.



Finance



Management



Strategy

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Operations



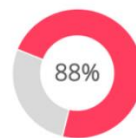
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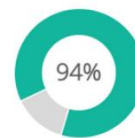
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Operations



Management



Strategy

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