

Marie Ffolkes

President - Industrial Gases Americas, Air Products & Chemicals, Inc.
NAM Board Member



Marie Ffolkes joined Air Products as president, Industrial Gases–Americas, in 2015. She is responsible for driving the strategy implementation and profitability of the company’s Industrial Gases operations in North and South America.

Prior to joining Air Products, Ms. Ffolkes held the position of global vice president and general manager of the Global Elastomer & Ride Performance Group of Tenneco, Inc. She also has held leadership positions at Johnson Controls, Inc.—including vice president and general manager, South America, based in São Paulo, Brazil—and General Electric Company.

Ms. Ffolkes holds a B.S. degree from Brooklyn College and an MBA from Columbia Business School. She is also a graduate of General Electric’s Financial Management Program.

Wayne Smith

Chairman & CEO, BASF Corporation



Wayne T. Smith is a Member of the Board of Executive Directors of BASF SE. He assumed this position in April 2012. Smith is, since May 2015, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BASF Corporation. He is currently responsible for the divisions Catalysts, Coatings, Performance Materials, Market & Business Development, Site & Verbund Management North America, as well as Regional Functions & Country Platforms North America. Prior to this, since 2010, Smith was President of BASF’s Polyurethanes division, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

In 2004, Smith started his career with BASF as Group Vice President Intermediates NAFTA in Florham Park, New Jersey, United States. From 2006 until 2010 he was President of the Catalysts division and Executive Vice President of BASF Corporation. Before joining BASF, he held several management positions at the industrial gases company BOC Group as well as the specialty chemicals producer W. R. Grace & Co. in the United States.

Wayne T. Smith was born in Rochester, New York, United States, in 1960. From 1978 onwards, he studied Chemical Engineering at Syracuse University, United States, and received his bachelor’s degree in 1982. In 1989, he completed his master in Business Administration at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, United States. Smith is married and has two children.

Chuck Wetherington
President, BTE
NAM Executive Committee



Chuck has served as President of BTE since 2001. Under his leadership, BTE has grown to be an international leader in providing advanced medical devices for physical testing and rehabilitation. His latest development was the creation of QMT (quantitative muscle testing) solutions for the pharmaceutical industry to use in clinical trials. In addition to designing and manufacturing devices, BTE has created a Workforce Solutions division which helps employers limit workplace injuries as well as get those who have been hurt on the job back to work quickly and safely.

Previously, Chuck served in various General Management and Operations Management positions with General Electric and Black & Decker. He has degrees in engineering from the University of Illinois and Vanderbilt. Chuck is also a graduate of GE's world-renowned management and business development programs as well as their Edison Engineering Program.

Mr. Wetherington has served on several non-profit boards in his home of Baltimore, MD and previously served on the board of the American Physical Therapy Association from 2005-2012. He is currently the vice chair of the Small and Medium Manufacturers for the NAM, where he has been a board member since 2007.