

## Hugh K. “Kirk” Atkinson

Founder & President of Adah International



Kirk Atkinson is an accomplished executive hailing from Birmingham, Alabama, USA. Kirk's career path began at World Business Advisors in Birmingham, where he served as assistant project manager, contributing to site selection and incentives negotiations for foreign direct investment (FDI) projects.

During his tenure with the Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Authority, Kirk developed a deep interest in European cultures and business. As a senior project manager, he successfully oversaw the establishment and expansion of numerous European companies in Tuscaloosa County, including a Top 50 Global 3PL, BLG Logistics.

Following BLG back to Germany, Kirk embarked on an international education and career trajectory. In Dusseldorf, he honed his German language skills and acquired comprehensive international relations training from Heinrich Heine University. He later relocated to Bremen and played a pivotal role in establishing new logistics operations for BLG in England, France, and Germany.

In 2010, Kirk returned to the United States to manage BLG's new projects team. Under his leadership, the company grew from 35 to 1,500 employees and one million square feet of operations.

In February 2015, Kirk founded Adah International, a highly reputable contractor specializing in industrial engineering and technology between Europe and the Americas. Adah International enjoys a dedicated team of over 30 professionals focused on nearshore and on-demand engineering, project management, and technology support for European-owned industries in the United States. Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, with a strong presence in Germany, Adah International serves esteemed customers such as Airbus, RUAG Space, Mercedes-Benz, and Siemens Energy.

Kirk Atkinson assumes other key leadership roles in various organizations. As a current Member of the Board for the German American Chamber of Commerce South in Atlanta, he actively contributes to fostering business and education between the United States and Germany. Furthermore, he serves as Chairman of the Board for the Alabama Germany Partnership and holds a director position on the Birmingham Industrial Development Board.

Within his educational background, Kirk holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama and graduate studies in Business Management at Cornell University. Kirk's professional accreditations include being a certified Supply Chain Management Professional and ISO 14001 Sustainability auditor.

Outside of his professional pursuits, Kirk finds joy in his personal life through his wife Inés and their daughter, Adah. As a family, they cherish travel experiences, sailing adventures, and hosting international guests with lively dinner parties and live music.