



John W. Woodward
Director, Foreign Investment
Global Commerce Group

John Woodward joined the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce in 2006 as Director of Foreign Investment. As such his role is to attract foreign direct investment to the metropolitan region (21,700 square kilometers), both in capital and in new jobs. He focuses on markets and industries in Europe and Asia that already have a strong presence in Atlanta, but he also works with emerging markets to generate new sources of international investment. To this end, he marshals the metro chamber's resources, as well as those of relevant partners, to identify and assist international companies that may be contemplating entry or expansion in the U.S. market.

Before coming to Atlanta, Woodward was Director of Economic Development for the City of Richmond (VA). In that capacity he played a significant role in several major economic development projects, including the corporate headquarters relocations of Philip Morris USA, Wachovia Securities, "K" Line America, Cavalier Telephone, and MeadWestvaco, as well as more than \$2 billion of commercial real estate development, including a \$330 million research-and-development facility in the Virginia Biotechnology Research Park. He also partnered with regional and state colleagues to attract international investment to central Virginia, participating in worldwide trade missions with three Virginia governors.

Prior to that, Woodward worked in commercial real estate at the New York headquarters of Cushman & Wakefield, in marketing, financial services, and investment sales. Previously he was a foreign exchange trader with Ruesch International in Washington, DC.

Woodward is a member of CoreNet Global, International Economic Development Council (IEDC), Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA), and several bilateral chambers and trade associations. A frequent speaker on economic development, he has been quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, as well as regional print, broadcast and online media.

Woodward earned a BSFS from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, and an MBA from the Stern School of Business at New York University. He also completed programs at the Université de Strasbourg and Hautes Etudes Commerciales (Paris).

Active in the community, he presently lives in the Virginia Highlands area in Atlanta.