



**MForesight National Summit**  
**“America’s New Manufacturing Moment”**  
**September 29, 2016**

**Speaker Biography: Robert D. Atkinson**

As founder and president of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), Robert D. Atkinson leads a prolific team of policy analysts and fellows that is successfully shaping debate and setting the agenda on a host of critical issues at the intersection of technological innovation and public policy. He is an internationally recognized scholar and a widely published author whom *The New Republic* has named one of the “three most important thinkers about innovation,” *Washingtonian Magazine* has called a “Tech Titan,” and *Government Technology Magazine* has judged to be one of the 25 top “Doers, Dreamers and Drivers of Information Technology.”

President Clinton appointed Atkinson to the Commission on Workers, Communities, and Economic Change in the New Economy; the Bush administration appointed him chair of the congressionally created National Surface Transportation Infrastructure Financing Commission; and the Obama administration appointed him to the National Innovation and Competitiveness Strategy Advisory Board. He now serves as co-chair of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy’s China-U.S. Innovation Policy Experts Group.

Atkinson is a member of the Markle Foundation Task Force on National Security in the Information Age and serves on many boards and advisory councils and holds several fellowships. Additionally, he is a member of the Global Innovation Forum Brain Trust.

Atkinson holds a Ph.D. in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where he was awarded the prestigious Joseph E. Pogue Fellowship. He earned his master’s degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Oregon, which named him a distinguished alumnus in 2014.