

**Donald Nicolson**

President & CEO, Advance Fiber Technologies, LLC

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Donald Nicolson is an entrepreneurial senior executive with more than three decades of experience building, leading, and advising companies across the energy, nutraceutical, biotech, security, and specialty chemical sectors. As President & CEO of Advance Fiber Technologies, LLC since 2010, he leads the development and commercialization of advanced chemical solutions for the fiber and textile industries, with a strong emphasis on performance and sustainability.

Don's career spans both operating roles and strategic investment work. He has helped secure funding for innovative rechargeable battery plants in China, supported renewable and hydro energy projects, and guided consolidation efforts in the security sector to create more efficient, scalable platforms. In consumer and health-related markets, he has advised major brands and growth-stage companies on new business models, commercialization strategies, and market expansion—contributing to successful turnarounds and exits.

Earlier in his career, Don held senior roles in sales and strategy with consumer goods and nutraceutical companies, as well as leadership positions in biotech-focused consultancies supporting pharmaceutical and medical device clients. He continues to serve on boards and advisory boards, including Uppfylla, Inc., Cera Products, Inc., and the Friends Board of Directors (Emeritus) at St. John's College.

Don holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Vermont, has studied at Columbia University's Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, and earned his MBA from the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business. He brings a rare blend of scientific grounding, commercial acumen, and investment experience to every venture he leads.