

James Rhee, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Trade for the Commonwealth of Virginia, presides over International Trade and Investment activities. James has over 20 years of entrepreneurial experience in enterprise creation, growth and change management with an extensive record of directing turn-around situations ranging from manufacturing to software companies. He served as CEO of Global Technology Systems Consortium, a government consulting firm; and Cleverlearn, an Internet software technology firm which personalized the online language learning experience. He also served as the lead managing director of set-top box development for wireless applications, a joint venture project with Bigfoot Venture Funds. Over the years, James has consulted and mentored various small businesses in helping them to secure capital infusions and illuminate competitive edge. As lead consultant, James also provided guidance to Asian photovoltaic manufacturers and systems integrators concerning the topography of the U.S. solar industry, namely, aligning technology, capital, and policy for meeting renewable energy mandates.

James received his B.S. in Management, M.S., MBA, and studied law for two years from University of Maryland, Johns Hopkins University, and Georgetown University, respectively. James also received a Professional Certificate in Sustainable Energy from Stanford University.

James is active in the community and has served as a board member of George Mason University Diversity Advisory Committee, Schools for Future, and Asian American CEO Forum for IT firms.