



JAMES SCHROEDER, MBA

Founder & Executive Chairman

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Mr. Schroeder is a system leader. He possesses the know-how, the passion, and the drive necessary to attract the best collaborating minds and growth-minded people to the Vantus leadership team. His current focus is building a strategy-sensitive, purpose-focused, people-first, functionally integrated and digitally connected global enterprise with a low center of gravity, whereby decisions are made close to people who engage in the work and customers who use the products and services.

As the founder of Vantus, Mr. Schroeder spearheaded the development and ongoing business planning and pre-commercialization for the Vantus Digital Manufacturing System (VDMS) technology platform, which has broad implications for the global healthcare industry.

Vantus is an unconventional and Smart Design Platform™ business, designed to lead the personalization of medical devices, specifically, Class III implants (articulating reconstruction and fracture repair devices) and Class I handheld surgical instruments (for all areas of surgery for humans and high-value animals) in the global market. Mr. Schroeder's goal was not to rush to market with a half-thought-out and partially financed plan. Rather, he completed comprehensive business planning, authored and secured authorization from the United States Patent and Trademark office for the foundational intellectual property, and secured a strategic investor relationship with a humanitarian-focused firm that has committed \$1.4 billion in capital to the Vantus program.

Mr. Schroeder began to study the weaknesses of mass-produced, standardized medical devices available in the orthopaedic industry in 2003. During this 14-year journey, Mr. Schroeder generated over \$1 million through Vantus Consulting, his professional organizational change management consulting practice. In 2006, after determining that he needed to produce more capital in less time, Mr. Schroeder organized a lobbying project, presenting the Vantus program to Wisconsin representatives and Federal agencies NIH, DoD, VA and the Pentagon. Mr. Schroeder was informed that a \$12 million appropriation was approved for the 2007 congressional budget under president, George W. Bush (R), and Wisconsin Congresswoman Gwen Moore (D) sponsored the first \$500,000 for the Vantus program for US Congressionally appropriated funding. Mr. Schroeder concurrently applied for the Wisconsin Department of Commerce Technology Venture Fund, which was awarded to Vantus in 2008, in the amount of \$250,000. In 2013, Mr. Schroeder was introduced to a humanitarian-focused investment firm that committed \$1.4 billion to Vantus.

Mr. Schroeder's previous roles include positions as a member of the eight-person Leadership Council & Product Development Laboratory Manager for Harley-Davidson; CAD / CAM, CAE Integration Consultant for Norrell Corp; Intrapreneurial Assignment - Automated Manufacturing Department Manager, CAD / CAM Applications Engineer for Mercury Marine; and CAD / CAM Group Manager, Five-year State of Wisconsin-Indentured Tool & Die Maker Apprentice, and then Journeyman for Capitol Engineering.

Mr. Schroeder holds an MBA from Marquette University and earned an Executive Master's of Product Design and Development from Northwestern University. He studied Mechanical Engineering and Organizational Development in the undergraduate program at Marquette University, graduating with a BS in Organization & Leadership. Mr. Schroeder has minors in Business Administration and Professional Business also from Marquette University.