

Michael Brown, Director of the Defense Innovation Unit, U.S. Department of Defense

Michael Brown is the Director of the Defense Innovation Unit at the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). DIU, established in 2015, fields leading-edge commercial capabilities to the military faster and more cost-effectively than traditional defense acquisition methods. With offices in Silicon Valley, Boston, Austin, and the Pentagon, DIU is embedded in key innovation ecosystems across the country and builds direct relationships with organizations that strengthen our national security innovation base. Previously, Michael served for two years (2016-2018) as a White House Presidential Innovation Fellow at the DoD. He is co-author of a Pentagon study on China's participation in the U.S. venture ecosystem, a catalyst for the Foreign Investment Risk Review Modernization Act (FIRRMA). FIRRMA was signed into law in August 2018 and provided expanded jurisdiction to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.

Prior to civil service, Michael was the CEO of Symantec Corporation (2014-2016), the global leader in cybersecurity and the world's 10th largest software company. He is also the former Chairman and CEO of Quantum Corporation (1995-2003), a leader in the computer storage industry.