The Digital Leadership Agenda 2023: Recoding Business

UCI Center for Digital Transformation



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Nicole Darden Ford is VP of Global Security and CISO at Rockwell Automation. She has extensive knowledge and application experience in cybersecurity, cyber forensics, digital transformation, and homeland security practices.

Formerly, Darden Ford was global vice president and Chief Information Security Officer at Carrier, overseeing global Information Security, Compliance and Product (IoT) Cybersecurity through the company's spin-off from parent company United Technologies Corporation. Prior to Carrier, she was global vice president and Chief Information Security Officer for Baxter International, where she had global responsibility for Information Security, Information Governance and IT Quality Compliance. Darden Ford began her career in the U.S. military and federal government, including for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, handling security, network engineering, and telecommunications.

Darden Ford is passionate about building and growing teams, fostering culture, and focusing on diversity, equity and inclusion. She currently serves on the boards of IT-ISAC, South Florida Tech Hub and the Lola Mercedes Parker Foundation. She has a bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems from the University of Phoenix and a master's degree in the Management of Information Technology from the University of Virginia.