



Karen Wrege

Chief Technology Officer

Directorate of Defense Trade Controls

Bureau of Political-Military Affairs

U.S. Department of State

Karen Wrege joined the Department of State, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs in 2014 to modernize legacy systems in the Directorate. Her team finalized the first phase of this modernization project in February 2020 using various best of breed cloud technologies. Karen won the Federal 100 award that recognizes individuals that make significant contributions to the US Federal Government using technology. Prior to her post at the State Department, Ms. Wrege spent ten years in an economic consultancy providing auction software and services to global clients in the telecommunications industry. Before that, Ms. Wrege served as Chief Information Officer of the US Federal Communications Commission's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Ms. Wrege oversaw software development and implementation of electronic spectrum auctions for the Commission. Since the program inception in 1994, FCC auctions have raised over \$100 billion in revenue for the US Treasury.