

Kate Hampford Donahue

Kate Hampford Donahue is CEO of Hampford Research, Inc., a family owned, custom chemical manufacturing firm specializing in high-purity specialty chemicals used in the electronics, dental, cosmetics, engineered materials and printing/lithography industries and located in Stratford, CT. Donahue took over leadership of the company, after 10 years on its Board of Directors, a few months prior to her founding father's death in January 2007.

Prior to joining Hampford Research, Donahue spent over 25 years in the cable television and new media industries in a variety of executive sales, marketing and strategic development roles including stints at American Movie Classics and C-SPAN.

Over the course of her career, Kate has served on numerous industry and business association boards and currently is chairman of the Board of Governors of SOCMA (Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates) and Past Chair of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council. She is the recipient of the 2013 Women of Innovation Award from the Connecticut Technology Council and the 2015 President's Leadership Award from SOCMA. In 2019, Junior Achievement inducted Donahue into their Business Hall of Fame and she was named a Woman of Distinction by the American Manufacturing Hall of Fame in 2024.

Kate has a B.A. from Manhattanville College, and she resides in Connecticut with her husband. They have three children and their first grandchild on the way.