

# Robert Smolen



## ROBERT SMOLEN CONTACT INFO

 [TGIE.ENTERPRISES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TGIE.ENTERPRISES@GMAIL.COM)

 757.403.7130   

[ROBERT-SMOLEN.COM](http://ROBERT-SMOLEN.COM)

## SEEKING A MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER POSITION AT MASSIF

Presently I am employed as a Government Sales Manager / Marketing & Web Director with Advance Safety Equipment Co. I attained a B.S. in Graphic Design, working in marketing and sales fields for over two decades. Other work experiences include being in the military, and scuba diving. My expertise in project management has made me a successful leader in many areas. I am proficient in developing forward thinking solutions in alignment with required standards and guidelines to meet and transcend company goals. I always strive to exceed company and customer's expectations to fulfill their requirements to successfully carry out their mission. I excel in attention to details, communication, being a strong leader, and working as a team member in fast paced environments. With my military background I work with the highest level of integrity and always eager to learn new skills to enhance my knowledge and experience to be a vital part of the team.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### ADVANCE SAFETY EQUIPMENT CO., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Government Sales Manager / Marketing & Web Director  
2019 - Present

### AQUATIC INNOVATIONS, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Dive Safety Officer / Aquarium Diver & Maintenance Specialist  
2018 - 2019

### MYTHICS INC., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

IT Sales Representative  
2017 - 2018

### TGIE ENTERPRISES, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Freelance Graphic Designer / Project Manager / Design Consultant  
2013 - Present

### LYNNHAVEN DIVE CENTER, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Dive Instructor / Dive Trip Organizer & Operator / Marketing Manager / Sales Representative  
2004 - 2007 & 2016 - 2017

### ADS INC., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

Senior Graphic Designer  
(View Projects Online @ [adsinc.com](http://adsinc.com))  
2007 - 2013

### THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD, PITTSBURGH, PA.

Aircraft Structural Maintenance Engineer  
2001 - 2006



Office 365

ORACLE



## EDUCATION

### THE ART INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH PITTSBURGH, PA

Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design  
Graduated in 2007

### RAINBOW REEF DIVE CENTER KEY LARGO, FL

PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor (PADI #364821)  
Graduated in 2015

### UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Basic Military Training / Technical School for Aircraft Structural Maintenance Engineering  
Graduated in 2001 (Served in The Air National Guard)

## ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS & SKILLS

### PADI CERTIFICATIONS

EFR Primary and Secondary Care Trainer / Open Water Scuba Instructor / Nitrox Specialty Trainer / Boat Diver Specialty Trainer / Wreck Diver / Specialty Trainer / Deep Diver Specialty Trainer / Night Diver Specialty Trainer

### VOLUNTEER DIVER AND UNDERWATER AMBASSADOR FOR VIRGINIA AQUARIUM AND MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

## REFERENCES

### MIKE WILLIAMS

Chief Executive Officer & Owner of Aquatic Innovations, Inc.

- Employer & Mentor

Virginia Beach, VA

757.818.4439

### JORGE CASILLAS

Marine Biologist of Aquatic Innovations, Inc.

- Mentor & Colleague

Virginia Beach, VA

804.244.1187

### ROSS NEILL

PADI Americas Regional Training Consultant

- Mentor & Colleague

Rancho Santa Margarita, CA

949.858.7234 ext.2354

### LINDSEY HILLIER HOTCHKISS

Chief Executive Officer & Owner of Lynnhaven Dive Center

- Former Employer

Virginia Beach, VA

757.618.7191

### CHRIS PHILBRICK

Vice President, Marketing of ADS Inc.

- Former Employer

Virginia Beach, VA

757.963.6196

### KATHY O'HARA

Director, Marine Conservation & Citizen Science Program

- Mentor & Colleague

Virginia Beach, VA

757.408.3608

### SONNY ALEJO

Former Dive Safety Officer / Dive Operations Manager of Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center

- Mentor & Colleague

Virginia Beach, VA

757.714.3254

### DAVE PORTCH

Chief Executive Officer of Sothis Surfboards

- Colleague

Virginia Beach, VA

757.288.3901

### SEAN STILWELL

Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Reality Group

- Freelance Design Client

Richmond, VA

804.698.9949

## RECOGNITIONS & MORE EXPERIENCE

Entrepreneur & Part Owner of Sothis Surfboards

2017 - Present in Virginia Beach, VA

Helped launch Virginia's first ever Fish Count as part of the Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF)

2017 in Virginia Beach, VA

Help lead Coastal Clean-Ups multiple times in various places each year

2016 - Present Across the Globe

Worked as a rigging grip for the AMC's television show called, "Turn"

2014 - 2015 in Richmond, VA

Created a series of shirts for LDC's annual, "Dive for a Cure," fund-raiser for cancer research

2008-2013 in Virginia Beach, VA

Participated in the Adobe Cre8 Conference

2008 in Orlando, FL

## PASSIONS & HOBBIES



# Robert Smolen

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**CHRIS PHILBRICK**

ADS, Inc Chris Philbrick  
621 Lynnhaven Pkwy.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
October 24, 2013

To whom it may concern,

ADS employed Robert Smolen full time as a Graphic Designer and Senior Graphic Designer where he worked directly for me within the marketing department for more than eight years. Robert began his career at ADS as a Graphic Designer and advanced into management as a Senior Graphic Designer where he served as the creative lead on many design projects and was responsible for managing and mentoring other members of the design team. He was also responsible for implementing many of our design processes and corporate branding strategies. Additionally, he often worked directly with members of the company's executive team to collaborate and direct creative initiatives for the company.

Robert is a talented Graphic Designer who is very adept at leading and collaborating with other creative professionals. In his employment with ADS, he proved to be a dedicated and committed member of the marketing team who could effectively work with other functional areas of the company, such as sales and business development, to develop media that effectively communicated the company's products, services, and value to our customers.

As part of Robert's responsibilities at ADS, he was the project lead on many equipment catalogs which are the most important collateral for the company. Catalog projects require organization, direction, patience, cross-functional collaboration, and dedication to meeting important milestones and deadlines. I can personally say that I had very little to worry about when Robert was the project lead on a catalog.

Roberts's skills, talents, and personality would be a valuable asset for any organization. I would highly recommend him for any position requiring graphic design, project management, and leadership skills.

If you would like additional information about Robert, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

 [cphilbrick@adsinc.com](mailto:cphilbrick@adsinc.com) |  757.963.6196

Sincerely,

Chris Philbrick  
Vice President, Marketing

Kathryn O'Hara  
Lynnhaven Dive Center  
1413 N Great Neck Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454  
Cell: (757) 408-3608

March 7, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I submit this letter of recommendation for Robert Smolen. I have known Robert for several years having worked with him at Lynnhaven Dive Center (LDC) where I serve as Director of Marine Conservation and Citizen Science Programs.

While Robert's many talents were realized at LDC as our Marketing Manager, Sales Representative, Dive Instructor, and Trip Leader, I was most fortunate to work with him as a creative and proactive conservationist in the dive community. In 2016, I was introduced to his creative flair when he developed flyers to promote ocean-friendly travel practices for our group dive trips. Once I presented Robert with the program idea and list of ocean-friendly travel tips, he created an eye-catching template which is now used to promote all LDC dive trips. Subsequently, Robert worked with me to launch Virginia's first ever Fish Count as part of the Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF). For this project he developed promotional pieces for social media, assisted in event planning and coordination, and was a survey team member. Robert has also been a role model for our young scuba divers for whom he created shirts and mailers for our Scuba Camp and Scuba Squad which had widespread appeal to this younger audience. He continues to serve as a board member of our Hammerhead Dive Club and arranges for guest speakers on a wide variety of conservation and other dive-related topics. Aside from his work at LDC, Robert spends his spare time volunteering on the dive team at the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center where he assists in the design and maintenance of exhibits.

Along with this vast array of professional accomplishments, Robert is a unique mix of talent, passion and personality. He has high energy, is easy to work with, and his enthusiasm is contagious. He is also extremely well liked among his fellow employees, dive industry representatives, and our diverse group of customers. In fact, many representatives and customers came to the shop to spend time with Robert and share their diving experiences.

In conclusion, I feel confident that Robert would bring much in the way of creativity, talent, and team work to your organization. I highly recommend him for a position that combines his exceptional talent in graphic design with his passion for diving. Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information or clarification with regard to my recommendation of Robert.

Sincerely,  
Kathy O'Hara  
Director, Marine Conservation and Citizen Science Program

To whom this may concern,

My name is Rhoderick S. Alejo and I currently hold the position of Dive Safety Officer for the Virginia Aquarium. My accountability is with safe dive practices within a scientific parameter for zoos and aquariums.

I do utilize outside talent when it comes to key tasks in the dive operations depending upon individual skill set.

I am fortunate to have the assistance of Robbie Smolen as a dive operations volunteer for our facility. I have been able to count on his attention to detail when it comes to safety, proper dive operation management, open water animal collections, and an overall awareness of our mission as a facility to educate the public on ocean conservation methods.

Robbie is a pleasure to work with and has always shown respect for the position he has filled with me. Robbie is an asset to my facility and I firmly believe that he is an asset to any program or facility that he partners himself with.

Please contact me for any questions regarding Robbie Smolen and his positive work ethic.

Sincerely,

Rhoderick S. Alejo



7. March 2018

Dive Safety Officer / Dive Operations manager

Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center

7577143254