

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

RICHARD A. F. SOYOMBO



Richard A.F. Soyombo is the Director of the Bay Area Center for International Trade Development (CITD) hosted at Skyline College in San Bruno, California. CITD is an economic development initiative funded by the Chancellor for Community Colleges office in Sacramento. The Center promotes and provides technical assistance in international trade to small and medium sized companies located in the San Mateo, San Francisco and Marin counties.

With almost two decades of experience in international business development, Richard has played various roles in both the public and private sectors. A strategic planning and positioning specialist, he possesses a solid background in successful international market growth solutions, localization of plants and personnel, distributor network development and multiculturalism.

Richard's background includes:

- In 1984, he founded a trade-company operating between Brazil and Africa.
- Consultant; specializing in the markets of Latin America, the African sub-Sahara and Southeast Asia.
- Regional Director for Gandalf Systems in Latin America and the Carribean.
- Assistant to the Director of Latin American Trade (MASSPORT - Massachusetts Port Authority) where he was responsible for various projects in Latin America including Trade Missions, Trade Shows, etc.
- Adjunct Faculty at various Northern California colleges (and Universities).
- Consultant on minority business development.

In addition to his busy schedule, Richard is an acknowledged speaker/writer at several international forums and sits on the Boards of two prominent Chambers of Commerce in San Francisco, CA: SF Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and SF Black Chamber of Commerce.