Kate Adams is Senior Vice President and General Counsel for Honeywell, a $40 billion diversified Fortune 100 leader that invents and manufactures technologies to address some of the world’s toughest challenges linked to global macro trends such as energy efficiency, clean energy generation, safety and security, globalization, and customer productivity.

Adams is responsible for managing all of the company’s legal affairs, as well as Government Relations, Health, Safety, Environment, Product Stewardship, Sustainability, and Global Security.

She also was vice president and general counsel for Performance Materials and Technologies, one of Honeywell’s three strategic business groups, and served as vice president and deputy general counsel of litigation.

Adams has focused on diversity as a key success factor for Honeywell’s business performance. She co-leads a Women’s Council to drive enterprise approaches to retain and develop female talent. Adams also leads a Law and Government Relations’ Diversity Council and works to ensure the company meets evolving needs of its customers and communities, while also attracting and retaining the best talent globally.

Adams is receiving the Burton Awards’ Legends in Law honor in 2017. NJBIZ recognized her as the 2013 General Counsel of the Year for a Public Company with revenues over $1 billion. And Legal 500 selected Adams as one of the most powerful corporate legal advisers in the United States in 2013. Honeywell’s law department was named one of the 2013 Most Innovative U.S. Law Firms in the In-house Legal Teams category by the Financial Times. Honeywell received the 2014 National Association of Women Lawyers’ President’s Award.

Throughout her career, Adams has held academic positions as an adjunct assistant professor of law for the New York University Law School and as an adjunct assistant professor of environmental law for Columbia University Law School in New York City. Adams also is a trustee of the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, a member of the American Law Institute, and a board member of the Legal Services Corporation.

Prior to Honeywell, Adams was a partner at Sidley Austin Brown & Wood. She served as law clerk for Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, Supreme Court of the United States, trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, and as law clerk for Stephen Breyer, then Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Adams earned a bachelor’s degree in comparative literature from Brown University and a law degree from the University of Chicago Law School.