



Richard Jenkins Founder and CEO

CEO and Founder of SAILDRONE, Inc., Richard Jenkins developed SAILDRONE's core technology over a 10-year period, driven by the research he conducted to break the world speed record for wind-powered vehicles. He achieved that record in 2009, setting a speed of 126.2mph on the dry lakes of Nevada. Richard then applied the same, now patented, wing technology to unmanned sailing vehicles, which was the foundation upon which SAILDRONE Inc. was founded. The company now has 250 employees based in Alameda, California, with additional offices in Washington, District of Columbia, and St. Petersburg, Florida.

SAILDRONE designs, manufactures, and operates a global fleet of USVs with a track record of operational success over 1.6 million nautical miles sailed for customers such as NOAA, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard and other research institutions around the world. Richard holds a Master of Engineering degree in Mechanical Engineering from Imperial College, London and is both an avid sailor and private pilot.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

April 2012 - Present

Founder/CEO, SAILDRONE Inc.

Uncrewed Surface Vehicles for ocean data collection

Mar 2011 - Mar 2014 Composites

President, Photon

Carbon composite structures for marine and aerospace applications

Oct 1999 - May 2009

CEO, Proteus Speed Ltd

Owned & managed the Windjet Project, high speed wind powered vehicles, which turned into the Greenbird project with Sponsorship from Ecotricity.

EDUCATION

Sep 1996 - Jun 2000

Imperial College London



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Meinig, C., E.F. Burger, N. Cohen, E.D. Cokelet, M.F. Cronin, J.N. Cross, S. de Halleux, R.Jenkins, A.T. Jessup, C.W. Mordy, N. Lawrence-Slavas, A.J. Sutton, D. Zhang, and C. Zhang. "Public private partnerships to advance regional ocean observing capabilities: A Saildrone and NOAA-PMEL case study and future considerations to expand to global scale observing," August 2019. https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmars.2019.00448/full.

Vazquez-Cuervo, J.; Gomez-Valdes, J.; Bouali, M.; Miranda, L.E.; Van der Stocken, T.; Tang, W.; Gentemann, C. "Using Saildrones to Validate Satellite-Derived Sea Surface Salinity and Sea Surface Temperature along the California/Baja Coast." August 2018. https://doi.org/10.3390/rs11171964

C. Meinig, N. Lawrence-Slavas, R. Jenkins and H. M. Tabisola, "The use of Saildrones to examine spring conditions in the Bering Sea: Vehicle specification and mission performance," OCEANS 2015 - MTS/IEEE Washington, Washington, DC, 2015, pp. 1-6.

SELECTED PATENTS

Jenkins, Richard E., and Dylan Owens. Autonomous Unmanned Sailing Vessel. Saildrone Inc, assignee. Patent 9381985. 5 July 2016. Print.

SELECTED POSTERS

E. Cokelet, H. Tabisola, R. Jenkins, N. Lawrence-Slavas, C. Meinig, A. DeRobertis, I. Wangen, C. Kuhn, J. Crance, C. Mordy, P. Stabeno, J. Cross, "Saildrone 2016: Simultaneously measuring the environment, fishes and marine mammals in the Bering Sea," Alaska Marine Science Symposium 2017 Poster.

Edward D. Cokelet, Christian Meinig, Richard Jenkins, Noah Lawrence-Slavas, Calvin W. Mordy, Heather M. Tabisola, Phyllis J. Stabeno and Jessica N. Cross, "*The First Saildrone Scientific Mission: The Bering Sea*," Ocean Sciences Meeting 2016 Poster IS44A-2357, Abstract 93075.