

Matt Kiefer

After high school Matt joined the US Navy where he served for five years as an aircraft structural mechanic on F-14 aircraft before leaving active duty and starting college. He graduated from DeVry University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. After college he took a job with Snow Aviation International in Columbus Ohio working as a systems integration and flight test engineer. While working with Snow he was responsible for all flight test instrumentation and data acquisition on several flight test programs to test modifications to C-130 aircraft under US government and private contracts. These programs included improving the short field takeoff and landing performance of the C-130 and also demonstrating the launch and recovery of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) from a C-130 in flight. He was also responsible for the integration of various aircraft systems and modifications to the company's test aircraft including electronically controlled propellers, brake anti-skid system, wing tip tank fuel plumbing, and navigational equipment.



While in college, Matt joined the Navy Reserve as an aircraft mechanic while attending college. After graduating college he applied for and received a Commission as an Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer in the Navy Reserve. He was assigned to a program that provides combat forensics analysis of aircraft battle damage to military operators in all branches of the military, operating primarily in Iraq and Afghanistan known as the Joint Combat Assessment Team (JCAT). Matt left Snow aviation when he was called to active duty for a seven month tour in Iraq. He served as the JCAT Officer in Charge where he had responsibility for team operations and reporting. His current duty assignment has him in a NAVAIR engineering unit where he leads the Navy part of the JCAT. Currently Matt holds the rank of Lieutenant Commander however he has been selected for promotion to Commander in 2020.

After his tour in Iraq, he took a job with the US Navy as a civilian engineer. He took on the position of the Navy Deputy Class Desk for the T-6 Texan II aircraft. As the Deputy Class Desk he assists the Class Desk in connecting the T-6 issues and problems to Navy engineering resources, interfacing with the engineering capability of the T-6 joint program office and Air Force resources, providing engineering support to Navy T-6 operators, and ensuring Navy engineering and test support for T-6 operations. While working this job, Matt earned a Masters Degree in Engineering Systems from the Naval Postgraduate School.

After working for the Navy in the T-6 Program Office for nearly six years, Matt left the Navy to take a job as a System Safety Engineer with the US Air Force. In this position he oversaw the incorporation of System Safety in to the acquisition activities within the many programs that fall under the directorate he was assigned.

Currently Matt works as a Systems Integration Engineer for the USAF Airworthiness office. In this position he is responsible for ensuring a robust and stable interaction between the Airworthiness Office, the airworthiness process and the office's customers. This includes taking responsibility for the development and maintenance of software tools used in the airworthiness certification process, office websites, archiving of program documents and other special projects.

Matt Kiefer has his Private Pilot's license with an instrument rating, is SPRDE Level III certified in DoD acquisition, and is a Level III Subject Matter Expert on System Safety for USAF Airworthiness. He also has extensive experience with auto repair, engine building, welding and aircraft maintenance.