

MARK KUNTAVANISH

ASSOCIATE, DAYTON AEROSPACE, INC.

PROFILE

Over 40 years of federal service in Department of Defense (DoD) acquisition in the US Air Force (USAF) and US Army. Recognized as leading expert on cargo systems, parachutes, air transport, and airdrop for all US cargo aircraft, rotary wing, and V-22 craft with 30+ years in airdrop and air transport engineering. Served 10 years as a wind tunnel test engineer, structures engineer, and system engineer. Authored military standards for air transport and airdrop systems and created joint service transportation policies. Instructed airdrop and air transport classes and military handbook, MIL-HDBK-516, Section 20, *Airworthiness of Aerial Delivery Equipment*, and created airworthiness standards for aeromedical equipment and personnel transport modules. Served as chief systems engineer, chairman of Joint DoD Airdrop Group, lead engineer for integrated product teams (IPT), USAF representative to Joint DoD/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Transportation/Emergency Response Working Group, and lead engineer on multiple weapon system programs spanning development, production, and sustainment. NH-04, Department of the Air Force (DAF) (Retired).

PRINCIPAL AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Leadership
Acquisition
Mission Systems

Flight Testing
Education & Training
Air Transportability &
Airdrop Technology

Program Management
Systems Engineering
Team Management

WORK HISTORY

Associate | Dayton Aerospace, Inc.
2022-present, Dayton, OH

Provide technical support to government and industry clients with specialized expertise in systems engineering, military airworthiness certification, aerial delivery systems, and transportation policies.

Team Lead | Air Transportability Test Loading Activity, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Flight Systems Engineering Division (AFLCMC/EZF)
2012-2021, WPAFB, OH

Air Transportability Test Loading Activity (ATTLA) is the DoD mandated office serving as the USAF proponent for air transport/airdrop, certifying aircraft and cargo systems. Led team to certify over 3,000 cargo in support of critical military, humanitarian relief, and special operations missions. These include support of the global war on terror (GWOT); disaster relief for hurricanes Sandy, Harvey, Irma and Maria; transport of French combat equipment to Mali; certification of new cargo pallet; and expanded aerial delivery interoperability capabilities with allied partners. Received 2012, AFLCMC/EN-EZ Team of the Year Award. Architect in design and fielding of Negatively Pressurized Conex (NPC) and NPC Lite (NPCL) transport modules in 85 days to meet DoD goal of air transporting up to 3,000 Covid patients daily. Served on Operation Warp Speed to define transportation and distribution of Covid vaccines. Authored Military Standard, MIL-STD-1791, the interface standard for designing cargo and aerial delivery systems and received the 2014 DoD Standardization Award. Authored update to Section 20 of MIL-HDBK-516 and served as instructor on the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT) airworthiness class.



DAYTON AEROSPACE

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EDUCATION

MS, Management Science
University of Dayton
BS, Aerospace Engineering
University of Notre Dame

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Defense Acquisition Workforce, David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award (2001)

SAFE Association Team Achievement Award (2001)

DoD Standardization Award
MIL-STD-1791 (2014)

AFLCMC/EN-EZ Team of the Year Award
ATTLA Team (2012)

ASC/WL Annual Team Award
C27J Program Transition Team (2010)

C-17 Systems Group Team of the Year Award
Project FALCON TEAM (2005)

DCMA Knowledge Now CoP Team of the Year
ASC PHS&T Team (2004)

Eglin Team Award
MOAB Airdrop (2003)

WR-ALC/LH Gen Randolph Engineering Team Award
Towed Paratrooper Retrieval System (TPRS) (2001)

SAFE Team Award
ATTLA (2001)

John Welch, Jr Award and ASC/AFA Team Award
C-17 Personnel Airdrop

WORK HISTORY (CONT'D)

Lead, Systems Engineering | C-27J Program (ASC/WLVE)

2009-2012, WPAFB, OH

Responsible for systems engineering, airworthiness certification, information security, systems safety, configuration management, system reliability, and manufacturing quality. Concurrently served as acting flight systems lead engineer. Solved critical problems with the towed jumper retrieval, cargo rails, jump platform, cargo door locking, and Heads-up Display (HUD) misalignment—problems that lingered unsolved previously for eight months to two years. Led effort to successfully achieve military flight release (MFR) by combining airworthiness certificates from the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), US Army, and USAF. The MFR allowed the C-27J to rapidly deploy to Afghanistan six months early.

Aerospace Engineer | KC-X Tanker Program (AESG/SYEF)

2008-2009, WPAFB, OH

Served as air transport engineer. Revamped systems specifications for the KC-46 source selection request for proposal (RFP). Reevaluated requirements for advanced deployment team and replaced incompatible equipment on the deployment package list.

Structures Engineer | C-17 (516 AES Gp/ENF)

2005-2008, WPAFB, OH

Served as structures engineer, specializing in wing, horizontal, and vertical stabilizers. Led \$1.2M C-17 Joint Air Mobility Command (AMC)/System Program Office (SPO)/Boeing Semi-Prepared Runway Operations Protection Study Team (35 people) and produced designs that reduced cost by \$4M annually. Developed a C-17 systems study for airdrop of high-altitude rockets which determined aircraft operating limits. First to develop airdrop/air transport standards for liquid fueled munitions/rockets. Set C-17 altitude and weight world airdrop records. Served as acting lead for C-17 airframe team. Formed team of 12 engineers to complete emergency taskers on aircraft repair to avert work stoppage. Guided C-17 aircraft structural integrity program (ASIP) back on track and hosted the C-17 Corrosion Conference. Led joint Army, AFIT, AMC, and C-17 SG team to qualify Army's T-11 parachute for airdrop from C-17. Supported Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) aircraft useful life studies.

Aerospace Engineer | ATTLA (ASC/ENFC)

1996-2005, WPAFB, OH

Established air transport/airdrop standards and airworthiness processes for all cargo, aeromedical equipment, and personnel airdrop on cargo/tanker aircraft. Co-developed airworthiness requirements, joint service standards, and qualification procedures for aeromedical equipment. Developed airworthiness certification basis transportable personnel modules, allowing cargo aircraft to covertly transport personnel such as President of the United States (POTUS) and SecDef, transport patients with highly infectious diseases without contaminating the aircraft, and convert aircraft to flying command control center without changing aircraft design. Served as lead airdrop project engineer for the GBU-43/B Mother of All Bombs (MOAB) munition. Established new standards for personnel airdrop. Developed parachute ballistics for successful high altitude humanitarian airdrops in Bosnia and Afghanistan and developed/implemented rescue system that saved two jumpers. Project engineer that airlifted Keiko, the Free Willy orca whale, from Oregon to Iceland on the C-17. Served on source selection as advisor and evaluator for major USAF and Army programs. Represented USAF as principal member of the Joint Service Technical Airdrop Group, coordinating joint USAF, Army, Navy, Marine Corp (USMC) and Special Operations aerial delivery projects.

Prior to 1996

- Aerospace Engineer, C-17 Systems Program Office, WPAFB, OH
- Aerospace Engineer, ATTLA, WPAFB, OH
- Airdrop/Mechanical Engineer, US Army Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center, Natick, MA
- Wind Tunnel Test Engineer, Arnold Air Force Station (AFS), Tullahoma, TN

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