
H. Wayne Willhite



System of Systems/Mission Systems Integration (SoS/MSI) Lead Naval Air Systems Command

Mr. Willhite was appointed to a Department of the Navy Senior Level (SL) position in August 2015. He now serves as the System of Systems/Mission Systems Integration (SoS/MSI) Lead for the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). In this role, Mr. Willhite is responsible for developing technical expertise in people, processes, and products within the command, at the mission level. He will ensure mission criteria is included in NAVAIR systems engineering, test and logistics products.

Mr. Willhite has over 30 years of civilian Federal service. He began his career in 1985 in the field of laser system research, developing targeting and fire control systems. From 1996-1997, Mr. Willhite served as the science advisor to the Air Warfare Division of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV). In this capacity, he worked with the requirements officers for both aircraft and weapon systems to build future roadmaps. During his tenure in OPNAV, much of the air-to-ground image based precision targeting capability we now have was formulated.

In 2000, Mr. Willhite was selected as the “Time Critical Strike Focus Area Coordinator” for the Navy Warfare and Development Command. He reported directly to the Command’s Technical Director shaping Navy, Air Force, and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) efforts in the Time Critical Strike mission area.

From 2001-2008, Mr. Willhite led the Weapons Engagement Office (WEO). This office focused on the integration of Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) information to weapon systems. This work required the definition of, and validation methodology for, data used in air-to-ground weapon systems. The WEO is now the technical workforce and contract management for weapons quality geopositioning tools supporting both intelligence organizations and forward deployed terminal controllers among both the United States and Allied forces.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Willhite served as the NAVAIR Integration and Interoperability Chief Engineer working with Naval SYSCOMs, Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (COMOPTEVFOR) and United State Fleet Forces

(USFF) to perform mission level capability assessments. The resultant assessments are used by multiple commands to prioritize capability requirements.

Mr. Willhite earned a bachelor's of science degree in physics from Colorado State University in 1984. Mr. Willhite's professional recognition includes the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, NAVAIR Fellows, L.T.E. Thompson Award, and Michelson Laboratory Award.