
Mr. Nicholas W. Freije III

Senior Professional Engineer – Advanced Mission Systems General Atomics–Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI)



Mr. Nick Freije currently serves as a Senior Professional Engineer within the Agile Mission Systems (AMS) division at General Atomics–Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI). In this capacity, he supports Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) programs, focusing on system-of-systems (SoS) engineering, mission architecture, and operational assessments that advance the performance, interoperability, and mission readiness of GA-ASI's next-generation UAS platforms.

Prior to joining GA-ASI, Mr. Freije retired from the Department of the Navy (DoN) after 30 years of distinguished federal service. He served as a Senior Executive Service (SES) member as the Assistant Chief Engineer for Mission Architecture at the Naval Information Warfare Systems Command (NAVWAR), where he led the Navy's digital engineering transformation. In this role, he established enterprise-wide architecture and engineering policies governing Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR); Business/Information Technology (IT); and Space Systems. As the NAVWAR Chief Engineer's Deputy Warranting Officer (DWO) for Mission Engineering (ME) and Cyber Security (CS), he exercised technical authority across Information Warfare (IW), Cyber, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR), and Information Operations (IO) domains. Mr. Freije also served in the Senior Level (SL) position of Technical Director (TD) within NAVWAR's Fleet Readiness Directorate (FRD), where he acted as the NAVWAR Technical Authority (TA) for C4ISR operational issues and served as Senior Technical Advisor to the Fleet, Program Executive Office Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence/Space Systems (PEO C4I/Space Systems), Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS), and other government agencies.

Earlier in his career, he served as Chief Engineer for several major Navy programs, including the Automated Digital Network System (ADNS), Afloat Networks Program (ANP), and Consolidated Afloat Networks and Enterprise Services (CANES). As CANES Technical Director, he oversaw the establishment, definition, and execution of one of the Navy's most significant network modernization efforts.

Mr. Freije also held the Senior Scientific Technical Manager (SSTM) role at the Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Pacific, serving as Deputy Chief Engineer for Systems Engineering. There, he provided technical oversight for more than 800 projects executed by over 4,500 engineers and scientists, ensuring rigorous SE discipline across all phases of system development and testing.

Mr. Freije began his federal career at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC), where he provided key technical expertise for the automation of the 688 Fast Attack-class submarine radio room systems.

He holds an Associate of Science (A.S.) degree in Engineering from Broome Community College, a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Electrical Engineering (EE), and a Master of Science (M.S.) in Electrical Engineering (EE) from the University of Buffalo.