

James W. Wade, Ph.D.

Engineering and Mission Assurance Executive



Dr. James W. Wade has extensive experience in the aerospace and defense industry, spanning roles in government, federal research & development, education, and industry. Most recently he was the corporate vice president for Quality & Compliance at Raytheon Technologies. He collaborated with leadership in the areas of quality & mission assurance, engineering, supply chain, operations, and program management to deliver products and services that contributed to the customers' mission success. He joined the Raytheon Company in 2010 as vice president of Mission Assurance leading end-to-end Mission Assurance, Quality, Supplier Quality, and Continuous Improvement across the enterprise.

From 2006 to 2010, Jim was head of the MIT Lincoln Laboratory Safety and Mission Assurance Office, where he enhanced their system and component development capabilities in project hardware, software, integration and quality. He established the Laboratory's first Mission Assurance capability, which included the implementation of a quality management system compliant with the AS9100 industry standard.

From 1993 to 2006, Jim held critical leadership roles at NASA, including manager of the International Space Station Safety and Mission Assurance/Program Risk Office, and several technical and engineering positions. Along his other duties, Jim led and executed an integrated safety and risk analyses which confirmed the need to continue manning the ISS immediately following the Columbia accident.

Jim earned his doctorate in aerospace engineering sciences from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He also holds a master's degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from the University of Illinois, as well as both an MBA and an MS in space science from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. He received his bachelor's degree in physics from Gustavus Adolphus College.

Jim is a registered Professional Engineer, Texas, and an ASQ Certified Manager of Quality/Organizational Excellence. He received an Executive Certification in Technology, Operations and Value Chain Management from the MIT Sloan School of Management. He is a Certified Instrument Flight Instructor and a Commercial Pilot.