

Gary M. Kurtz



Assistant Commander for Acquisition Naval Air Systems Command

Mr. Gary Kurtz assumed the duties of assistant commander for Acquisition of the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) Program Management Competency (AIR 1.0) May 7, 2015. In that role, he is responsible for the management of seven departments and six program offices which execute more than 80 ACAT III-IV programs and Abbreviated Acquisition Programs assigned to the NAVAIR Commander at Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River, Maryland.

Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Kurtz served as the assistant commander for Corporate Operations and Total Force (AIR 7.0) for NAVAIR. His responsibilities encompassed the full array of NAVAIR command business operations for more than 26,000 civilian and military personnel. This included command administration; congressional liaison; total force planning and management; military and civilian human resource programs; security; public affairs and protocol services; business and financial management; and infrastructure business operations.

Mr. Kurtz began his career with NAVAIR in 1984, when he served as the logistics manager for the U.S. Navy's F/A-18 and SH-60 Foreign Military Sales (FMS) programs. In 1992, he was assigned as the FMS product support team leader for all F/A-18, P-3, SH-60, AH-1W and SH-2 FMS logistics programs, where he oversaw all logistics planning for the allied nations.

In 1995, Mr. Kurtz joined the F/A-18 Program Office (PMA-265) as the operations officer for F/A-18C/D operations. Two years later, he was appointed as the deputy program manager for the U.S. Naval Undergraduate Flight Training Systems Program Office (PMA-273), where he directed and managed the acquisition of the U.S. Navy's T-45 Advanced Jet Trainer and the T-6A Joint Primary Aircraft Trainer System (JPATS) programs.

In 2001, Mr. Kurtz became the director of Corporate Operations for the Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) at NAS Patuxent River, where he oversaw the delivery of corporate support services for more than 13,000 civilian and military personnel at NAWCAD's three operational sites.

In 2004, Mr. Kurtz was selected as NAVAIR's deputy assistant commander for Corporate Operations. During his tenure, he was responsible for developing and implementing strategies, plans and policies to execute command-wide corporate business management programs and held financial oversight of NAVAIR headquarters' annual operations budget.

Mr. Kurtz holds a Master of Science degree in management from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Since 1995, he has been a certified member of the Department of Defense Acquisition Professional Community, and in August 2007, he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service. In addition, he received the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 2000 and 2004.