
John C. Schaefer Jr.



Chief Engineer Strategic Systems Program

Mr. John C. (John) Schaefer, Jr. received a Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering (BEEE) from The City College of New York in 1977. Upon graduation, he held engineering positions with several commercial and defense contractors. He started his Civil Service career in 1980 at the Program Management Office, Strategic Systems Project Office (PMO-SSPO) in Great Neck, New York, as a General Engineer. In this position, he supported the TRIDENT Improved Accuracy Program (IAP) in the area of inertial navigation accuracy improvements and received several commendations for his innovative engineering and program management leadership.

In 1982, he joined the headquarters staff of the Navy's Strategic Systems Project Office in Washington, DC. Mr. Schaefer was assigned to the Non-Inertial Equipment Section of the Navigation Branch where he led the completion of the Improved Accuracy Program efforts in the area of navigation computer development. During TRIDENT II full-scale development, Mr. Schaefer provided leadership to the Navigation System computer hardware and software development. He was recognized for his early pioneering efforts in the implementation of structured software development. Mr. Schaefer received the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service medal for his efforts in supporting the highly successful deployment of the TRIDENT II Strategic Weapon System.

In July 1992, Mr. Schaefer in support of the TRIDENT Navigation Commonality Program (TNCP) led the design, development and production of the TNCP unique equipment, which was the first significant use of Commercial-Off-the-Shelf (COTS) components and technologies in the strategic navigation system. In 1994, Mr. Schaefer received a Special Act Award and the Navy's Superior Civilian Service medal for his efforts in the successful implementation of TNCP in the TRIDENT I fleet.

In 1994, Mr. Schaefer received a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) from The American University. In 1995, Mr. Schaefer was selected to the position of Navigation Equipment Section Head in the Navigation Branch. In 1997, he became the Navigation Chief Engineer and provided leadership to all navigation technical efforts.

In 1998, Mr. Schaefer was selected for the Senior Executive Service and assumed the position of Assistant for Fire Control and Guidance Systems. In this position he was responsible for life cycle support for all aspects of the Nation's sea based strategic fire control and guidance systems.

In 2001, Mr. Schaefer was assigned to the position of Technical Plans Officer for Navy Strategic Systems Programs. In this position, he was responsible for establishing and directing research and development programs required to maintain the viability of the sea-based nuclear deterrent; directing Strategic Systems Programs efforts in support of programs where Strategic Systems Programs is a participating or supporting program office such as SSGN; and providing executive leadership for the Navy for all matters relating to Arms Control Treaty implementation and compliance.

In January 2004, Mr. Schaefer became the Chief Engineer for Navy Strategic Systems Programs. The Chief Engineer, Strategic Systems Programs, is responsible for the management of all technical disciplines and controls for the research, development and total acquisition of the strategic weapons system.

Mr. Schaefer is a member of the Navy's Acquisition Professional Community and is certified to Level III in several career fields. He is married and resides in Stafford, Virginia with his wife and one child.