

Robert P. Lyons, Jr.



Robert P. Lyons, Jr., is a technical and management consultant and educator with over 35 years of experience in research and development, engineering, program planning, acquisition, and maintenance for a wide range of military and commercial systems. His clients include Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Support Systems Associates Inc., and Kodak, among others. He retired from the United States Air Force as a Colonel after serving as Director, HQ Air Force Materiel Command Acquisition (AFMC) Center of Excellence (ACE). There he worked in concert with the Secretary of the Air Force's ACE and led a hand-picked, multi-disciplined team of acquisition professionals in the Headquarters and AFMC Product, Logistics, and Test Centers and Laboratory responsible for driving innovation, challenging and radically changing processes, and helping acquisition and sustainment programs across the USAF.

Mr. Lyons worked on nuclear instrumentation, solid state electron devices, and microwave systems in three USAF laboratories. He led software development for the World Wide Military Command and Control Information System. Mr. Lyons also was the Deputy Director, Integrated Engineering and Technical Management for Aeronautical Systems Center's 2400 engineers. He was the Avionics and Software Integrated Product Team Leader for the F-22, the Deputy Program Director for the F-15, the Program Director for the X-32 Joint Strike Fighter, and Director, Joint Strike Fighter Engineering and Manufacturing Development leading acquisition planning for the F-35 program.

Mr. Lyons earned his bachelor's degree (with honors) from New Mexico State University and his master's degree (Commandant's Award for exceptional thesis research) from the Air Force Institute of Technology, both in electrical engineering. He is a graduate of Squadron Officer's School, Air Command and Staff College, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Industrial College of the Armed Forces (National Security Management Program), the Defense Systems Management College, and the Carnegie Mellon Executive Development Course. He holds certificates in Process Mastery from Hammer and Co.; Leading Change and Organizational Renewal from Harvard Business School and Stanford Graduate School of Business; Advanced Project Management from Stanford University; and Corporate Governance from Tulane Law School. He teaches Digital Avionics Architectures and Software Management at the University of California at Los Angeles. He also teaches project, program, and risk management classes.

Mr. Lyons served for six years on the National Defense Industrial Association's Combat Survivability Division's Board of Directors, and he is currently the Associate Vice President of Technical Operations and member of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers' (IEEE) Aerospace and Electronics Systems Society (AESS). He also represents the Institute on the joint International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) and IEEE AESS Systems Council. Mr. Lyons is also a member of the American Society for Quality, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Project Management Institute.