

Guest Speaker: Dr. Steve Pluntze



Dr. Steve Pluntze is the Executive Director of the Space Systems Command International Affairs (IA) Office. This office forms part of the Force Design and Architecture Integration functions, which build the overall Space Enterprise Architecture and determine how allied partners are integrated within military space mission areas, such as navigation or weather, and aligned with various cross mission endeavors such as cross mission data and cross mission ground. The office uses international, inter-agency, commercial and academic sources to discover those with the means to either add directly to the capability of the US Space Enterprise Architecture or to help improve the space capabilities of our friends and allies around the world. The IA office leverages the work of US military installations and combat commands.

Dr Pluntze retired from active Air Force duty as a Colonel in 2011.

After retirement, Dr. Pluntze worked as Senior Scientist, Parsons Corp, El Segundo, CA. He served as program manager for the Parsons contract in SMC/EN, the SMC Engineering Directorate, and was assigned to roles in business development and proposal management. He moved from Parsons to Tecolote early in 2016 and then to government service in May, 2016. At Tecolote, he worked for the Director of MILSATCOM in planning the strategic direction of the MILSATCOM Directorate. Dr. Pluntze graduated from the US Air Force Academy in 1982 with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering, and eventually returned as Asst Prof of Aeronautics, and adjunct Mathematics instructor. After graduation, he was assigned to Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and flew B-52s and F-16s as a flight test engineer, mainly for the first installment of GPS in Air Force aircraft. He was on the launch team for two of the first GPS satellites.