

Keven Gambold (Squadron Leader RAF Retd.)



Keven Gambold completed a BSc in Psychology and Philosophy at Durham University, England and attended Royal Air Force Officer Training in 1992. After flying training on T-37B, T-38A and Hawk TMk1, he was posted to the Tornado GR4. During 2 tours on the aircraft, Keven participated in OP WARDEN (Turkey), OP BOLTON (Kuwait), OP ENGADINE (Kosovo), where he was awarded a Mention in Dispatches, and OP IRAQI FREEDOM, launching the Stormshadow Air-Launched Cruise Missile. He was the Squadron Electronic Warfare Instructor, Laser Targeting Pod lead, a 4-ship lead, Instrument Rating Examiner and the Training Officer. With full Electro-Optical qualifications, he completed the Tactical Leadership Program, Maple and Green Flags and 14 months in Kuwait. Keven completed his tour with over 1500 hours on the Tornado fleet.

Keven volunteered for the Combined Joint Predator Task Force in April 2004 and was posted to Nellis and Creech Air Force Bases, Nevada, USA. Whilst working on the Predator, Keven logged over 1500 hours combat flying, with two deployments to Launch-Recovery Elements, the second as the inaugural Squadron Commander at Tallil Air Base, Iraq, which involved the design, establishment, implementation and command of a new UAS unit at a novel airport. This included all aspects of structural layout, communications, operations, airspace integration, frequency management and engineering. He has operated UAS from deployed locations and numerous airfields.

Keven was fortunate enough to lead a successful 6-month flight trials program for the first ever Multi-Aircraft Control (MAC) system. As Chief of Standards & Evaluation, he wrote and mentored UAS standards, novel CONOPs and training packages, subsequently adopted by all UAS squadrons throughout USAF and USANG. Additionally, he was a member of the cross-industry Advanced Cockpit Working Group, undertaking numerous surveys of current practices and standards to assist in software spiral developments and cockpit improvements.

Keven has chaired several global UAS Conferences and Workshops and has written and broadcast numerous Webinars, the most recent of which covers UAS Integration into complex airspace. Keven has also written and taught numerous international UAS training course and has produced a significant number of online training modules.

In his role as Director for the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators (North America)'s Technical Aviation and Safety Committee, Keven has published peer-reviewed papers on UAS operations in the civil sector, swarm operations and on Human-Machine Interfaces. In addition, he was an active member of (the late) RTCA SC-203, which was tasked to inform the FAA on safe UAS standards and best practices in the civilian sphere.

Gambold has a JAA Commercial Pilots License, a Masters in Aeronautical Science (Aeronautics Operations) from Embry-Riddle and is a doctoral candidate with Liberty University. He is a current PMP and a member of AUVSI, PMI, Chartered Management Institution, RTCA, AOPA and SAFE. He is a published business author and a contributor to numerous human factor books and publications. Keven is now a US Citizen and holds a Secret Clearance.

As a founding member of Unmanned Experts Inc. Keven currently holds the position of Chief Executive Officer at the UxS global consultancy, training and R&DTE firm. During his ten years with the small technology firm, Gambold has been the Principal Investigator for six Phase II programs in support of the National Institute of Justice, the USDA, USAF and NASA. Keven successfully led the recent NASA Advanced Air Mobility National Campaign X4+ project through to live flight test and is currently running numerous software development and hardware integration projects across various domains.

Keven is married, and lives in the USA with three manic children and a fish.