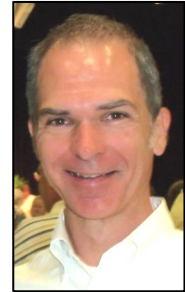




Mr. Fred Kelso is Division Chief, Mission Assurance, Missile Defense Agency.

Mr. Kelso has been a member of MDA's Mission Assurance team in Huntsville, Alabama for the past nine years, working first in the Targets & Countermeasures Program Office and now serving as Chief of Mission Assurance, a division which includes both the Quality and the Parts, Materials, and Processes divisions.



Prior to coming to MDA, he was a Mission Assurance Engineer at ATK in Elkton, Maryland, working on MDA's Kinetic Energy Interceptor and NASA's Constellation program.

Mr. Kelso has served as a FOD Champion and a Lean Manufacturing / 5S instructor.

As a Mission Assurance professional, he has traveled widely to manufacturing facilities throughout the DoD supply chain to collaborate on success-oriented initiatives, as well as to numerous missile launch sites to provide oversight for MDA target operations as part of BMDS intercept tests.

Before discovering the wonderful world of Mission Assurance, Mr. Kelso was a composite materials engineer, working in industry with a variety of material systems on products as diverse as jet engine thrust reversers, suspension bridge wind fairings, Coanda effect wind turbine blades, and communication satellite bus structures.

While at GE Aviation in Middle River, Maryland (formerly Lockheed Martin Aero & Naval Systems) he conducted hands-on manufacturing classes for technicians entering the field of advanced composites.

Mr. Kelso holds a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Penn State University and a Master of Civil Engineering degree from Johns Hopkins University.

He is a disciple of the Lean Manufacturing concept of gemba, believing that the most important place to do value-added Quality, Safety, and Mission Assurance work is on the shop floor or at other "front line" locations.