

## STEVE THACHER

### Profile

Mr. Thacher is an Executive Consultant with Suss Consulting. He was responsible for the day-to-day worldwide operations of the predecessor contract to DISA GSM-O and has over thirty years of experience in telecommunications and information systems program management, strategic planning, system integration, and systems acquisition, in both the DOD and commercial sectors.

### Relevant Experience

Prior to joining Suss Consulting, Mr. Thacher served as Senior Vice President and Operations Manager for the Enterprise and Mission Solutions (E&MS) Business Unit, under the Defense Solutions (DSG) Group within SAIC. He was responsible for managing the DGS Program with profit and loss responsibilities in excess of \$450M a year. As the DGS Program Manager, he was responsible for the day-to-day worldwide operations under the DISN Global Solutions (DGS) contract, responsible for management of support services for the engineering, installation, and operations of the worldwide Defense Information Systems Network (DISN) of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). Responsibilities included worldwide operations of a 1500-person work force, business development, proposal development, and day-to-day management of multi-million-dollar major task orders involving life cycle support of the DISN.

In his 30-year career in the Army, Mr. Thacher served in a variety of executive level positions involving communications, program management and DOD acquisition. As the Deputy Director, Acquisition Department and Director, Telecommunications and Information Systems Industry Study, Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF), he managed the development, implementation and administration of DOD's premier Senior Acquisition Program. He directed the college's strategic study of the telecommunications and information integration industries, focusing on global competitiveness, technology trends, corporate strategies, software development, and government requirements, and acquisition practices.

While assigned to the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), as Deputy Director, Integrated Telecommunications Directorate and Program Manager, Defense Information Systems Network (DISN), he managed the design, development, acquisition, fielding, operations, and evaluation of DOD's state-of-the-art, command and control, strategic voice, data, messaging and video-teleconferencing systems. This included the Defense Message System (DMS), the Defense Data Network, (DDN), the Defense Switched Network (DSN), the Defense Red Switched Network (DRSN), and the Defense Information Systems Network (DISN). He led the joint task force that developed the strategy and transition plan to evolve the many independent DOD telecommunications networks into one totally integrated Defense Information Systems Network (DISN).

As the Commander, 1110th Signal Battalion, Steve directed programs, facilities and people providing strategic, fixed site automation and telecommunications systems in support of the President and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Managed a 500 civilian and military person workforce. Successfully managed over 25 ongoing technical projects including software and equipment upgrades of the AUTODIN messaging system in preparation for DMS implementation, technical control facilities upgrades for strategic and tactical satellite systems, Washington-Moscow Hotline satellite station replacement, and HF radio station and antenna installation. The 1110<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion was selected as an Army "Superior Unit" for 1989.

### Education

MS, Industrial Engineering, University of Florida  
BS, Chemistry; University of Wisconsin  
National Security Policy; U.S. Army War College  
Senior Acquisition Course; Industrial College of the Armed Forces  
Program Management Course; Defense Systems Management College

### **Certifications**

Army Level III certified acquisition professional (Program management & contracting)  
ITIL V3 Foundation Certified  
Army Acquisition Corps: US Army