

Past Chiefs Air Force Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) Program

The History of the Man Tech Division dates back to 1947 when it was the Manufacturing Methods Unit of the Industrial Planning Division.

The Air Force Systems Command was established in 1961. Materials Central became the Directorate of Materials and Process, though for many years it was still called Materials Central. At that time the Manufacturing Methods Division of the Aeronautical Systems Center became the fifth laboratory of Materials Central (Manufacturing Technology Laboratory).

Past Chiefs of ManTech

1961 – 1962 Col Charles F. H. Begg – Chief, Manufacturing Technology Laboratory, Materials Central

-Col Begg was with the group when it moved to the Manufacturing Technology Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

1962 – 1968 Director, Crew and Aerospace Equipment Subsystems Engineering, Aeronautical Systems Division

1962 – 1963 Lt Col A. B. Hughes, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Laboratory, Directorate of Materials and Processes, Materials Central (Materials Central officially became the Directorate of Materials and Processes, but was still called Materials Central by most).

Notable Positions after ManTech:

-Nothing further known.

1963 - 1967 Col Melvin Fields, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech:

-Journal of the Armed Forces indicates in 1967 he retired as Chief of the Man Tech Division

1967 – 1968 Lt Col George Brock, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech:

1974 - 1976 Commander, Seiler Research Laboratory, and a member of the Air Force Academy Staff.

1968 – 1969 Col George Orton, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech:

1969 – 1980 Professor of Engineering, University of Puerto Rico

1970 – 1971 Col Richard Quimby, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech:

It is believed he retired from the Air Force in 1971

1971 – 1974 George Peterson, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Notable Positions after Man Tech:

1974 - 1977 Director of Materials Laboratory

1977 – 1980 Deputy Director of the Wright Aeronautical Laboratories

1980 - 1985 Director of the Materials Laboratory

1983 – Third person ever awarded Lifetime Honorary Membership in the Society for Advancement of Materials and Process Engineering (SAMPE)

1985 – Elected to National Academy of Engineering

2019 – Inducted into the Engineering and Science Hall of Fame.

1974 - 1982 Jim Mattice, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Anecdote:

-In the 1950's Jim was tailback and defensive linebacker for the undefeated Central Catholic Rams Oregon State Championship High School football team. Prides himself on having tackled (several times) the opponent's running back, Merrill McPeak, the future Chief of Staff of the Air Force, in the championship game.

Notable Positions after ManTech.

1982 – 1985 Deputy Director Flight Dynamics Laboratory

1985 – 1988 Deputy Director, Air Force Wright Aeronautical Laboratories

1988 – 1990 Director Development Planning, Aeronautical Systems Center

1990 – 1992 Executive Director, Aeronautical Systems Center

1992 – 1995 Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Research and Engineering, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition

1995 - ? Senior Executive in residence at the Federal Executive Institute

1983 – 1985 Dr. Gary Denman, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

1985 – 1988 Director of Materials Laboratory

1988 - 1991 Deputy Director of Air Force Wright Aeronautical Laboratories

1991 - 1997 Director of DARPA

1997 - 2000 Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of GRCI

1986 – Nathan Tupper, Acting Chief until Dr. Russo showed up.

Notable Positions after ManTech

-Nothing further known

1987 - 1988, Dr Vince Russo, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory

Anecdote:

-Anchored the University of Rochester's football team's offensive and defensive line in the early 60's (from "Science and Technology: The Making of the Air Force Research Laboratory").

Notable Positions after ManTech

Prior to ManTech 1986-1987, Acting Deputy Director, Air Force Propulsion Laboratory
1988 – 1990 Director of the Air Force Materials Laboratory
1990 – 1991 Acting Deputy Director, Wright Laboratory
1991 – 1996 Director, Materials Directorate, Wright Laboratory
1996 - 1997 Deputy Director, Wright Laboratory
1997 – 1998 Director, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory
1998 - 2003 Executive Director, Aeronautical Systems Center
2004 – 2015 Executive Advisor, Office of the President, University of Dayton
2010 – President, chairman, and co-founder of Air Camp, Inc.

Manufacturing Technology Division became a separate Directorate under Air Force Wright Aeronautical Laboratory about the 3rd quarter of 1988 and picked up important expansion in scope to manage including AF Industrial Base Assessment Program and DOD Defense Production Act Title I and III.

1988 – 1997 Bill Kessler, Executive Director, Manufacturing Technology Directorate, Air Force Wright Aeronautical Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

1997 – 2006 VP of Enterprise Productivity at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics
2006 – 2015 Georgia Tech Professor of the Practice focused on the University theme of Enterprise Transformation
2006 – CEO Palisades Enterprises LLC - Tech support to Industry and Government on planning and executing Enterprise transformation

ManTech was folded back into Materials and Manufacturing Laboratory

1997 - 1998 Dr. Charlie Browning, Chief, Manufacturing Technology Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

1998 – 2005 Director, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory
2006 – 2017 Present Chairman of Chemical and Materials Engineering Dept, University of Dayton (not sure if this is exact title).

1999 – 2002 Dan McDermott, Chief Manufacturing Technology Division, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

2002 – 2007 Technical Director, Systems Support Division, Air Force Materials and Manufacturing Directorate
2007 – 2011 Deputy Division Chief, Systems Support Division, Air Force Materials and Manufacturing Directorate.

-Retired in 2011 as Deputy Division Chief of Systems Support Division

2002 – 2007 John Mistretta, Chief Manufacturing Technology Division, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

2007 - ? Technical Director, Air Armament Center (ACC/EN)

? - 2012 Chief of Strategic Systems. Armament Directorate

2012 – 2016 Program Manager for the B61-12 Life Extension Program

2007– 2012 Persis Elwood, Chief, Manufacturing and Technology Division, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

2012 – Present Innovation Project Manager at Wright Brothers Institute

2012 – 2017 Dr. Rollie Dutton, Chief, Manufacturing and Industrial Technologies Division, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

2017 - Present Universal Technology Corporation

2017 – 2021 Dr. Chuck Ward, Chief, Manufacturing and Industrial Technologies Division, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech

2021 – Present Dr. Charles D. Ormsby, Chief, Manufacturing and Industrial Technologies Division, Materials and Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory

Notable Positions after ManTech