

Chris Jella - Bio

Chris Jella is a retired Lieutenant Colonel from the United States Air Force with 22 years of commissioned service. His last 10 years were spent on the Global Hawk program in Research, Development, Operations, Management, and Training Development. He served as the Director of Squadron Operations during Operations ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM, and finished his career as the squadron commander for the RQ-4A Formal Training Unit at Beale AFB. He logged 2500 hours as a pilot of the KC-135R and 1500 hours as the first USAF pilot on the RQ-4 Global Hawk. The concepts associated with Ground-based Sense-and-Avoid utilizing FAA radar systems was first suggested and used at Beale AFB as early as 2002, but has taken until now for full functionality to become a reality.