

Steve Suddarth is the Director of the FPGA Mission Assurance Center. As such, he is responsible for leading a funded collaboration between Academe, Government and Industry to ensure design success and deployment of programmable logic in space, military and civil applications.

A retired Air Force Colonel with 24 years of service, Dr. Suddarth served his last assignment as the liaison from U.S. Strategic Command to the National Laboratories. Located in Los Alamos, NM, Col Suddarth initiated and oversaw a development team for key technologies in the war on terror, creating and leading a team of 60 people spanning four sites.

Steve has also served in key leadership capacities in the Air Force Research Laboratory, Air Force Materiel Command, and the Air War College. In these, Dr. Suddarth organized, led and contributed to several efforts within the Air Force to rejuvenate interest and investment in technology, assembling plans to expand graduate education by a factor of 5, restoring the Air Force Institute of Technology. Further efforts included developing a course of instruction that is in wide use within the Air Force for the indoctrination and instruction of incoming scientists and engineers, while contributing to current war efforts as well as demonstrating a data-sharing capability among fighter aircraft.

Dr. Suddarth has led as well as participated technically on several substantial computer engineering/embedded systems projects. These include the development of a first-ever 3-dimensional mixed analog/digital image processor operating 3 orders of magnitude faster than state-of-the-art, build and test of several airborne optical sensing systems, robotics systems to include small unmanned helicopters, and software systems for a large military space program.

Steve is a 1982 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy (B.S. in Electrical Engineering and Humanities), and he holds an M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington. Steve is also a graduate of the Brazilian Air Command and Staff College, U.S. Joint Forces Staff College, and the U.S. Air War College. He has authored over 20 papers, and is fluent in French and Portuguese.

Steve and his wife Deborah are proud parents of their children, Mary and Sam.