

Scott Bledsoe
1994 BSAE
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Scott Bledsoe is President of Blue Force Technologies Inc., an aerospace vehicle design and fabrication company in the Research Triangle Park (Durham, NC). Born in Winston-Salem, he realized at a young age he wanted to pursue a career in aerospace and decided to enroll in NC State's aerospace engineering program. Upon graduation, Bledsoe took a position with Naval Air Systems Command at Cherry Point, NC working on the AV-8B Harrier II. This exposed him to composite structures and the difficult problems encountered by in-service support. Subsequently, Bledsoe spent three years in Naples, Italy providing on-site engineering services to a wide variety of Navy and Marine Corps aircraft deployed in the Mediterranean Sea and Persian Gulf. After his return to the US, Bledsoe took a position with Burt Rutan's legendary Scaled Composites in Mojave, CA, a firm known for innovative rapid development programs such as SpaceShipOne and the Global Flyer. Bledsoe served as a Project Engineer leading the design and fabrication of several novel aircraft structures and was promoted to Engineering Manager charged with helping recruit and retain talented engineers. After five years at Scaled, Bledsoe went to Icon Aircraft, where he performed configuration layout and initial aerodynamics work on the prototype Icon A5. Following this low-speed aircraft program, Bledsoe joined Gulfstream's Supersonics Program as Project Engineer, where he led the build of a novel full-scale fixed-geometry supersonic inlet test article, and developed an appreciation for the complexities of high speed flight. In 2010, Bledsoe decided to start his own business, and founded Blue Force Technologies in the Raleigh-Durham area with the intention of tapping into the highly talented flow of engineering graduates from NC State. At Blue Force, he has grown the company to over eighty employees, working more than 80 projects for more than 50 unique customers in ten years. Blue Force components fly on over 1,000 aircraft, and Bledsoe has personally led 12 major development projects from space, rotorcraft, electric VTOL, and jet powered UAS sectors. Bledsoe lives in Raleigh with his wife of 21 years and three daughters.