

David Royo has been in the aviation industry for over 25 years. A retired US naval aviator, David flew P-3 Orions conducting anti-submarine warfare, and was a naval flight instructor. Upon leaving the Navy, David flew with American Airlines for a short period prior to joining the US Dept. of Homeland Security working in areas of aviation system requirements, strategic planning, and safety management. David also worked in flight test and was the test manager for the evaluation of the MQ-9 Predator in a maritime search role for DHS. He has worked with the MQ-9 since 2010 and helped establish the protocols for combining high-endurance, manned and unmanned flight operations in a unified flight department. He has flown all over the world and has amassed more than 10,000 flight hours in multiple aircraft. David currently heads the D.A. Royo Group, a private consulting firm specializing in safety management for unmanned systems and developing strong safety cultures.