



- Recruiting the right people
- Training future JTACs
- Program management and administrative support

CASE STUDY

JTAC and SUAS Programs

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From the start of the War on Terror, the U.S. Air Force has seen a growing demand for Close Air Support (CAS) of Special Forces Operations. The mission of Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) Special Tactics Groups (STG) is to train, organize, and equip Special Tactics (ST) forces for rapid worldwide employment in support of U.S. air and ground forces.

AFSOC jointly trains ST personnel in CAS and Terminal Air Control (TAC). The force is required to rapidly deploy to provide the Combatant Commanders the ability to project air and ground forces to any region of the world.

As the demand for CAS and SUAS (Small Unmanned Aircraft System) support has grown, so too has the number of qualified JTACs (Joint Terminal Attack Controllers) and the need for certified instructors to handle the increased training requirements. A JTAC is a qualified service member who from a forward position directs the action of combat aircraft engaged in CAS and other offensive air operations.



CYBERSECURITY

OBXtek employs experts in RMF and A&A, using proven techniques to eliminate unnecessary risk and protect the confidentiality of your data.

ENTERPRISE IT SERVICE MANAGEMENT

OBXtek has the expertise to accurately scope, design, implement, and manage IT.

IT ENGINEERING

OBXtek delivers a forward thinking, full lifecycle approach of strategy, assessment, architecture, deployment, and maintenance.

SOFTWARE, CLOUD AND MOBILITY

OBXtek's flexible CMMI Level 3 approach results in forward leaning, cost-effective, and secure applications.

TRAINING AND LOGISTICS

From logistics, training, and professional services, our logistics practice experts turn data into actionable insights to solve real-world problems.

ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Our acquisition and program management activities work hand in glove to ensure proper planning, acquisition, and execution of requirements to support your program.

CHALLENGE:

AFSOC has a high rate of turnover from deployments, permanent change of station (PCS), promotions, and separation of active duty members. The rate of turnover has impacted the continuity and sustainment of the JTAC program, specifically in training, growth, and management.

With their active duty JTACs deployed, AFSOC needs a qualified external partner who can manage the overall program; from overseeing JTAC upgrades, ensuring the continuity and development of training programs, and managing compliance with AFSOC and USSOCOM (U.S. Special Operations Command) regulations. Highly specialized instructors are also needed to train future JTAC and SUAS operators who are Combat Mission Ready (CMR).

AFSOC requires all personnel on the contract to maintain unique qualifications, specifically a JTAC-I currency. Personnel should have held or exceeded a JTAC instructor qualification and should possess two years Special Operations Forces (SOF) background or have augmented SOF two years cumulative as a JTAC during operational deployments. Along with providing instructors, the external partner is tasked with providing administrative support for the entire program.

SOLUTION:

As a qualified external partner, OBXtek provides direct support to 11 of AFSOC's Special Tactics Groups and Special Tactics Squadrons by training, managing, and providing oversight to all aspects of the Joint Terminal Attack Control program.

As with many OBXtek solutions, finding the right people is key. The contract calls for personnel who would fill one of three types of highly specialized positions: JTAC Instructors, Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (SUAS) program manager, and Simulator Operators. Overall, the positions included JTAC, JTAC-Instructor (I), JTAC- Standardization/Evaluation Examiner (SEE), Close Air Support (CAS) simulator operations, SUAS pilot, SUAS simulator operations, and SUAS instructor duties on local and off-station ranges.

OBXtek provides AFSOC with highly specialized and qualified personnel who can manage the overall program, ensure continuity of the training program, instruct and certify JTACs who can go anywhere in the world and perform JTAC operations.

The estimated number of JTACs supported each year is over 500. OBXtek is instrumental in providing the squadron support for the mission down range. We provide the continuity and training needed to sustain the program and continue training the new JTACs across AFSOC.