

Joseph Swann III

San Diego, CA | [linkedin.com/in/joseph-swann](https://www.linkedin.com/in/joseph-swann) | swann3.com

PROFILE

Operational leader with 20+ years directing complex SONAR and autonomous systems programs in high-stakes defense environments. Seeking a management position to formalize business and strategic leadership capabilities, with the goal of transitioning into executive roles that bridge emerging technology and organizational management. Brings a proven record of leading cross-functional teams, managing multi-million-dollar programs, and driving measurable performance outcomes across global operations.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Unmanned Surface Vessel Squadron 3, San Diego, CA

May 2025 – Present

Experimentation & Operations Manager, Autonomous Systems

- Lead end-to-end technical operations for an experimental autonomous surface vessel (USV) program, integrating hardware, software, and sensor fusion systems to deliver fleet-ready capabilities.
- Serve as primary liaison between product engineering and deployed operations teams; collect stakeholder inputs across defense contractors and research institutions and translate them into executable technical solutions.
- Direct high-stakes independent missions requiring real-time problem-solving, hardware/software troubleshooting, and on-site decision-making in dynamic, resource-constrained environments.
- Manage multi-stakeholder program initiatives ensuring on-time delivery of milestones across geographically dispersed organizations.

Naval Special Warfare Advanced Training Command, Coronado, CA

Nov 2023 – May 2025

Technology Operations Manager, UAV/ISR Systems

- Managed operations, maintenance, and sustainment for an advanced UAV platform portfolio; sustained 100% operational readiness across all assigned systems.
- Designed and implemented technical training programs for operators and maintainers; standardized procedures improving operator proficiency and mission efficiency.
- Applied data-driven root cause analysis using telemetry logs and system data to resolve recurring mission-impacting faults on complex autonomous systems.

Surface Development Group One, San Diego, CA

Nov 2020 – Nov 2023

Director of Technology Integration & Operations

- Led a department of 15 technical professionals overseeing autonomous systems maintenance, training curriculum, and operational readiness across multiple geographically dispersed units.
- Championed integration of emerging autonomy technologies with research and engineering partners; reduced operational costs by 25% while accelerating capability delivery.
- Established IP network architecture and MANET/SATCOM communications infrastructure supporting forward-deployed operations in austere environments.
- Directed international technology demonstration program coordinating logistics and stakeholder engagement across 63 partner nations for a multi-million-dollar capability portfolio.
- Received executive-level commendation for technical leadership and measurable improvements to autonomous systems operational performance.

Various Forward-Deployed Operations, Global

Aug 2006 – Nov 2023

Senior Technical Operations Manager, UAV/ISR/SONAR/MANET

- 17 years of progressive leadership managing UAV/UAS/USV/SONAR platforms and autonomous systems in operationally relevant, austere, and deployed environments worldwide.
- Maintained 99.8% operational uptime across pre/post-flight inspections, sensor payload management, and real-time systems monitoring.
- Established forward-deployed operations from the ground up in austere environments: IP networking, MANET communications, SATCOM backhaul, and autonomous systems sustainment under resource-constrained conditions.
- Trained and mentored cross-functional teams of 20+ operators and maintainers on UAV/UAS/USV/SONAR systems while consistently achieving superior readiness.

EDUCATION

University of Southern California	May 2027
Master of Business for Veterans	
Thomas Edison State University	June 2026
Bachelor of Science, Military Technology Leadership (GPA 4.0)	
U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy	June 2023
Organizational Leadership	

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Blessed and Highly Favored (published book)	2026
USDOL Counselor (Professional & Kindred)	2026
PMI Project Management Professional (PMP)	Valid through 2029
Lean Six Sigma Green Belt	2025
Professional Scrum Master Professional Agile Leadership	2025
CompTIA Security+	Valid through 2030
CompTIA Network+	Valid through 2030
Harvard Business School Non-Profit Management Development Program	2026
Resilience-Building Leadership Professional Trainer Certification	Valid through 2029
Rutgers Supply Chain Logistics Certification	2025
OSHA 30-Hour	2025

SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Leadership & management: cross-functional team leadership, program management (PMP), Agile/Scrum, Lean Six Sigma, strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, technical training and development, building relationships with international partners.

Technology: autonomous systems integration (UAV/UAS/USV), IP networking, MANET/SATCOM, sensor fusion/ISR, avionics/GCS systems, data-driven root cause analysis, Python (working knowledge).

Business: risk management, mission planning, cost reduction, international operations, multi-stakeholder coordination.