



Francis X Govers III

Special Missions Manager

Airship Ventures

Francis grew up in a small town called Houma, Louisiana, sixty miles south of New Orleans. He started his career as a Space Communications Specialist in the US Air Force, and after getting out of the service and finishing college at Texas State University, he worked at NASA as one of the lead engineers on the International Space Station. Other notable positions have included Director of the TASC Advanced Simulation Laboratory, Head of Flight Simulation for F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and inventor of the

Decision Support Center for SGI. Francis has an extensive background in unmanned vehicles, as the Deputy Chief Engineer for Unmanned Ground Vehicles for the US Army's Future Combat Systems, a participant in the first DARPA Grand Challenge race, a part of the DARPA EATR team, and as Chief Engineer for Elbit Systems of America. He is the designer of over 20 unmanned vehicles – land, sea, and air. He is a commercial rated pilot, and was on the Board of Directors of the National Space Society. Today, Francis Govers is the Special Missions Manager for Airship Ventures, the operators of the Zeppelin Airship "Eureka".

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