

RICKY KNOWLES

Vice President of Business Operations & Quality

M.B.A., University of Florida

M.S. Project Management, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

B.S. Aerospace Engineering, U.S. Naval Academy



Ricky Knowles is the Vice President of Business Operations & Quality, responsible for supply chain, enterprise quality, and corporate services such as facilities, security, safety and global trade controls. This role also manages enterprise-wide processes and business transformation initiatives.

Ricky joined Insitu in 2013 and has held a variety of positions in Program Management and Operations. Most recently he was the Director of Production Planning & Supply Chain and prior to that he served as Program Manager for the RQ-21A Blackjack Program, leading a portfolio of acquisition, sustainment, production and development projects under the

Program of Record. During his time at Insitu, he has also led several other domestic and international ScanEagle programs.

Before joining Insitu, Ricky served 10 years as a Naval Aviator flying over 1,500 hours in the EP-3 and P-3C aircraft. As Pilot and Mission Commander, Ricky conducted Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions in the Middle East, Europe, and Western Pacific. Ricky's operational tour was with the VQ-1 in Whidbey Island, Washington, and instructor tour at VP-30 in Jacksonville, Florida. Prior to leaving the Navy, he was a Secretary Joint Staff (SJS) Officer at the U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Florida, where he earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his service to the 4-star Command Group.

A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Ricky also holds a Master of Science degree in Project Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Florida and has completed the Advanced Executive Certification Program in Management, Innovation & Technology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Ricky is a multi-engine rated commercial pilot and flight instructor (CFII) and a Certified Supply Chain Professional (CSCP). He is a native of White Salmon, Washington where he currently serves on the Board of Directors for Skyline Hospital.