

**Colonel (Retired) Stephen ‘Lux’ Luxion**

Colonel (Retired) Stephen P. Luxion is the ASSURE (Alliance for System Safety of UAS through Research Excellence). Associate Director, working from Mississippi State University’s Stennis Space Center Campus. Steve is responsible for the day-to-day administrative, financial and technical operations of ASSURE which serves as the Federal Aviation Administration’s Center of Excellence for UAS.

Lux is a 34-year US Air Force veteran with over 2,500 hours flying time in the F-111 Aardvark, MQ-1B Predator UAV; and the F-14A Tomcat and EA-6B Prowler while on exchange with the US Navy; including 700 hours combat time in operations over Iraq, Bosnia, and Afghanistan. For his combat efforts, Colonel Luxion was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for Valor, 4 Air Metals, and 7 Aerial Achievement Medals.



Steve is originally from Crofton, MD. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1984. Colonel Luxion commanded the 17<sup>th</sup> Reconnaissance Squadron, the nation’s first armed UAV squadron, the 608<sup>th</sup> Air Operations Group, the operations arm of the “Mighty Eighth,” and helped lead the establishment of NATO’s first Aerospace Center of Excellence. Steve retired from the US Air Force in 2014 from his last assignment at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach where he commanded the Reserve Officers Training Program.

Colonel Luxion is a distinguished graduate of both the USAF Fighter Weapons School and Air Command and Staff College. He is also a graduate of Master Degree programs from Embry-Riddle, the School of Advanced Airpower Studies, and the National War College.