

Ron Ross

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Ron Ross is the Founder and CEO of RONROSSECURE, a cybersecurity advisory services company. He is currently a Fellow at Dartmouth Institute for Security, Technology, and Society and a technical advisor to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. His focus areas include cybersecurity, trustworthy computing, systems security engineering, high assurance systems, and security risk management. A former Fellow at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Dr. Ross led the Systems Security Engineering and FISMA Implementation Projects which included the development of cybersecurity standards and guidance for the federal government, contractors, and United States critical infrastructure. He also supported the State Department in its international outreach program for cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection and led the Joint Task Force, an interagency group with members from the Department of Defense, Intelligence Community, and Civil agencies. Dr. Ross served as the Director of the National Information Assurance Partnership, a joint activity of NIST and the National Security Agency. During his twenty-year military career, Dr. Ross served as a White House aide and senior technical advisor to the Department of the Army. He has lectured at colleges and universities throughout the United States and delivered the Commencement address at The George Washington University (School of Engineering).

Dr. Ross has authored numerous publications on risk management, cybersecurity, systems security engineering, and system resiliency. These include: FIPS 199 (security categorization), FIPS 200 (security requirements), SP 800-30 (risk assessments), SP 800-37 (risk management framework), SP 800-39 (enterprise risk management), SP 800-53 (security and privacy controls), SP 800-53A (security and privacy control assessments), SP 800-53B (security and privacy control baselines), SP 800-128 (security configuration management), SP 800-160, Vol. 1 (systems security engineering), SP 800-160, Vol. 2 (cyber resiliency engineering), SP 800-171 (protection of controlled unclassified information), SP 800-171A (security assessments), SP 800-172A (enhanced security requirement assessments).

Dr. Ross has received many public and private sector awards including the Presidential Rank Award, Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal for Homeland Security and Law Enforcement, Michael V. Hayden Lifetime Achievement Award, Department of Defense Superior Service Medal, National Security Agency Scientific Achievement Award, Department of Commerce Gold and Silver Medal Awards, Applied Computer Security Distinguished Practitioner Award, GCN Government Executive of the Year Award, Vanguard Chairman's Award, Institute for Critical Infrastructure Technology Pioneer Award, Information Week's Government CIO 50 Award, Billington Cybersecurity Leadership Award, Office of Director National Intelligence Partnership Award, ISACA National Capital Area Conyers Award, ISACA Joseph J. Wasserman Award, AFFIRM President's Award, Symantec Cyber 7 Award, Government Technology Research Alliance Award, SC Magazine's Cyber Security Luminaries Award, (ISC)² Lynn F. McNulty Tribute Award, American Bar Association Science and Technology Special Recognition Award, 1105 Media Gov30 Award, and CES Government Technology Leadership Award. He has also been recognized three-times as one of the Top 10 Influencers in Government IT Security and is a five-time recipient of the Federal 100 award for leadership and technical contributions to federal government cybersecurity projects. Dr. Ross has been inducted into the National Cyber Security Hall of Fame, selected as an (ISC)² Fellow, and inducted into the Information Systems Security Association Hall of Fame receiving its highest honor of Distinguished Fellow.

Dr. Ross holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point. He also holds Masters and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science from the United States Naval Postgraduate School with a concentration in artificial intelligence and robotics. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army, served as a Mechanized Infantry and Army Acquisition Corp officer, completed Airborne training, and retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.