



# JOHN PALAHNUK

Senior Engineering and Technology Executive  
[johnpalahnuk.com](mailto:johnpalahnuk.com)

3650 Lone Oak Court Prescott, Arizona USA 86305  
[jpalahnuk@gmail.com](mailto:jpalahnuk@gmail.com)  
661-219-5590

A senior level technology Manager with a 20-year background in Engineering, Research and Product Development. Established and led global management teams for advanced programs in the Military, Flight and Space industries. Technical expertise in advanced weapons technologies such as signal and power interconnects for missiles, targeting and jamming pods, Hypersonics, satellites, electronics, and advanced flight control systems.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

April 2024 – Present      Trexon covenant release date: 09/2025      Trexon Global/Cicoil – MIL/Aero (Prescott, AZ)

Mar 2004 – April 2024      Trexon Global / Cicoil Corp, a Trexon Company – MIL/Aero (Valencia, CA)

### Vice President of Engineering and Operations for Cicoil:

- Managed the New Product Development, Operations and Engineering activities at Cicoil. Provided strategic direction and management leadership for new product development and research activities.
- Guided our teams in interpreting complex technical requirements, assessing associated risks, and conducting thorough research and design reviews.
- Played a pivotal role in ensuring the successful completion of critical project stages across multiple programs.
- Collaborated with high-level executive leadership, business unit GM's, Customer Service, Program Management, Engineering and Operations.
- Provided strategic decision-making and the implementation of a comprehensive road map for new products and customer growth opportunities.
- Established and maintained effective relationships with customers on significant and technically challenging programs, while identifying new business opportunities.
- Directed the implementation of efficient design and development processes, such as structured design reviews and approvals, rapid prototyping, and risk assessments across multiple functional areas, including cross-functional teams such as product realization and ramp-up, operations, production, QA and supply chain.
- Managed operational and engineering budgets, as well CapEx for buildings, equipment and research programs.
- Budget planning responsibilities included cost management, and the accountability for cost performance of engineering and operations for multiple facilities.
- Conducted strategic workforce planning, evaluating the need for internal resource development versus outsourcing, and advising on other human resource activities such as staffing, training, and compensation.
- Provided engineering leadership with exceptional technical expertise, strong leadership skills, and a passion to drive innovation and achieve business objectives. Played a crucial role to the division's success, ensuring the development and delivery of emerging technologies and solutions that led to a X5 growth in new business for Cicoil and Trexon.
- Aerospace program experience includes AIM9X, LRSO, TOW, RAM, HAWC, Hellfire, Patriot, EKV, and more. Other military and space program experience includes the LITENING Advanced Targeting Pod, IRST, Inertial Measurement Units, gimbals and others.

### Director of Technology and Development for Trexon Corporate:

- Led the advancement of new technologies and business innovation throughout the global organization.
- Managed the development of market opportunities, cross-functional teams, new products, and engineering capabilities to improve operations and create new business opportunities.
- Facilitated the formation of integrated teams across 10 Business Units, multiple departments and various professional disciplines.



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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dec 1994 - Mar 2004	Engineering Manager	Ktech Corp (Poly Flow Engineering) (Sylmar, CA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Managed and transformed the engineering department from a legacy operation supporting manual wet benches to an advanced design center and new product development team.</li><li>Developed the department's engineering capabilities to design automated wafer processing machines for the semi-conductor industry.</li><li>The accomplishments included advancing engineering skills, tools, methods, and the creation of Integrated Product Teams.</li><li>The required disciplines in electrical, mechanical, software and chemical sciences were added to the department to facilitate the needed expansion.</li></ul> <p>The advanced capabilities of these engineering and functional teams resulted in significant growth for the department, the company and its product offerings.</p>		
Feb 1989 - Nov 1994	Sr. Systems Engineer	AVG INC. (Valencia, CA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Designed the control systems for animatronic figures and robots, show action equipment and special effects.</li></ul>		
Jun 1988 - Feb 1989	Automated Manufacturing Engineer	TRW Technar (Irwindale, CA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Designed and constructed automated production lines for kinetic energy sensors used for impact detection and action response.</li><li>Sensors were used in aircraft telemetry and automobile air bag deployment.</li></ul>		

## EDUCATION

1983 – 1987  
Honors Graduate

Bachelor of Science  
Automated Manufacturing and  
Electrical Engineering

CAL POLY - ITT TECH (Pomona - West Covina, CA)

Nov 2012  
(Issued)

MBA Certificate  
Business Management

AMA (San Francisco, CA)

## US PATENTS:

Multiple patents are for specialized extrusion processes, fastener features and integrated self-supporting systems.  
Search [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) for: CICOIL or John Palahnuk.

**LANGUAGES:** Proficient in English and Spanish.



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The following is a partial list of programs and achievements spanning over the last 30 years. Direct experience includes all phases of business growth and program development. This summary encompasses executive, middle and project level management, as well as personal execution of engineering designs, team development and driving growth for the global organization.

MIL/Aero

## AIM9X: Sidewinder Missile

Space

Semi-con

Robotics



The AIM-9X Block II is the most advanced short-range air-air missile in the U.S. military inventory.

Negotiated several multi-year and on-going contracts for all AIM9X mid-body hanger assembly Block versions.

Executed the design and collaboration of the advanced modular mid-body hanger assembly for the AIM9X Block I, Block II and Block II+ missiles. Developed the manufacturing processes for the production cells, electronics, molding, final assembly, inspection, test, and packaging. Assured the successful transition from prototypes, low quantity LQ, PAR, PWAR, FAI, and final production approval for high quantity follow-on contracts.

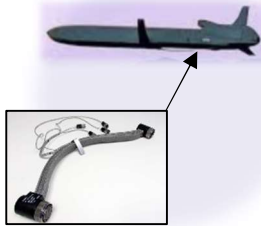
MIL/Aero

## LRSO: AGM-181 Long Range Stand Off

Space

Semi-con

Robotics



The LRSO is a nuclear-armed air-launched cruise missile.

Successfully negotiated the development, LQ and multi-year on-going contracts for the LRSO programs.

Executed the design and collaboration of twelve interconnect solutions for the LRSO. Developed the manufacturing processes for the production cells, molding, final assembly, inspection, and test.

Assured the successful transition from prototypes, low quantity LQ, PAR, PWAR, FAI, and final production approval.

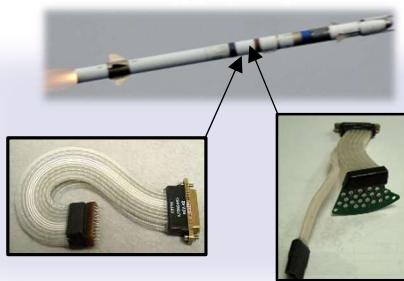
MIL/Aero

## RAM: Rolling Airframe Missile

Space

Semi-con

Robotics



The RAM is a small, lightweight, infrared homing surface-to-air missile and defense system.

Successfully negotiated multi-year firm-fixed contracts and designed two high-flex, high-performance, EMI/signal hardened cable assemblies.

Executed the needed activities for the engineering, manufacture and testing for the RAM product lines.

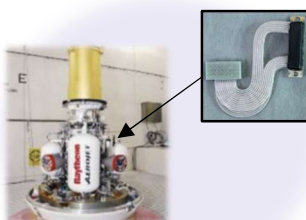
MIL/Aero

## EKV: Exo-atmospheric Kill

Space

Semi-con

Robotics



The EKV is a U.S. Ground-Based Midcourse defense interceptor, part of the larger National Missile Space Defense system.

Led the design team for the signal interconnects and  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  hermetically sealed electromechanical interfaces for fourteen guidance interconnect assemblies. Created and executed the multi-year program for the engineering, manufacture, and testing of the EKV product line.



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## PROGRAMS, ACHIEVEMENTS

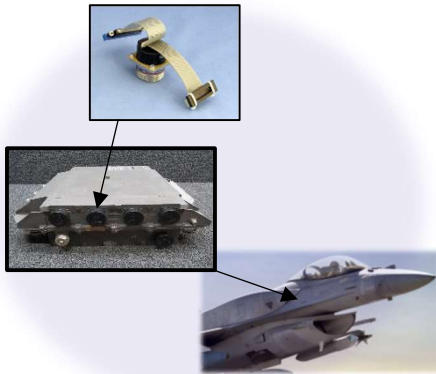
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### EEC: Electronic Engine and Fuel



The EEC's are portable fuel management systems that control engine operation, provide propulsion and detect, announce, and mitigate failures.

Negotiated LTA's with the customer. Streamlined engineering, manufacture and testing processes for the EEC product lines.

Established the UTAS SDQR and on-site e-silk approval program. Served as the certified UTAS on-site DQR, establishing the QA program for full production qualification and maturity.

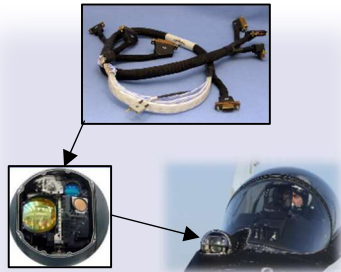
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### IRST: Advanced Targeting & Imaging



The IRST is an infrared laser targeting pod, using rangefinders to provide full fire-control solutions for cannon fire or launching missiles.

Negotiated R&D and production contracts. Led program and interconnect design teams for the IRST and other infrared/optical pods and gimbals.

MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Other Programs: TOW, HAWC, Hellfire, Patriot, Targeting Pods, Gimbals, Guidance & Telemetry Systems, and more.



Hypersonic air-launched cruise missile, HAWC



Anti-armor, air-to-ground precision missile, Hellfire



Tube-Launched, Optical tracked, Wireless guided missiles, TOW



Surface-to-air missile (SAM) missile system, Patriot

### Advanced Targeting & imaging Pod, LITENING





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## PROGRAMS, ACHIEVEMENTS

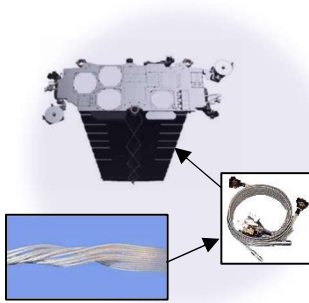
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Starlink Satellites



Starlink satellites are space-based phased-array broadband transceivers using argon-fueled thrusters for on-orbit maneuvering.

Designed the cable interconnect solutions for the deployable solar array. Led the engineering, manufacture, tooling, and QA teams.

There are over 6,000 Starlink satellites currently in orbit.

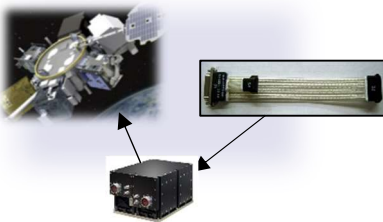
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### HGR: Resonator Gyro



Spacecraft orbital and interplanetary sensor pointing/stabilization and attitude control IMU.

Negotiated R&D, upgrade, and production contracts for the high-flex interconnect space assemblies. Led the engineering, manufacturing, and QA teams for these LEO, GEO, and deep space programs.

Collaborated and establish technical criteria and procedures for radiographic/x-ray of electronic terminations and requirements for space Gyros and other related space applications.

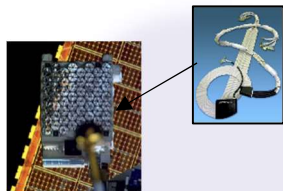
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### NICER: Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer



A directional NASA telescope on the International Space Station.

Designed the cable interconnect solutions for the dynamic star deployment, tracking, scanning and gimbaling.

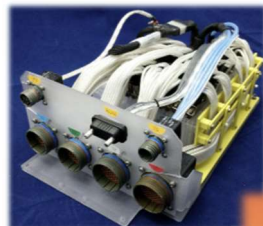
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Other Programs: Space, LEO, GEO, Exo-Atmospheric, Hypersonic, etc.



Hardened EMI/EMF Enclosures



Hermetically sealed custom electrical connectors



Electronic and power enclosures systems and interconnects for spacecraft





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## PROGRAMS, ACHIEVEMENTS

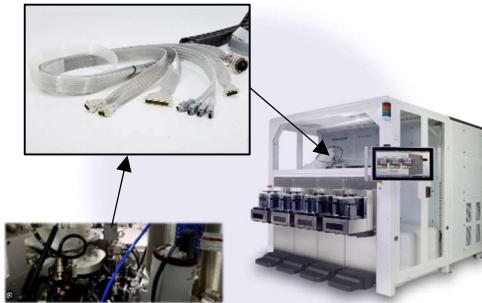
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Automated Wafer Processing



Automated wafer processing systems manage various manufacturing processes for silicon wafers.

Designed automated wafer etchers, handlers, wafer reclaim stations and other capital equipment for the semi-conductor industry. Design work included robotic, electrical, electronics, mechanical, chemical and safety systems as well as robotics, sensing, and dynamic cable carriers.

Led the engineering, manufacture, tooling and QA/test teams.

MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### FOUP: Front Loaders



Automated front loaders are an automated wafer loading system utilized to automatically load and unload wafers from FOUPS to on-board process chambers and back again.

Designed and integrated the electrical, mechanical and software subsystems and the high-flex cable solutions for various front loaders.

Set up the engineering, integration teams and the manufacturing and QA processes with department heads.

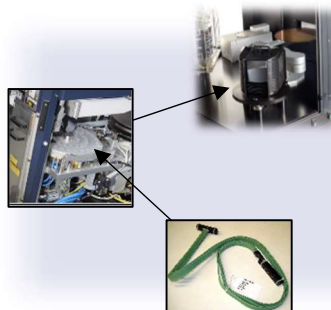
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### WHR: Wafer Handler Robots



A robotic wafer handler is an automated system that manipulates silicon wafers during the semiconductor manufacturing.

Designed and integrated the electrical, mechanical and software subsystems and the high-flex cable solutions for the wafer handlers.

Incorporated WHR's into the automated wafer processing systems and other silicon wafer equipment requiring automated loading and unloading.

MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Other Automated Semi-Conductor Wafer and Chemical Processing Tools and Equipment.



Automated Wafer Reclaim Stations

Automated chemical delivery systems and IPA dispensing



Automated Vertical Furnace  
Quartzware Cleaning  
Systems





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## PROGRAMS, ACHIEVEMENTS

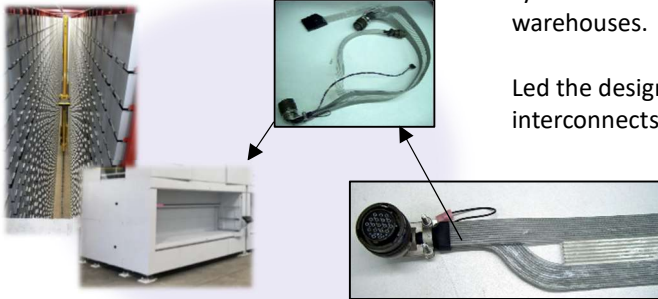
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### VLM: Vertical Lift Modules



VLM's are automated storage and part retrieval systems for manufacturing, retail distribution and warehouses.

Led the design team for the cable assemblies and interconnects for the lift modules.

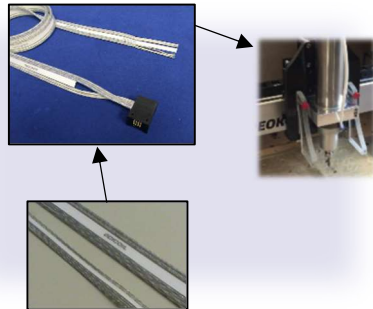
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### ATC: Automated Tool Changers



ATC's are used in CNC and other automated equipment to improve versatility in production and the tool carrying capacity of the system.

Designed automated tool changers and the high-flex flat cable interconnects with StripMount for the electrical, pneumatic, and sensing systems.

Applied for and received a US patent for the StripMount support system, and set up the engineering, manufacturing, and QA processes with department heads.

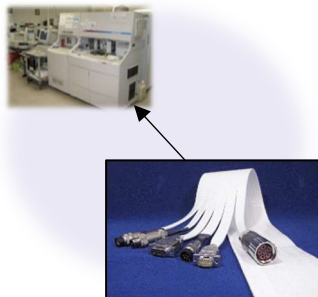
MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Medical: Automated Sample Testing



Automated sample testing tools analyze the sampling of cells contained on a monolayer of well-stained, well-preserved cells.

Negotiated R&D, upgrade, and production contracts for the high-flex interconnect space assemblies.

Led the engineering, manufacturing, test and QA teams for these medical programs.

MIL/Aero

Space

Semi-con

Robotics

### Other Automated Tools, Robots and Equipment.



Automated Blood and Virus Sample Testing Stations

Automated Covid Sample Testing



Automated Benchtop Analyzers





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