

John W. Kidd

Solution Engineering Technologist Certified Commercial Drone Pilot, Head of Drone Operations

John Kidd provides technical services for Solution Engineering Laboratory and Field Service operations. As an FAA certified commercial drone pilot, he oversees all SEG drone operations and staff. In addition to his capabilities with drone technology, he has vast experience in engineering field services and site documentation.

He heads up the firearms certification and forensic testing services provided by the SEG laboratory, which includes managing the receipt, inspection, testing, and shipping of firearms under the SEG corporate Federal Firearms License. He holds a Certificate of Eligibility from the California Department of Justice, allowing SEG to certify firearms and firearm safety devices for sale in California.

He provides valuable insight, leadership and knowledge for site investigations, accident re-creation, artifact retrieval and preservation, site documentation, and laboratory testing. His years of experience provide him with a broad understanding of transportation, industrial equipment, and engineering and manufacturing processes.

2019 Solution Engineering Group – Montgomery, Illinois

Sr. Technologist

- Manages all flight operations for SEG Aerial Drone Services including coordination of parties involved, site preparation and research, code compliance, flight path planning, project deliverables, and post-flight data processing
- FAA certified drone pilot
- Lead firearms technologist providing consulting for weapons product design, failures, live fire, and environmental testing
- California DOJ certification for firearm and firearm safety devices testing
- Designated a Federal Firearms License Responsible Person
- Manages field inspections, on-site accident investigations, and site documentation
- Expert in documentation services, including precision measurement, photography, videotaping, surveying, stereo compilation, and computer-aided design and drafting
- Conducts laboratory testing, fixture design, and data collection

2012 – 2018 Professional Analysis and Consulting, Inc. – Naperville, Illinois

Director, Field Services

- Managed field inspections, on-site accident investigations, and laboratory test preparation and performance
- Conducted oversight and coordination of outside testing facilities as required to meet the specialized needs of the client
- Managed artifacts, including receiving, storage, and transfer

- Provided documentation services, including photography, videotaping, surveying, stereo compilation, and computer-aided design and drafting

1975 – 2012 Packer Engineering, Inc. – Naperville, Illinois

Vice President, Technical Services

- Participated in hundreds of field investigations, including non-destructive inspections and weld inspections for the utility industry
- Automobile, motorcycle, and off-road vehicle crash testing
- Vehicle preparation
- Site documentation using digital surveying equipment (laser scanning)
- Site documentation using total station equipment
- Evidence retention
- Strain gauging transducer preparation and calibration
- Computer data acquisition systems for the measurements of acceleration, force, temperature, pressure, strain, and displacement
- Photographic and video documentation
- Computer-aided design and drafting
- OSHA ten-hour course and confined space training

CERTIFICATIONS / LICENSING / OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Firearms
 - Certification, State of California for handgun testing and firearm safety devices testing
 - Operation, mechanisms, barrel failure, ammunition, and failure analysis
- Heavy Equipment operator / Fork truck operator
- Commercial Driver's License
- Motorcycle Operator License
- Private pilot license
- Certified Welder
- Automotive Mechanic
- Certifications in NDE as Inspector Level 11 - Ultrasonics (ASNT-TC-IA), Level II - Magnetic Particle & Dye Penetrant Testing
- Operator Safety Training Program – OSHA, Forklift Class IV and V
- FAA Remote Pilot – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Airman Certification
- Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, Crash Investigation and Reconstruction Aerial Photogrammetrist (2017)

ACADEMIC / CONTINUING EDUCATION

- College of DuPage
- ASM International