



Mark Smith

Operations Director, Mission-Centered Solutions (USA)

Since 1979, Mark Smith has been training and leading teams and organizations in complex, high-risk environments worldwide. During his 22-year military career, Mark served in a variety of special operations staff and leadership positions. His assignments include administration, training, communications, plans, intelligence, operations, and command.

He served at every echelon of operational command—from small Ranger and Special Forces teams conducting tactical missions to the Joint Special Operations Task Force level conducting strategic operations for a theater commander.

Mark was critical to the founding of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) leadership curriculum. Since 1999, he's been lead cadre member on over two hundred leader development courses such as Human Factors in a High-Risk Environment (L-180); Emerging Leader (L-280); Point of the Spear (L-380); All Hazard Incident Leadership (L-381); and Intent into Action: Advanced Leadership for the Command & General Staff (L-481).

Mark has acted as a lead doctrine subject matter expert and educator in support of many agencies efforts to move to a principles-based Mission-Driven Culture (MDC) leadership model. He trains and educates many Saudi Aramco firefighters as part of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) International Fellowship Program. He actively collaborates with incident managers in the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand to apply MDC concepts and tools.

Mark co-authored a 2011 analysis and recommendations paper to significantly improve the Catastrophic Incident doctrine of the U.S. National Response Framework. He was one of the architects of a public-private partnership with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) that developed and now delivers a strategic leader program titled *Leading in Crisis: Strategic Leadership in Catastrophic Events* (L-580).

Mark helped develop the prototype of an intent-based position task book as a future model of a more effective evaluation system for the All-Hazards IMT Association. He wrote an essay on wildland fire risk titled *The Big Lie* and co-authored a paper titled *Mission-Driven Culture*. He also co-authored a handbook titled *Mission-Driven Culture & Intent-Based Strategic Planning*.