

Lieutenant Colonel Daniel R. Montes

USSF Delta 11 Space Training and Readiness Command

Lt Col Dan Montes is a research and test engineer serving as the Advanced Projects and Technical Director for Space Ranges and Aggressors, and the Chief of Mission Safety for the National Space Test and Training Complex. He was previously the U.S. Air Force (USAF) science attaché to the U.S. Embassy, Santiago, Chile. He holds degrees in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the USAF Academy, USAF Institute of Technology, USAF Test Pilot School, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Previously, Lt Col Montes served as the Director of Education at the USAF Test Pilot School, Edwards AFB, CA, where he developed a method for safe test planning of advanced developmental technologies. Before that assignment, he was a flight test engineer in the USAF Test Center, where he worked on the F-22, B-1, B-2, B-52, X-47, and X-51 programs at Edwards AFB and weapons programs at Eglin AFB, FL.

Lt Col Montes deployed to Afghanistan in 2010 to the International Security Cooperation office. Early in his career, he served with the AFRL Center for Rapid Innovation, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, where he researched urgent-need technologies for special operators, the AFRL Munitions Directorate, Eglin AFB, where he managed the development of the Massive Ordnance Penetrator, and the AFRL Propulsion Directorate, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, where he designed and wind-tunnel tested scramjet combustion strategies.