



## David Robinson

Keynote Speaker  
TopGun Instructor



**ACADEMY LEADERSHIP**

*Developing Leaders Who Deliver Results*

David is a former Marine fighter pilot and TopGun instructor with 25 years of experience leading organizations to excellence. He is the CEO of Vertical Performance Enterprises, developing high-performing teams in mission-critical environments.

### Biography

David Robinson is a senior executive with over 25 years of experience leading complex organizations to operational excellence. He recently retired as a Colonel from the United States Marine Corps after a distinguished career that included several Director and CEO-level leadership positions. In his final assignment, he was the Commanding Officer of a \$12B aviation organization where he managed a fleet of 250 fighter aircraft and led 2,500 people supporting global operations.

David is a former TopGun Instructor who has flown over 100 combat missions and more than 200 aircraft carrier landings in the FA-18 Hornet. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for supervising over 20,000 combat missions and more than 2,000 medical evacuations while serving as the Director of Air Operations in Iraq. David also served as a Strategic Program Director for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, DC where he led over 100 studies used to develop the Pentagon's ten-year strategic vision and six-year budget for the Department of Defense.

David graduated with honors from the United States Naval Academy with a bachelor's degree in systems engineering, and subsequently earned master's degrees in military leadership and national security strategy. In his current role as the founder and CEO of Vertical Performance Enterprises, David has worked with a number of Fortune 500 companies in the areas of leadership development, culture transformation, and operational risk management. He and his family live in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

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