

Keenan Johnson

You know the saying "It Isn't Rocket Science." Well, what if it is? I've been at the front of the most ambitious projects in the world as an engineering leader. My expertise is in understanding people, teams, and projects working to achieve the Impossible for the good of all.

HIGHLIGHTS

Founded and led an electric aircraft company that delivered the world's longest flying, fully electric UAV to First Responders

Led an R&D team to build a programming language for Mars colonization spacecraft

Thrived in the high pressure mission control of the first landing of the Falcon 9

Built and led the team that designed and performed a novel C.P.R. technique in zero gravity

EXPERTISE

Chaos Reduction
Clean Sheet Design
Company Operations
Engineering Design
Engineering Leadership
Mentoring
Organizational Design
Project Management
Process Development
Roadmap Development
Strategic Planning

HONORS

ARM Innovator
Robin.ly AI Expert
ARM TechCon AI Expert
Speaker @ AUVSI
Speaker @ Interdrone
Speaker @ ASGSR
IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu
Venture Stories Podcast

EDUCATION

Missouri S&T
B.S. Computer Engineering
Minor: Computer Science

CONTACT

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EXPERIENCE

IMPOSSIBLE AEROSPACE | FOUNDER & HEAD OF ENGINEERING

Aug. 2017 - Oct. 2019 | Sunnyvale, CA

- Founded the company as one of three and the most experienced engineer
- Directly managed and mentored the engineering team of 20 hardware and software engineers
- Created the interview and hiring process used for 30+ hires
- Interviewed potential customers and created the product management framework used to evaluate potential product types and features
- Developed technology and business roadmap
- Developed formalized business processes including financial modeling, budgets, culture, product design, change management, manufacturing instructions, testing, and customer support
- Established, taught, and maintained company culture
- Personally designed and manufactured the version one electrical system and printed circuit boards in the US-1 aircraft
- Prepared and presented technical briefings to potential investors, partners, customers, and the Board of Directors
- Created cross-team communication protocols and systems
- Set up task tracking systems from sticky notes to complex software

SPACEX | LAUNCH SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Jan. 2013 - Aug. 2017 | Los Angeles, CA

- Founded and led an R&D Tiger-team to develop and deploy a new software language to control Mars colonization spacecraft
- Worked as a launch control operator in the world's highest pressure environment: SpaceX Launch Control Center
- Developed Mission Control software used to control all SpaceX vehicles
- Designed and operated the SpaceX Hyperloop test track

MARS ROVER DESIGN TEAM | TEAM LEAD

Aug. 2013 – Dec. 2014 | Rolla, MO

- Recruited and led the technical development and field operation teams
- Designed and manufactured custom PCB that contains a main ARM architecture processor, an AVR data processor, GPS sensor, Bluetooth radio, and other communication hardware
- Developed real-time software in C for both ARM and AVR processors to control the operation of the rover

MINERS IN SPACE | PRESIDENT

July 2011 – Aug. 2012 | Rolla, MO

- Led team of 20 in proposing, designing, constructing, conducting, and evaluating micro-gravity research in partnership with NASA
- Authored winning technical proposals for NASA
- Developed a new method for single rescuer C.P.R. in micro-gravity in which the rescuer positions themselves behind the victim and performs Active Decompression C.P.R. using a suction cup device
- Tested propellant management device in R-134a cold gas propulsion system for a micro-satellite in micro-gravity