

Michael Nedbal



PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior operations and security executive with 25 years leading compliance-driven, federally funded research environments. Experienced in cybersecurity governance, classified information systems, financial controls, and institutional risk management. Brings a disciplined, oversight-focused approach shaped by doctoral-level research training and long-standing involvement in Department of Defense programs. Known for strengthening organizational accountability, audit readiness, and cross-functional coordination in complex, regulated settings.

BOARD-LEVEL EXPERTISE

- Corporate Governance & Executive Oversight
- Enterprise Risk Oversight
- Cybersecurity & Information Security Governance
- Research Operations & Federal Compliance
- Government Contracting & Research Administration
- Financial Controls, Budgeting & Cost Accounting
- Audit Readiness & External Audit Management
- Policy Development & Internal Controls
- Classified & Controlled Information Environments
- Strategic Planning & Organizational Stewardship

NONPROFIT & GOVERNANCE LEADERSHIP

President, Industrial Security Awareness Council (ISAC)

Provide executive leadership for an industry organization focused on information sharing, regulatory awareness, and security best practices. Facilitate collaboration among government, defense, and research institutions.

President, Foundation Church of Divine Truth, Inc.

Serve as chief fiduciary and governance leader for a nonprofit organization. Oversee financial oversight, policy development, compliance, and long-term strategic planning. Support organizational stewardship and continuity through transparent decision-making and responsible resource management.

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

Makai Ocean Engineering, Inc. — Hawai'i

2001 – Present

Vice President, Operations

(Previously Operations Coordinator; Operations Analyst)

Provide executive oversight for operations, security, and compliance supporting government-funded research and classified programs. Strengthen institutional accountability, internal controls, and long-term operational planning across a multidisciplinary engineering and research organization.

Leadership & Oversight Highlights

- Guide organizational compliance posture across cybersecurity, quality management, accounting, and government audit domains.
- Serve in senior security and compliance roles including Information Security Officer (ISO), Facility Security Officer (FSO), Information Systems Security Manager (ISSM), and ISO 9001 Management Representative.
- Lead audit preparation and successful outcomes for multiple regulatory authorities, ensuring continuous readiness and institutional transparency.
- Advise executive leadership on organizational risk, compliance gaps, and corrective action strategies.
- Oversee operational infrastructure supporting DoD research programs, ensuring alignment with federal requirements.
- Manage cross-functional coordination, internal controls, and long-range operational planning.

AUDIT, COMPLIANCE, & REGULATORY OVERSIGHT

Consistently deliver successful audit outcomes and maintain compliance with:

- ISO 9001 Quality Management System
- Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA)
 - Cleared Possessing Facility audits and classified Information System assessments
- Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) readiness
- DoD: U.S. Navy Maritime Surveillance Systems Program Office (PMS 485)

FINANCIAL & ACCOUNTING OVERSIGHT

- Developed an automated project-cost dashboard that integrates with the accounting system to provide real-time expense tracking, unposted labor visibility, invoice status, and burn-rate projections for government and commercial contracts.
- Designed and implemented a compliant Chart of Accounts aligned with DoD cost accounting standards, including unallowable cost tracking.
- Developed automation tools supporting DCAA Incurred Cost Electronically (ICE) submissions and a dashboard to track changes in overhead rates.
- Prepared organizational budgets and provided ongoing financial reporting and analysis.
- Supported executive decision-making through accurate financial controls and transparent cost structures.

GOVERNANCE, POLICY & INTERNAL CONTROLS

- Authored corporate Accounting Policies and Procedures.
- Tailored ISO 9001 Quality Management System documentation to organizational needs and developed the procedures and forms that support day-to-day compliance.
- Authored and maintained enterprise information systems security policies.
- Produced Risk Management Framework (RMF) documentation for classified information systems.
- Established internal governance controls supporting auditability, accountability, and institutional resilience.

RESEARCH FUNDING & FEDERAL PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

- One of three corporate officers authorized to sign government and commercial contracts, ensuring compliance with federal, financial, and institutional requirements.
- Served as Co-Principal Investigator on National Science Foundation research projects, providing scientific leadership and ensuring adherence to federal research standards.
- Co-developed and reviewed SBIR proposals, contributing technical content and overseeing compliance with CUI and export-control requirements.
- Strengthened research infrastructure and compliance systems supporting federally funded programs, including cybersecurity, export control, and controlled-information requirements.

EDUCATION

Postdoctoral Research Fellow — Chicago Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois

Ph.D., Genetics — Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

B.S., Biology — University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign