

Sam Schlueter
Aerojet



Sam Schlueter received a Bachelor's Degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from the Ohio State University in 1984. He started working for Aerojet in 1985 in the scientific programming group, and joined the ballistics group in early 1986. He spent 8 years working on the Space Shuttle Advanced Solid Rocket Motor main grain and igniter, and was involved in the development of burning rate motors and methodologies for that program. Other programs he worked in that time were Peacekeeper, Small ICBM, and Polaris in addition to many smaller tactical systems. After the ASRM program shut down in 1993 he moved to Breed Technologies in Lakeland Florida where he designed and qualified several state of the art automotive airbag inflators, for which he received 7 patents. He returned to Aerojet in 1997 where he re-designed the Titan II and IV 1st and 2nd stage turbine start cartridges, boosters, and initiators. He then moved onto the Atlas V SRM team in 1998 where he developed the igniter and took it and the main grain into production. He is now the ballistics lead at Aerojet and oversees work on all their solid propellant systems.