

Gene Thompson's 30 year career in nuclear began upon enlisting in the United States Navy as an Electronics Technician-Reactor Operator. He received his engineering degree from Auburn University and was commissioned as a Naval Officer in 1987. He completed his Nuclear Engineering Officer certification in 1993 and retired from the Navy in 2001. During his 20 year career Gene held progressively complex leadership culminating in as the Reactor Electrical Assistant for the first ever nuclear refueling of a Nimitz Class aircraft carrier.

Upon retirement from military service, Gene took his experience and leadership skills into the private sector in increasingly responsible management roles overseeing field projects at both fossil and nuclear power stations.

In 2014, Gene joined Day & Zimmermann as Operations Director for the Maintenance & Modification contract at Duke Energy before advancing to Director of Nuclear Projects (2015) and thereafter, Director of Operations for Open Shop (2019). During his eight year career with Day & Zimmermann, Gene has been instrumental in the renewed partnership with Florence-Darlington Technical College, served as support for the successful capture of key contract renewals including Duke Energy in 2016 and growth of the Open Shop Projects portfolio across the nation. His successful management of significant projects at Duke Energy and Comanche Peak, among others, opened the door to future partnerships and long-term growth potential for the Projects organization. As Director of Operations since 2019, he has managed the Dominion Energy contracts at North Anna Power Station and Surry Power Plant. His role and relationship with Dominion Energy proved key to the renewed Dominion Energy Maintenance contract awarded in May 2022 and which now includes the addition of VC Summer.

With a Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering and Masters of Industrial Engineering from Auburn University, Gene has gone on to earn his certification as a Project Management Professional. Gene's contributions to D&Z have included establishment of an EPRI AP3 certification program for Basic Rigging at Kings Mountain, providing instructors for the Advanced Welding and Pipefitting courses at Florence-Darlington, and laying the foundation of Managed Task Projects contracts as are now being implemented at APS Palo Verde. His military background has also served those within D&Z and communities across the country with his contributions as Co-Chair of the D&Z Veterans Employee Resource Group supporting Veterans Day recognition events and veteran recruiting.