

Vice Admiral Connor Joins Kraken Board of Directors



Retired Vice Admiral Michael J. Connor, United States Navy, has joined the Board of Directors of Kraken Robotics. Vice Admiral Connor led the US Navy Submarine Force into robotic undersea systems, achieving key milestones including the first operational deployment and recovery of an unmanned underwater vehicle from a submarine. He also led innovation efforts that began the shift away from undersea search operations based on expensive platforms and moved toward operations based on large numbers of inexpensive vehicles.

In a 35-year career in which he rose to the rank of Vice Admiral in the United States Navy, Connor commanded at the ship, squadron and task force levels. His assignments included command of USS *Seawolf*, a nuclear-powered attack submarine, Submarine Squadron

Eight, Undersea Forces in the Western Pacific and the Arabian Gulf.

He held several concurrent titles during his last assignment; including Commander, United States Submarine Forces, Commander, Submarine Forces Atlantic and Commander, Allied Submarine Command. He served as commander of U.S. submarine forces from September 2012 until September 2015.

Experienced in Underwater Unmanned Systems

He has written extensively on the future of undersea warfare and is a sought-after speaker on undersea warfare topics. His education includes a B.A. in Physics from Bowdoin College and an M.A. in National Security Studies from the United States Naval War College. Vice Admiral Connor is currently the CEO of ThayerMahan Inc., a company he founded to accelerate the United States' ability to effectively and efficiently monitor ocean activity using autonomous systems.