



## Rita A. Gonzales

*Deputy Laboratories Director – Nuclear Deterrence  
and Chief Technology Officer*

As Deputy Laboratories Director for Nuclear Deterrence and Chief Technology Officer, Rita Gonzales leads programs to meet the nuclear weapons modernization schedule and assure the reliability of the existing stockpile.

In her role, Rita leads the Labs in embedding modern engineering tools and practices for all nuclear deterrence programs and projects. She is responsible for meeting Sandia's nuclear deterrence deliverables as the design and engineering laboratory for non-nuclear components and weapon System Integrator of the nation's nuclear stockpile.

Before taking on her current leadership position, Rita Gonzales was the Associate Laboratories Director for Sandia National Laboratories' Nuclear Deterrence Modernization & Stockpile Systems. In that role, she oversaw systems level execution of multiple nuclear weapon modernization programs while serving as the primary Sandia leadership interface with the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Department of Defense and across the Nuclear Security Enterprise for weapon modernization. Rita was also the Chief Engineer for Nuclear Weapons (CENW), responsible for addressing all system stockpile issues that could affect assurance of stockpile safety, surety, and reliability, and responsible for the development and readiness of new technologies that address future nuclear stockpile needs.

Previously, Rita held a number of executive positions including director of advanced systems and transformation, director of radio frequency and electronic systems, and deputy director of the threat intelligence center at Sandia. Rita also spent 17 years in the microsystems center where she had multiple leadership responsibilities from designing application specific integrated circuits to leading the organization at a senior level. These leadership roles gave Rita the opportunity to impact a multitude of national security programs and build partnerships throughout the national security enterprise.

Rita earned her master's degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University and her bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from New Mexico State University.

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