Miramar Beach, FL · (626) 360-6447 · ecortes@ironsummitservices.com

Elden Coelho Cortes

Objective

To present skills and educational background. As a retired NAVY SEAL and Chief Warrant Officer Four (CWO-4) of 30 years my expertise is in executive management, leadership coach asset management, financial acquisitions, military / civilian government contracting, training / qualification / certification for all Naval Special Warfare (NSW), senior leadership, staff development.

Experience

MAY 2025- PRESENT CAVU the RelyOn Leadership Academy Virginia Beach, VA

Safety Performance and Leadership Coach

- Led safety performance and leadership coaching aboard DS-9 operations in Africa, embedding proactive risk management into mission-critical work.
- Delivered bilingual training (English & Portuguese) to 86 personnel, improving cross-cultural communication, compliance, and operational readiness.
- Implemented continuous improvement processes that shifted crews from reactive incident response to proactive safety culture.
- Facilitated leadership development workshops that enhanced accountability, decision-making, and team discipline in high-risk environments.
- Mentored multinational teams in safety, performance, and leadership, driving operational excellence and fostering a culture of trust and accountability.

APR 2023- FEB 2025 Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC) San Diego, CA

Operations Deputy Supervisor

- Exercise Division Officer primary advisor for all major combatant commands
- Oversaw Naval Special Warfare (NSW) exercises and TRIDENT (TD) exercise program Training & Readiness involving geographically dispersed forces
- Lead a geographically dispersed group of 51 professionals across the United States to include active-duty military, government civilians and contractors
- Manager for Quality Assurance, Realistic Military Training Off Federal Real Property (RMT), TD exercise Joint Inter-agency Intergovernmental Multi-national (JIIM)
- Command Exercise and Training Policy Advisor

FEB 2021- MAR 2023 Naval Special Warfare Center (NSWCEN) San Diego, CA

Command Training Officer

- Lead in the development of 12 revised instructions
- Facilitated Naval Safety Center high-risk training inspection with zero faults or findings
- Oversaw and maintained operational risk management emergency action plans, instructor training records, and curriculum development
- Chairman of 52 candidate review boards
- Enforced training standards and policy, and conducted an annual high-risk training safety review, ensuring command readiness and level of acceptable risk

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JAN 2018- FEB 2021 Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC) San Diego, CA

Operations Deputy Supervisor

- Volunteered as Exercise Department Program Director for plans and Future Operations
- Exercise Division Officer primary advisor for all major combatant commands
- Oversaw NSW exercises and TD exercise program Training & Readiness involving geographically dispersed forces.
- Lead a geographically dispersed group of 51 professionals across the United States to include active-duty military, government civilians and contractors
- TD exercise Contacting Officer' Representative for a budget of $100M
- Lead Coordinator for TD exercise Series Synchronization, Joint National Training Capabilities (JNTC) and Battle Staff Training
- Manager for Quality Assurance, RMT, TD exercise and JIIM
- Command Exercise and Training Policy Advisor
- Provided and created policy updates and changes to the NSWC Training Guidance, Force Readiness Manual and TD exercise series instruction.

NOV 2017-JAN 2018 Special Operations Liaison Officer (SOLO) to the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Defense (MoD) Riyadh, CA

U.S. Embassy Liaison Officer for Saudi Arabia

- Principal liaison between Special Operations Forces (SOF) units within the MoD and the Embassy's U.S Military Training Mission (USMTM), Senior Defense Official (SDO)/ Defense Attaché (DATT), and Country Team
- Provided support from the Saudi Minister of Defense thru U.S. Commander to enhance bilateral relationships and assessing its SOF structure with a view towards promoting joint operations
- Led 14 personnel conducting operations at four strategically disaggregated locations resulting in the defense of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, increasing security and stability in the region

APR 2015-NOV 2017 SEAL Team FIVE San Diego, CA

Training Officer

- Directed and led staff in planning and execution of Naval Special Warfare (NSW) first joint TD exercise. Expertly integrated 2,000 participants from 40 different units, across all services to include Department of State, three coalition nations and 250 manned SEAL Teams
- Managed organization's Operational Risk Management (ORM) program consisting of 215 personnel within the command
- Directed the allocation of $4.9M exercise budget and logistics support across five geographically separate locations that ensured readiness for combat deployment

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FEB 2013-APR 2015 Naval Special Warfare Center (NSWCEN) San Diego, CA

Operations Supervisor

- Maintained total Force manpower management, updated administrative inputs for an accurate account of over 2,300 personal service records effecting active-duty military, civilian, and contractors
- Managed and coordinated all command training pipelines for three commands and 23 Unit Identification Codes located in 16 geographic locations encompassing more than 800 NSWCEN staff and more than 1500 basic and advanced SEAL and Special Warfare Combatant Craft candidates
- Supervised and provided guidance to 78 military personnel within the immediate command

NOV 1998-FEB 2013 SEAL TEAM FOUR & TEN Norfolk, VA

SEAL Operator

- 10 Deployments throughout Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Hemisphere
- Multiple combat tours
- Participated in three President of the United States (POTUS) security details to include details for other partner nation presidents
- Trained and qualified partner nation SOF entities on leadership, tactics and techniques in order to better prepare for conflict

Education

MAR 2009-MAR 2012 American Military University Charles Town, WV

Associates of Arts in Counter Terrorism Studies

JUN 2012-SEP 2018 Ashford University San Diego, CA

Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration / Minor in Human Resources

Languages:

Portuguese (Portugal)
Portuguese (Brazil)
Spanish (Latin)
Spanish (Spain)