Joel Chenette

Technical Leader | Embedded Systems & Hardware

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U.S. Marine Corps Veteran · Active U.S. security clearance

Summary

Technical leader with 15 years of hands-on defense engineering spanning software, electrical, and mechanical disciplines. Production firmware running in deployed defense systems, hardware design from schematic through fabrication, and mechanical enclosure design from CAD through fabrication. This cross-discipline depth lets me own architecture end-to-end and cut systems down to the minimum that actually ships. Looking for a senior technical leadership role with end-to-end architecture ownership.

Experience

Two Six Technologies

Security Researcher → DARPA Principal Investigator → Technical Lead June 2022 – May 2026 · Arlington, Virginia

Three roles across four years. Cryptographic and wireless security research, then Principal Investigator on a competitive DARPA program, then technical lead for an embedded security hardware product. Built and scaled a cross-discipline engineering team across embedded software, FPGA, and hardware/manufacturing.

Hart Technologies

Principal Engineer 2011 – June 2022 · Dahlgren, Virginia

Eleven years developing embedded systems for defense applications at Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren. Primary technical owner of firmware and embedded software across multiple deployed and developmental defense platforms, working across software, electrical, and mechanical disciplines.

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve

2006 – 2012

Light armored vehicle crewman; active duty deployment to Iraq, 2008.

Technical Areas

Leadership: Cross-discipline engineering team building and scaling; structured delegation; sub-team lead development; program planning; customer engagement; manufacturing readiness

Systems Engineering: Interface Control Documents; cross-team integration; requirements decomposition; technical review participation; DoD program acquisition exposure

Embedded & firmware: Real-time firmware; embedded Linux; bootloaders; secure boot; cryptographic backends; custom network protocols; hardware-in-the-loop

Hardware: PCB design and fabrication; ECAD; schematic review; board bring-up; FPGA platforms; sensor integration

Mechanical: CAD design through fabrication; modular electronics enclosures; design-for-manufacturing

Software: C, C++, Go, Python; cryptographic protocols; CMake/Make; AI-assisted development workflows

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Education

B.S. Computer Engineering | George Mason University | 2011

For specific program experience and technical accomplishments, please contact me directly.