

Brennan Drake

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Minor in Management

Georgia Southern University — May 2023

Honors College Scholar, GPA: 4.0

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Skydio — Senior Deployment Systems Engineer

May 2026 – Present | *Deployment Systems Engineer, Feb 2025 – May 2026*

- Embedded within the product team for the F10 and next-gen systems to smooth the transition into Alpha and Beta: attend design reviews, author requirements, and bring field realities to engineering leaders early in the development process.
- Serve as the liaison between the field deployment team and the broader product, engineering, and documentation organizations, supporting 1,000+ dock deployments within the first fiscal year of General Availability and translating deployment failure modes into design and process improvements.
- Scaled the deployment team from 11 to 32 engineers enabling \$10M+ in associated service revenue.
- Provide frontline technical support for autonomous drone dock deployments across distributed field teams, covering networking, site integration, and real-time troubleshooting.
- Design and build physical tooling and software scripts that increase deployment team efficiency and standardize field workflows.

Wheel.me — Robotics Deployment Engineer

May 2023 – Feb 2025

- Contributed to \$3M+ in company revenue through sales, deployments, and in-field troubleshooting of industrial AMR solutions throughout the United States and Mexico.
- Developed process for site feasibility studies, partner advisement and deployment support, and tradeshow exhibitions.
- Lived and worked in Guanajuato, Mexico, for 4 months, developing Spanish fluency and establishing a new local project team through training and process development.
- Enhanced Linux proficiency, ROS1/ROS2 troubleshooting (utilizing rviz, topic echos, rqt, and docker log analysis), and firmware/software deployment via AWS/ADO.
- Troubleshoot CAN communication, electrical/mechanical failures, and suboptimal robot operations and mission structure.

Engineering Internships

2021 – 2022

- Gulfstream Aerospace — Additive Manufacturing Lab Co-op: Operated SLA, FDM, and PolyJet 3D printing technologies to produce shop aids and prototypes, improving lab productivity and quality.
- Gulfstream Aerospace — Systems Safety Co-op: Authored System Safety Assessments, Fault Hazard Assessments, and Fault Tree Analyses, ensuring compliance with FAA and EASA standards.

RESEARCH (View full projects at [My Portfolio](https://brennandrake.github.io))

Implementation of Sparse RFID Landmarks into SLAM Processes

- Designed and fabricated an experimental sensor assembly (Turtlebot3, PN5180 RFID reader, Arduino, custom logic-level circuitry) to capture RFID landmark data in pursuit of “lifelong learning” SLAM.
- Conducted an extensive literature review of lidar-based SLAM (GMapping) to scope integration of RFID/NFC landmark data as a complement to existing localization methods.
- Validated tag detection and event publishing to ROS1 topics using a Turtlebot3 platform, laying groundwork for future landmark fusion with lidar and odometry measurements.

SKILLS

- Programming: Python, C++, ROS1/2, CAN communication, AWS, and Ansible task development.
- CAD & Design: SolidWorks (CSWA Certified), CATIA, Rapid Prototyping / 3D Printing
- Technical Expertise: Circuit prototyping, soldering, machine and hand tools.
- Soft Skills: Team leadership, project management, technical writing, process optimization.

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Project Manager / Team Lead, Senior Design Team (Jan 2023 – May 2023)

- Organized group effort and direction using scrums, brainstorming sessions, and principles of candor.

Service Coordinator, Epsilon Tau Pi (Jan 2020 – Dec 2020)

- Organized community service events, engaging volunteers and fostering team collaboration.

Honors Student Organization (Mar 2020 – Dec 2020)

- Led initiatives to improve campus life and connect with local organizations.