



Lieutenant Colonel Mark E. Huhtanen was commissioned as an Infantry Officer from Montana State University in 1996 where he majored in Bio-Medical Sciences. LTC Huhtanen served as Rifle Platoon Leader and Executive Officer in Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Battalion, Hohenfels, Germany from 1997-2000. After attending the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, he served as a Company Commander in 1st Battalion 17th Infantry (light) and then commander of HHC, 172nd Stryker Infantry Brigade, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, from 2002-2004. LTC Huhtanen deployed to Iraq as a Battalion S4, Assistant S3, and Battalion Executive Officer in 2-1 Infantry (Stryker).

He attended Intermediate Level Education from 2007-2008. During ILE he also attained a Masters of Arts in Management and Leadership from Webster's University. Upon completion of ILE, LTC Huhtanen then attended the School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS) in 2009.

Upon completion of SAMS, LTC Huhtanen served as the G3 Future Operations Planner for 1st Cavalry Division and deployed to Iraq again from 2009-2010.

LTC Huhtanen deployed to Iraq a third time as the S3 and Executive Officer for the 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment out of Fort Hood, Texas, from 2010-2011. From 2012-2014, LTC Huhtanen served as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team S3, 1st CD, and the DCO redeploying from OEF in January of 2014.

LTC Huhtanen's awards include the Bronze Star Medal (4), Meritorious Service Medal (2), ARCOM, AAM (7), Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Air Assault Badge.