

**EDWARD J. BESTA, JR.**  
**Major, United States Air Force (Retired)**

**Ed Besta** has joined American Express as a **Manager - Global Reengineering**, effective July 18, 2016. Ed will be supporting the Commercial Transformation program with a focus on driving process improvement in the E2E Customer Experience work stream.

Ed joins us following a successful 25-year career as a Communications - Cyber Operations Officer in the United States Air Force. His Air Force career included assignments to several communications and intelligence units in California, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Arizona, and England. He was also assigned to headquarters staffs in Korea, Japan, Hawaii, and Louisiana, and deployed twice to Baghdad, where he served as a communications officer and air advisor on the Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq HQ staff. He later served as a U.S. liaison officer to Japan's Self Defense Forces at Japan's Ministry of Defense in Tokyo, where he coordinated bilateral communications interoperability with relevant ministries and agencies supporting treaties, foreign military sales and information sharing between the U.S. and the Government of Japan.

He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Development while stationed in Honolulu, and proceeded to earn a commission through Air Force Officer Training School. He also earned a Master's Degree in Human Resource Management during his military career. Immediately following his retirement from the Air Force, he attended The University of Arizona, where he earned an MBA.

Ed and his wife Cindy have been married for seven years and currently reside in Glendale, Arizona. His hobbies include travel, reading, and music. His lifelong passions include family, friends and Major League Baseball.