



JUAN CARLOS LÓPEZ

Senior Program Manager, Microsoft

Juan Carlos López has over 10 years of experience in the space industry, driving innovation and advancing global cooperation through strategy, technical expertise, and business leadership.

As a Senior Program Manager at Microsoft, Juan Carlos leads the development of transformative products and services at the intersection of cloud, Artificial Intelligence, and space technologies. Most recently, he collaborated with NASA to build the NASA Earth Copilot, a proof of concept leveraging AI to enable natural language exploration of NASA's vast Earth science datasets. This project showcased how AI can accelerate scientific discovery and make NASA's data accessible to scientists and the public alike.

Prior to joining Microsoft, Juan Carlos served as an Aerospace Engineer and Commercial Portfolio Manager at NASA. He worked on improving vehicle design and astronaut safety by analyzing and testing the vibrations of spacecraft during liftoff and flight. He also managed investments for commercial applications aboard the International Space Station, supporting innovations that harness the unique properties of microgravity.

At NASA, Juan Carlos designed and directed partnership strategies with emerging space markets, resulting in collaborative agreements to develop technical capabilities for the global space industry like the AztechSat-1 project. Recognized for his leadership and contributions, he was selected for NASA FIRST, a prestigious leadership program for early-career space professionals. His work supported key NASA human spaceflight programs, including Artemis, Commercial Crew, and the International Space Station.

Juan Carlos holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from The University of Texas at El Paso, graduating as a UTEP Top Ten Senior, an M.S. from the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

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