

# NEWS & VIEWS



IAWA NEWSLETTER

JULY 2015

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Abby Bried, IAWA President

I hope you are making time for a mid-year break to rest, rejuvenate and reflect. I am writing from the dock of my family summer cottage where I am inspired each year by my great-grandmother. 90 years ago she would travel more than 375 miles alone with three children to an island in the midst of a large lake where she built a small cottage. Unlike the multiple flight options I have today, she travelled by car, train and boat to reach the island. This magical place that inspired her to make the long journey each summer continues to inspire me today with its life's basics. While I work for an airline that blesses me to travel the world, the lake is by far my happy place. I hope each of you have your own happy place where you too can take time for yourself and hopefully read IAWA's newsletter. Happy place time gets us all ready to complete the year full of even more fireworks. I am thrilled to share that IAWA is set to round out 2015 with a Connect, Inspire & Lead bang!

Besides my great-grandmother, another woman I reflected upon in my happy place was IAWA's Woman of Excellence Award recipient Cecile Hatfield who accepted this year's award at the Washington DC reception. Cecile graced us with an inspirational speech reflecting back on the fireworks in her amazing career. You can view the video of Cecile's inspirational career on [iawa.org](http://iawa.org).



During the past three months, IAWA events have connected more than 500 women and men in our industry. From EBACE in Geneva, the LUISS conference in Rome, to yet another amazing event with Airbus at the Paris Air Show. Di Reimhold and I are just back from Cincinnati where GE Aviation hosted an event for more than 50 women from the GE Women's Network and other regional aviation and aerospace women. We had a great panel discussion on leadership and a tour of the GE engine development plant. Thanks to all of our local hosts and to everyone who attended these IAWA Connects and Receptions.

In June, the IAWA Board also hosted a reception in Washington DC where Hagir Elawad, Director of Congressional Affairs at the UAE Embassy officially invited us all to Dubai for the IAWA conference, the ultimate IAWA Connect of the year. Hagir shared with us how the UAE is focused on the importance of women's development especially in aviation and aerospace, which are focal points of their future. Let's take Hagir up on the invite and all go to Dubai!

We are extremely excited for the first ever opportunity to connect at an IAWA conference in the Middle East. IAWA's 27th Annual Conference will be held from November 10-12, 2015 at Fairmont the Palm Hotel in Dubai. We expect more than 150 women professionals in the aviation and aerospace worldwide, and will feature speaker panels and presentations from respected industry leaders, as well as expansive opportunities for personal and professional networking. Registration is open on [iawa.org](http://iawa.org). We hope you will join us for this unique IAWA Connection experience that includes the Dubai Air Show.

Another reason to join us in Dubai is for the opportunity to be inspired by the four amazing women conference keynotes. We are honored to have these accomplished women inspire us with their stories of success and leadership development advice:

Her Excellency **Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi** is the first woman to assume a cabinet position in the U.A.E. holding positions as Minister of the Economy, Minister of Foreign Trade, during which the UAE enjoyed its most economically prosperous period and highest volumes of foreign trade. In 2013, she became Minister of International Cooperation and Development, with the responsibility of boosting the UAE's role as a major donor and key player in global human development.

**Laila Ali bin Hareb Al Muhairi** is the Assistant Director General, Strategy & International Affairs, General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) in the UAE. As the first Arab woman to hold a vital strategic position in the MENA region, Laila is a game changer in the local and regional aviation strategies. Two years after she began her work at the GCAA, it was awarded the prestigious Sheikh Khalifa Government Excellence Program (SKGEP) award in recognition of its best practices in the areas of Strategic Planning and Performance Management systems and also recognized as the government entity for the most improved performance.

**Barbara Leaf** was confirmed last year as the U.S. Ambassador to the UAE. She previously served five years in key U.S. State Department roles in the strategically important Arabian Peninsula and is and will provide a unique geopolitical view of this region along with her views on the important role women are playing.

**Deborah Lee James**, the 23rd Secretary of the U.S. Air Force and only second woman leads the Air Force with nearly 660,000 active duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen and their families. She also oversees the Air Force's annual budget of more than \$139 billion. In her role women's issues are in the forefront, and she will be in Dubai to share her insights and views with us.

All four of these women will share their inspirational stories and views with us when we gather in Dubai and I hope you will be there to meet these incredible women.

In closing, I want to share how IAWA Board is leading IAWA into the future by developing a strategic plan that will lead IAWA into the

next chapter of this organization's history. In June, the Board spent two days passionately working to analyze IAWA's vision and mission along with clearly understanding all aspects of IAWA's audience. The Board is building a strategic plan for the future with goals that include how we expand and fortify our influence; provide a clear membership value proposition; and, drive engagement of the next generation of potential leaders. Strategic planning is critical for the success of any organization. I want to personally thank our Board and Advisory Board for the extra work this milestone requires. It is a testament to what IAWA means to each of them that motivates these great women to take on this leadership role.

The next few months will be busy for IAWA and we hope you will make plans to meet us in Dubai!

## IAWA SELECTS 2015 AVIATION INDUSTRY WOMAN OF EXCELLENCE

### Award Recipient: Cecile Hatfield



IAWA selected Cecile Hatfield as the recipient of the 2015 IAWA Aviation Industry Woman of Excellence Award. This award recognizes women who are leaders in the field of aviation, have demonstrated a commitment to the advancement of women in the industry and are respected as team players by men and women alike. As a woman who epitomizes these attributes, IAWA recognized Cecile Hatfield, Esq. as the fourth recipient of this award.

Hatfield has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the advancement of women in the aviation industry. She has been a member of IAWA since 1991 and served in a leadership capacity as a Board member for many years, including as Secretary, Chair of the Scholarship committee and Chair of the Advisory Board. In addition, she was the first woman to serve as Chairman of the American Bar Association (ABA) Aviation and Space Law Committee. She is currently the Past President and Contributing Editor for the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association and she continues to serve as the Program Chair of the Annual Embry Riddle Aviation Law and Insurance Symposium. IAWA Past President, Katherine Staton spoke of Hatfield, "Cecile has always been a trailblazer-she has been the first woman to do

many things -and aviation has consistently been at the root of her "firsts."

Hatfield has long had a passion for aviation, obtaining her pilot's license in 1963 and her instructor's certificate shortly thereafter. Hatfield received her law degree in 1975 from the University of Miami after graduating with high honors from the University of Florida, where she was elected to the Hall of Fame and Mortar Board. In her early career she helped to pioneer the path for women in aviation. She was the first woman to serve as Associate General Counsel for Piper Aircraft Corporation, where she defended Piper in court against product liability claims. She then worked for the United States Department of Justice for nine years as an aviation lawyer trying many complex cases. During her tenure at the Department of Justice Hatfield won the case of *Varig v. United States* in the U.S. Supreme Court. *Varig* is one of the landmark Supreme Court case addressing the discretionary function exception to the Federal Tort Claims Act and is cited in nearly every case addressing the issue. Further helping to pave the way for women, Hatfield has served for many years, and continues to serve as General Counsel to the Ninety-Nines, Inc., an international organization of over 5,000 women pilots.

The award ceremony was held in Washington D.C., on June 2nd, 2015 at a Reception hosted by Boeing, Pratt & Whitney and GE.

[Check out this video](#) to learn about Cecile's inspiring accomplishments.



## Astronaut

## Chairman and CEO, Ad Astra Rocket Company

By Alina Nassar



Dr. Franklin Chang Díaz @franklinchangd is founder and current Chairman and CEO of Ad Astra Rocket Company, [www.adastrarocket.com](http://www.adastrarocket.com), a US firm developing advanced plasma rocket technology and applications in sustainable energy with operations in Houston, Texas and Guanacaste, Costa Rica. In 2005 Dr. Chang Díaz completed a 25 year career as a NASA astronaut where he became a veteran of a (world) record 7 space missions. He has logged over 1,600 hours in space, including 19 hours in three space walks. In 1994, in conjunction with astronaut training at NASA, he founded and directed the Advanced Space Propulsion Laboratory (ASPL) at the Johnson Space Center where he managed a multi-center research team developing advanced plasma rocket propulsion concepts. Dr. Chang Díaz is the inventor of the VASIMR® engine, a high power plasma rocket currently under development by Ad Astra for in-space applications. He has over 35 years of experience in experimental plasma physics, engineering and high power electric propulsion and 25 years of experience in space operations and the management and implementation of research and development programs at NASA. Dr. Chang Díaz holds a PhD degree in Applied Plasma Physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Connecticut. Prior to his work at NASA, Dr. Chang Díaz was involved in magnetic and inertial confinement fusion research at MIT and the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory. He is an Adjunct Professor of Physics at Rice University and the University of Houston. He is married to the former Peggy Marguerite Stafford of Alexandria, Louisiana and has four daughters: Jean Elizabeth (41) Sonia Rosa (36), Lidia Aurora (26) and Miranda Karina (20). He enjoys music, flying and scuba-diving. His mother, brothers and sisters still reside in Costa Rica.

**You've been selected for this article because you are an example of how important it is for men to support women. Can you describe either the event or person that influenced you the most or shaped your belief in this area?**

Without a doubt, my mother, she has been the strongest and steadiest influence in my life. While my father has always been my hero, my mother became my mentor, my coach and my friend and confidant. She was solely responsible for my not succumbing to self-doubt and despair during a very conflicted and rebellious adolescence. Many people have helped me in my life journey, but none quite as much or for as long as my mother.

**What advice would you give women in how to succeed?**

I would give women pretty much the same advice I give men. Do not be afraid to set yourself in motion and take risks. To succeed one must learn to fail. Small but frequent steps are better than rare giant leaps. Stay true to your dreams and believe in yourself, and help others believe in theirs too. When we help someone, we contribute to our collective good. When we collaborate we will find collaboration. Do not undermine the work of others. Pay attention to the details and beware of those who talk too much. The more you talk, the less you do. Think about your personal life purpose but enjoy your journey. You only have one.

**What characteristic/s do you believe women should have to succeed? What characteristic/s or trait/s do you think either prevents them from succeeding or derails them?**

People who develop persistence, self-assurance, character strength and a solid set of ethical values as well as humility, kindness and compassion are preparing for success. For women, old stereotypical social, cultural and religious prejudices are major barriers. We need to keep working hard to eliminate these roadblocks.

**Mentor vs. sponsor? Which idea do you subscribe to and why?**

A mentor walks along with you, while a sponsor often supports from a distance. I prefer the former, but if the two could be melded, that would be ideal.

**How have you encouraged/ensured your organization &/or peers implement your belief in helping women?**

We have always been totally open to hiring qualified female candidates for our team. We are still a relatively small company, and, I must say we have not been successful in recruiting as many qualified candidates, as we would like. I see more and more females pursuing studies in rocket science, plasma physics and engineering so we remain optimistic that more will come to join us.

**What is the biggest challenge women face today?**

Women bear the biological brunt of childrearing. Childcare remains a huge impediment to women embracing a full-time career. Many women have postponed their childbearing years to focus on a career, a tough choice that only delays the problem. Society must equalize this imbalance by providing flexible hours, on-site childcare and supporting breastfeeding alternatives at the work place.

**What are you most proud of as a male leader?**

I am proud to march along with my team on this journey, putting my own "skin in the game" and taking equal or greater risks than those that I ask of them. I do not wish to lead from a safe and comfortable perch and I strive to be disciplined, responsible and accountable.

## United all women aircraft delivery

On May 20th, IAWA President Abby Bried joined IAWA members from United and Boeing as part of a historic first: an all-women delivery flight for United's new B737-900ER. The flight was organized by United's uIMPACT business resource group for women employees and led by IAWA member Mandeep Grewal who brainstormed this fabulous idea while touring the Boeing factory during IAWA's conference. She made the idea reality, all but painting the plane pink! uIMPACTS's goal for women is represented in its name Initiate Movement. Purposeful Advancement. Connect Together. The flight was flown by an all-woman crew, met by an all-woman ramp crew at ORD, and filled with more than 100 women employees, brought in from all around United's network. Boeing's women team delivered the keys to the plane and watched the historic flight take-off from Seattle. It's great to see that IAWA's mission of connecting women is shared by other groups in this great industry and let's hope that it will lead to more events and recognition of the amazing work women lead in our industry. Read more in the media coverage: Built by women, flown by women: Boeing, United Airlines highlight female leaders at 737 handoff (Puget Sound Business Journal); United Airlines makes a big statement about women in the cockpit (Chicago Business Journal) The Keys, Please: Women of United Pick Up Their First Plane (KUOW).



## IAWA and ACI announce AELP Scholarship Recipient

ACI (Airport Council International) and IAWA established an affiliation in 2014 which includes the offering of two scholarships every year to IAWA members. The AELP: The Airport Executive Leadership Programme, for airport executives, and the The Airport Operations Diploma.

IAWA and ACI are very pleased to announce that Sarah R. Meadows, Associate General Counsel at the Tucson Airport Authority, and an IAWA member, will be the first recipient of the very valuable AELP program. Sarah was nominated by President/CEO of the Tucson Airport Authority, Bonnie Allin, who was a prominent speaker at IAWA's Seattle conference.

# IAWA announces new partnership with the Global Aerospace Summit

**The Global Aerospace Summit** is an exclusive, invitation only cross-industry forum for C-level executives, senior decision makers and government officials involved in the aerospace, aviation, defence and space industries. The next edition will be held on the 07 - 08 March 2016 in Abu Dhabi.

The Summit provides platform that allows international peers to engage in forward looking, strategic debate and address the key challenges facing the aerospace, aviation, defence and space industries. It is an industry led event with the themes, content and outcomes driven by a high level advisory board. The theme for 2016 is one that concerns the whole industry - Innovation.

The Summit won't just be examining how aircraft, launch systems and satellites evolve. It will examine new ways of building and financing them and using new materials and innovative applications for which they will be used. In these cost conscious times, participants will discuss how to deliver more for less as well as look at the major breakthroughs of tomorrow.



## IAWA Webinars

IAWA has launched a series of webinars on topics of interest to our members. Our most recent webinar on May 21st on improving public speaking skills was led by Jezra Kaye, acclaimed public speaking coach, workshop leader, keynote speaker, and President of Speak Up for Success.

Attendees from the U.S., Mexico, Canada, and Europe benefited from Kaye's insights and practical suggestions on how to deliver successful presentations, communicate with power and ease at meetings, pitches, networking events, and job interviews.

**Stay tuned for upcoming IAWA Webinars!**

## IAWA Reception at the 51st International Paris Air Show

As part of the 51st International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget, the Airbus Group sponsored a reception with IAWA on June 18, 2015. Women from around the world gathered at the Airbus Group Pavilion to connect, conduct business and build global networks. IAWA and Airbus also partnered on a reception program that included comments from Lisa Piccione (President-elect IAWA), Thierry Baril (Chief HR Officer Airbus Group & Airbus), Kiran Rao (Airbus Head of Strategy and Future Programmes), and Suzie Lewis (Chairwoman of “Balance for Business” Airbus Group). In addition, the program featured special guest Captain Ari Fuji who became Japan’s first certified female captain five years ago.

IAWA thanks the Airbus Group for their longstanding support of IAWA - with special acknowledgment and thanks to Jacqui Chan, Head of Diversity and Inclusion, Marie-Amelie Clotteau, Support to Business Transformation, HR, and Jennifer Ouarrag for their efforts to make the Paris reception a success.





# EBACE EVENT

The European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) and Women in Corporate Aviation (WCA) hosted a Women in Aviation Networking Event at EBACE in Geneva on May 19th. Kathy Flanagan, IAWA Board member, and Karin Muller of WCA, each welcomed the participants with a brief summary of their respective organizations and their perspectives on women in aviation. Brian Humphries of EBAA provided an introduction to the session, which included rotating round table discussions related to a variety of aviation related areas of expertise. Topics included careers in government regulatory agencies, corporate governance, strategic planning and management. At the conclusion of the discussions, the “manager” for each table presented a summary with key topics that could provide material for future sessions. The discussions were lively and afforded a great vehicle for networking as well as for substantive discussion. IAWA looks forward to participating with EBAA and WCA at future events!



# Washington Reception

The IAWA Community came together on June 2nd at The Boeing Company for the Washington DC Reception. The event kicked off with opening remarks from Hagir Elawad, Director of Congressional Affairs at the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, and was highlighted by the presentation of the 2015 IAWA Aviation Woman of Excellence Award to Cecile Hatfield. The event was hosted by The Boeing Company, Pratt & Whitney and GE.



# IAWA Reception following the Luiss Conference

Following the interesting 'Future of the Air Transport Industry' Conference which was arranged by the LUISS Business School and Studio Pierallini, Laura Pierallini of Studio Pierallini kindly arranged an IAWA Reception at her offices in Rome. The reception was very well attended with around 40 women present together with men who had also attended the conference, all of whom seemed sincerely interested in IAWA and what the organization illustrates and stands for.

This was a great reception and brought together aviation colleagues stretching from Columbia to London to Dubai. Many different subjects were discussed and it is hoped that genuine IAWA relationships were formed with many ladies taking a great interest in the ongoing IAWA Reception/Connects and specifically to the Annual Conference in Dubai. All in all it was a great evening, enjoyed by many and thank you once again to Laura Pierallini for hosting such a great event.



# Cincinnati Connect

GE Aviation and IAWA hosted an "IAWA Connect" reception on July 22 in Cincinnati, Ohio. The event was very well attended by over 40 participants from ten different organizations, including the US Air Force, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Airport, ARGUS International, UPS and Sidley Austin. The event was kicked off by a panel discussion with Abby Bried from United Airlines, Di Reimold from IATA and Laurence Vigeant-Langlois from GE Aviation. The panel discussion was followed by a networking session and cocktail reception. This event provided a wonderful "connect" opportunity for aviation women in the Cincinnati area and beyond.



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Bogota Breakfast Reception

**Date:** August 31, 2015

**Event time:** 9:00 am

**Location:** Bogotá, Colombia, Cra. 8 No. 15-49 Third Floor, Edificio Ucros

Sponsored by CMC Abogados and the law office of Mr. Diego Pardo Tovar.



**cmc**  
ABOGADOS

### Breakfast Reception at ALTA Aviation Law Americas

**Date:** September 4, 2015

**Event time:** 7:30-9:00 am

**Location:** Iberostar Cancun Golf & Spa Resort, Mexico

You are cordially invited to join IAWA at the Cancun Reception on September 4th which will be held during the [ALTA Aviation Law Americas Conference](#). Click here to RSVP: <http://iawa.org/rsvp>.



**ALTA AVIATION LAW AMERICAS**  
Aviation Industry Legal and Finance Conference

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# IAWA 27th ANNUAL CONFERENCE



## A first for the Middle East, please join us at the International Aviation Womens Association's 27th Annual Conference in Dubai!

Exchange ideas and experiences, explore solutions and network with the airline and aerospace industry's foremost women leaders. With a reputation for insight, relevance and value among women in aviation, IAWA's Annual Conference is the world's leading women's conference for the aviation and aerospace industry. Join us and your colleagues for an unrivaled examination of the latest challenges facing the industry that include topics ranging issues related to aviation operations and safety, infrastructure, manufacturing, customer experience, MROs, general aviation, aerospace, finance, insurance and liability, along with women's leadership development interactive sessions

IAWA's Annual Conference, now in its 27th year, is the "must attend" conference for women in leadership and management roles in the industry. It's renowned for its interactive and lively panels, varied program and excellent networking opportunities.

### IAWA Represents:

- 330 management and executive level women members from 33 countries and a global outreach to more than 1,500 women and large number of men supporters
- More than 225 major companies and organizations in the aerospace and aviation industries
- Prominent sponsors including Boeing, FedEx, flydubai, GE, United Airlines and more
- Affiliated with ACI International, ALTA, IATA, ICAO ISTAT, RAES, Global Aerospace Summit and the Wings Club
- Supported by the UAE's GCAA
- Media Partners include Aviation Week & Aero Latin News

### CONFERENCE OVERVIEW:

#### November 10, 2015

IAWA's Dubai Air Show Experience  
Conference Grand Opening Reception

#### November 11, 2015

Networking Breakfast, General Sessions & Interactive Leadership Development  
IAWA's Gala Dinner and Woman of Excellence Award Presentation

#### November 12, 2015

Networking Breakfast & Annual Membership Meeting & General Sessions  
Closing Networking Reception

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION & HOTEL INFORMATION:** <http://iawa.org/content/27th-annual-conference>

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:** Please contact Andrea Brantner at [andrea.brantner@gecas.com](mailto:andrea.brantner@gecas.com)

Distinguished keynote speakers have confirmed participation at the IAWA 27th Annual Conference: Her Excellency **Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi**, UAE Minister of International Cooperation and Development; **Laila Ali bin Hareb Al Muhairi**, Assistant Director General - Strategy & International Affairs, General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), Ms. **Barbara Leaf**, U.S. Ambassador to the U.A.E. and **Deborah Lee James**, Secretary of the United States Air Force.

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## Mary Ellen Jones Named One of Eight Remarkable Women of 2015 by the Hartford Business Journal



Mary Ellen Jones, vice president, Commercial Engines Sales, Asia/Pacific & China, was recently named one of Connecticut's "8 Remarkable Women in Business" for 2015 by the Hartford Business Journal. The central theme of the Hartford Business Journal's search to find remarkable women in Connecticut was the importance of mentorship in their lives.

A contributing factor to Jones' success early on in her career was her interaction with key mentors when she joined Pratt & Whitney in Washington, D.C., as the assistant to the director of government relations. Her supervisors provided Jones with the opportunity to attend and report on congressional hearings as well as to participate in meetings with members of Congress and Pratt & Whitney executives.

"My mentors put a lot of trust in me, which built my confidence and instilled a great deal of company loyalty," Jones said. "This gave me a lot of latitude to enhance my role and take initiative."

Such responsibility and visibility opened the door for her next opportunity at Pratt & Whitney's headquarters in East Hartford, Connecticut. There, she emphasized the importance of mentoring new talent through empowering her team and providing real-time coaching and feedback. Her role as a mentor extends to employees outside of her organization whom she counsels to seek opportunities that will make them excited to come to work every day and to contribute to Pratt & Whitney's success.

Jones was officially honored by the Hartford Business Journal at a celebratory reception on May 14.

## Fariba Alamdari distinguished by the Center for Women & Democracy

IAWA member Fariba Alamdari was selected by the Center for Women & Democracy among the distinguished group of best women business leaders. The award ceremony was held at the International Women's Day at the Governor's Mansion in Olympia on Monday, March 9th.



## Abby Bried recognized at the 2015 Global Counsel Awards

IAWA President and Associate General Counsel at United Airlines, Abby Bried, and her Legal Department regulatory team at United were recognized at the 2015 Global Counsel Awards. The Awards are sponsored by International Law Office in London, in association with the Association of Corporate Counsel. United's legal team was awarded the trophy for top in-house counsel team worldwide in the Regulatory Non-Financial Services category this year.

The team and individual finalists in eight categories of in-house practice were selected this year from over 4,000 nominations from in-house counsel and law firm partners worldwide. The award recognizes lawyers for demonstrable achievements across the full spectrum of in-house responsibility. The winners were announced at a gala dinner and awards ceremony on June 11 in New York.



## IAWA Members at the 6th International Moot Court Competition in Beijing

Elizabeth Freidenberg, Laura Pierallini and Mia Wouters shared their aviation knowledge with students representing universities from all over the world, as they participated as judges at the Sixth Sarin Leiden International Air Law Moot Court. The competition was organized in Beijing by Leiden University and Sarin Foundation. The event was hosted by China University of Political Science and Policy and Law (CUPL) and Beijing Capital International Airport (BCIA).

This Section is contributed by IAWA member Caroline Healey, from Langlois, Kronström and Desjardins.

## **HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PARIS AIR SHOW**

<http://aviationweek.com/shownews/paris-air-show-2015>  
<http://www.flightglobal.com/air-shows/paris-air-show/2015/>

## **IATA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015**

Source: <http://m.travelweekly.co.uk/Article.aspx?cat=news&id=54600>  
Travel Weekly - 18 June 2015

## **FIRST FAA-APPROVED DRONE DELIVERIES COMING JULY 17**

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2015/06/22/first-faa-approved-drone-deliveries-coming-july-17/>  
By Anna Attkinsson  
FoxNews - 22 June 2015

## **UNITED GROUNDING HIGHLIGHTS WORRIES OVER CYBER ATTACKS**

Source: <http://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/air-transport/2015-07-09/united-grounding-highlights-worries-over-cyber-attacks>  
by Gregory Polek  
AINONLINE - - July 9, 2015

## **RYANAIR ACCEPTS IAG OFFER FOR AER LINGUS STAKE**

Source: <http://www.flightglobal.com/news/articles/ryanair-accepts-iag-offer-for-aer-lingus-stake-414498/>  
FlightGlobal - 10 July 2015

## **HEATHROW EXPANSION: FOREIGN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTORS EMERGE AS WINNERS OF AIRPORT COMMISSION DECISION**

Source: <http://www.standard.co.uk/business/business-news/heathrow-expansion-foreign-infrastructure-investors-emerge-as-winners-of-airport-commission-decision-10357131.html>  
By Angela Jameson  
London Evening Standard - 1 July 2015

## **PETER NEFFENGER SWORN IN AS NEW TSA ADMINISTRATOR**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/dr-gridlock/wp/2015/07/06/peter-neffenger-sworn-in-as-new-tsa-administrator/>  
By Lori Aratan  
Washington Post - 6 July 2015

## **CHINA CALLING: TOP 10 CHINESE JOINT AIRCRAFT PROJECTS**

Source: <http://www.flightglobal.com/news/articles/china-calling-top-10-chinese-joint-aircraft-projects-414513/>  
By Stephen Trimble  
FlightGlobal - 10 July 2015

## **BOEING CLEARS CDR MILESTONE ON 787-10**

Source: <http://www.flightglobal.com/news/articles/boeing-clears-cdr-milestone-on-787-10-414581/>  
By Stephen Trimble  
FlightGlobal - 13 July 2015

## **ALCOA DOUBLES AEROSPACE FORECAST DESPITE SLOW STARTS FOR A350, CSERIES**

Source: <http://www.flightglobal.com/news/articles/alcoa-doubles-aerospace-forecast-despite-slow-starts-for-a350-414469/>  
By Dan Thisdell  
FlightGlobal - 9 July 2015



# MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS



**Sabitha Banu, Lecturer - Aviation from Griffith University, Australia** Sabitha has a wide array of experience in aviation - as a student, pilot, consultant, teacher, researcher and a mentor.



**Djalila Behaz, Specialist - Legal Research, Department of Transport from Abu Dhabi – UAE**

Djalila is specializing in aviation Law, a legal adviser at the DOT- Abu Dhabi , Djalila's practice includes aviation regulatory issues.

**Nancy Wilson Brothers, Senior Managing Director from Aviation Finance Corp** - Nancy Wilson Brothers worked on multiple financings during her time at Citigroup including Fly Leasing among others. She was recently recruited to Aviation Finance Corp by Doug Brennan and is expanding her aviation finance experience dramatically via structuring and direct lending with airlines, aircraft lessors and partners.



**Gabriella Cellarosi, Esquire from Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC**

Gabriella Cellarosi Daniel counsels domestic and foreign airlines on aviation regulatory and litigation matters before numerous federal agencies, including the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). She has assisted foreign airlines with the defense of major enforcement actions before the Department of Transportation and other administrative agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She has also defended international airlines in commercial and employment litigation in federal courts, as well as passenger and cargo claims under the Warsaw and Montreal Conventions.



**Carolyn DeForge, Chief of Aviation Engineering Division, Office of Aviation Safety from National Transportation Safety Board**

Mrs. DeForge is the Chief of the Aviation Engineering Division, Office of Aviation Safety, of the National Transportation Safety Board, and has almost 30 years of experience in aircraft accident investigation. As the Chief of the Aviation Engineering Division, she is responsible for the airworthiness aspect of investigations of all domestic civilian aviation accidents and incidents, as well as supporting the Safety Board's response to major foreign aviation accidents.

**Shelly deZevallos, Vice President from West Houston Airport**

Shelly Lesikar deZevallos is currently vice president of West Houston Airport, a privately owned public use airport that has been a part of their family for over close to 50 years. Her first 'job' was sweeping hangars when she was 6 years old. Since then, she worked at Cessna in aircraft sales and with AOPA in general aviation advocacy. She is passionate about aviation public policy so in addition to her duties at West Houston Airport, she is also President of Texans for General Aviation, a non-profit aviation advocacy organization in Texas.



**Maria-Pierre Dhers, Managing Director from MP & Partners**

An aerospace engineer graduate of the French School of Civil Aviation (ENAC) in Toulouse, a postgraduate in Air Transport Management from Cranfield University in UK, and holder of an Executive MBA from the US, Marie-Pierre brings with her a significant airline business experience. At Air France, she was amongst the first women to conduct fleet management and aircraft financing projects for over 10 years. She then actively participated in the successful development of the airline maintenance branch, facing OEMs aftermarket competition. At the Air France KLM Group strategic department, she also headed innovative plans to improve the airline competitiveness. As SVP French Airports, managing more than 3,000 staff, her last assignment was to boost the productivity performance of the division to compete with LCCs. Mrs. Dhers is passionate about running, yoga, aviation and has a special interest in international business; she and her husband relocated a year ago to New York City with their two teenagers. She started a new career in aviation consulting.



**Anne Marie Cecile Ekra, Managing Director from Bureau Des Enquetes Et Analyses Des Accidents D Aviation De Cote Divoire (BEA)**

Since January 2014, Anne Marie Cecile Ekra has been the Managing Director of the COTE D IVOIRE Aviation Accident Investigation Bureau (BEA). After spending 19 years with the Multinational Airline AIR AFRIQUE, as Flight Safety, Aviation regulations and Flight Operations Manager, she worked 11 years with the Minister of Economic Infrastructures Cabinet as Technical Adviser than Deputy Director of the Cabinet in charge of Airports Infrastructures and Airport Safety Policy. For five years Anne Marie Cecile Ekra has been the Vice-Chairman of IATA AFI Régional Committee Group, for Civil Aviation Safety and Economy, within Africa and Indian Ocean Region. She is in charge of External Relations, of the Association of Cote d'Ivoire Women Engineers and Scientists, affiliated to International Network for Women Engineers & Scientists.



**Ursula English, Vice President - Environment, Health and Safety from The Boeing Company**

Ursula English is vice president of Environment, Health & Safety for The Boeing Company. She leads Boeing's environmental sustainability efforts, including improving the environmental performance of its global operations, products and services, as well as Boeing's workplace safety programs. English joined Boeing in 1988 as an aircraft mechanic after serving in the U.S. Air Force as a jet engine mechanic. While working at Boeing she earned a bachelor's degree in Business and Management from Azusa Pacific University and a master's degree in Human Services from Springfield College. She also holds Federal Aviation Administration airframe and power plant licenses.



**Beth FitzPatrick, Attorney from Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott**

Beth currently practice aviation law at Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC in Washington, DC. My work focuses on counseling U.S. and foreign airlines on regulatory matters involving the Departments of Transportation (DOT), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), the State Department, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Previously, I worked at Seward & Kissel LLP in New York City and represented major financial institutions in cross-border financing transactions which included the securitization of aircraft leases.



**Mackenzie Foellmer, Attorney from Worthe Hanson & Worthe**

Mackenzie C. Foellmer was recently made a Partner in the law firm of Worthe Hanson & Worthe. She was admitted to the California State Bar in 2008. She received her Bachelors degree in English from the University of California Los Angeles in 2003 and her Juris Doctor from Whittier Law School in 2007. She handles the defense of civil aviation claims.

**Carrie Friesen-Meyers, Associate from Holland & Knight LLP**

Carrie Friesen-Meyers is an associate in Holland & Knight's Chicago office and practices in the area of structured finance. Ms. Friesen-Meyers represents lessees, lessors, borrowers and lenders in connection with a broad range of complex financing transactions in the aviation sector. Typical transactions include commercial and private jet acquisitions; aircraft, railcar and equipment leases, including leveraged and single investor lease transactions; cross-border financing transactions; project financings; asset-based loan facilities; leveraged term loan facilities and restructuring/exit financings. Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Friesen-Meyers practiced at Skadden, Arps LLP for five years. Immediately after graduating from Harvard Law School, she clerked for one year with U.S. District Judge David O. Carter in the Central District of California. Ms. Friesen-Meyers has lived, worked or traveled in over 30 countries. She is proficient in French and Mandarin and has a working knowledge of Spanish and German.



**Mary Elaine Johnston, Partner from Allen & Overy LLP**

Elaine is the head of Allen & Overy LLP's U.S. Antitrust practice and co-head of the Global Antitrust practice. She has been featured in Chambers USA, PLC Which Lawyer?, The International Who's Who of Competition Lawyers and Euromoney's Guide to the World's Leading Competition and Antitrust Lawyers. Elaine has an active practice before the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission representing merging parties in connection with mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures, as well as companies in nonmerger investigations. Elaine also has an active antitrust litigation practice and is currently representing United Airlines in pending antitrust litigation.



**Roberta Luccioli, Technical Officer from International Civil Aviation Organization**

Roberta is an environmental engineer with nine years of experience in the aviation field. She has worked in the aviation industry for five five and then joined the International Civil Aviation Organization in 2011. As a professional, she has collected a significant experience in the aviation field. She started with a deep focus on the Aeronautical Information Management field, she then broadened her abilities to several other aspects of the aviation system. Over the course of her experience she has had the opportunity to work in various different places (Italy, Germany, Canada) that made her used to very international environments. Her personal expertise has evolved in step with the technological, operational and regulatory improvements and achievements witnessed in the sector itself.



**Suzanne McBride, Vice President of Aviation and Aerospace from Marsh**

Suzanne has worked as an insurance broker since 2002 with a strong emphasis on Aviation Insurance, becoming chartered in 2012. She also passed her PPL in 2001 and her CPL/IR in 2006 after which she worked as an AOC Pilot before returning to the insurance business in 2009. Suzanne believes that her practical aviation gives her great knowledge of the practicalities of daily Aviation activities enabling her to better conduct her job.



**Kristina Schneider, Senior Director - Operations and Learning Services from Aviation Strategies International**

Kristina Schneider is aviation professional development, organizational learning and human performance technology specialist. She is the Senior Director, Operations and Learning Services at Aviation Strategies International, a Montreal-based organization which specializes strategic advice and aviation management competency building.



**Susan Spence, CP, Sourcing & Procurement from FedEx Corporation**

Sue joined FedEx in October 2013 as the VP of Sourcing and Procurement. Her responsibilities include leading a team of 139 professionals in managing \$14B of spend in the Operational and Services categories, as well as overseeing compliance and systems related to the corporation's procurement activities. Prior to joining FedEx, Sue was employed at United Technologies Corporation for 28 years in positions of increasing responsibility at the Aerospace Divisions of Pratt & Whitney, Hamilton Sundstrand, UTC's corporate division, and Sikorsky Aircraft. Her career included manager and executive positions in Supply Management as well as Operations Transformation (continuous improvement) and International Trade Compliance.



**Allison Strickland, Attorney from Richmond & Quinn**

Allison Strickland is an attorney in the Anchorage, Alaska office of Richmond & Quinn. Allison's practice involves defense of clients in the aviation industry, including operators, airports, pilots, and manufacturers.

**Wilma Suen, Vice President, Strategic Marketing from GE Capital Aviation Services**

Wilma W Suen is Vice President, Strategic Marketing at GECAS, where she is responsible for passenger demand forecasting, identifying high potential markets and airline industry analysis. Prior to moving to Connecticut, she headed American Express' Airline Center of Excellence in London, where she led airline risk management and airline-related strategic initiatives across Amex's merchant, co-brand / loyalty, corporate card and travel businesses in the EMEA and JAPA regions. Wilma got her start in aviation at Star Alliance, after finishing her PhD on alliance strategies. Her research on the collapse of Swissair was published in the Journal of Air Transport Management.



**Charlotte Vaksman, Regional Account Manager from Chromalloy** - Charlotte Vaksman is the Regional Account Manager at Chromalloy Gas Turbine since 2013. She's leading the business development and sales efforts for strategic OEM accounts in the European region. Charlotte started her career during her studies where she joined Airbus in Toulouse and North America within the Propulsive System Purchasing and Finance Departments. She then joined UTC Aerospace Systems to run a specific project on the CFM56 program to then move to Haynes International as Aerospace Account Manager where she stayed for 5 years. Charlotte holds a degree in International Business from MacQuarie University in Australia and a Master in Management from ESCM Business School in France.

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