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Aerospace Consultant

Dynamic, experienced leader with proven success in leading complex aviation organizations. Background in civil/military certification, flight test, materials and properties laboratories, unmanned aerial systems, foreign aviation authority experience, engineering operations, Safety Management Systems and quality. Strategic thinker with excellent awareness of the market as well as political and technical issues. Published author and public speaker with additional skills:

- Product Integrity
- Risk Management/Mitigations
- Quality Management Systems
- Research and Development

EXPERIENCE

Downey Aviation Services: President (Oct 2012 – Present)

Independent consultant firm specializing in aviation and civil certification issues. Former FAA Flight Analyst Designated Engineering Representative (DER). International and domestic specialization with Federal Aviation Administration, Transport Canada Civil Aviation, European Aviation Safety, CAAC China. Active trainer for FAR Part 21 and FAA compliance.

Bell Helicopter – Vice President, Systems Engineering & Engineering Operations, Flight Ops/Safety, Materials and Properties Labs, and Civil Certification (Aug 2008-Oct 2012)

- Chaired the Bell Product Safety Board – ensuring complete life cycle safety and oversight of Bell product safety. PSB served as the clearing house for Bell safety disposition of civil and military flight-critical and safety-of-flight parts and Experimental/R&D flight test incidents. **Result:** over 7% reduction in *corporation insurance premiums*.
- Responsible for Aviation Safety at six sites including production, experimental, demonstration, Bell Training Academy and customer delivery. Started “Near Miss” tracking metric. **Result:** active oversight reduced incidents from 168 to 110, a 35% reduction, all while flight operations were increasing.
- Executive oversight of Civil Certification to include the [FAA] Organization Delegation Authorization; the [TCCA] Design Organization Authorization, to include Type Certificates held in Canada and US and after-market modifications; three FAA part 145 Repair Stations. **Result:** five ACSEP and 3 ODA audits with no Safety/major findings.
- Led Civil Certification compliance to support delivery of 186 commercial ships. 60% of deliveries were overseas.
- Rewrite of all Engineering Operations policy converting from paper to electronic format resulting in 450+ documents reduced to less than 250 (45% reduction).
- Reduced capital cost of Bell Training Academy relocation by \$5M.
- Reduced Total Recordable Injury Rate from over 2.8 to 1.0 in 24 months
- Employee Feedback Survey stated that leaders did not know how to lead and there was no supervisory accountability. **Result:** wrote and taught new leader guide for new leaders.
- Revamped intern hiring program to attain 96% capture rate. **Result:** lowered attrition

Award: Tony LaVier Award, Society of Experimental Test Pilots for Lifetime Achievement in Flight Safety.



FAA – Manager Rotorcraft Directorate (2001-2008)

- Responsible for rotorcraft/tilt-rotor policy/certification and FAA oversight of 250 companies in a five state area for Production and Manufacturing.
- Responsible for all FAA Experimental Flight Test policy, training and administration.
Result: no fatal accidents. Successfully sought funds to establish, in conjunction with NASA, a web portal to identify and mitigate risks: thus providing industry *Senior Management* insight and effective strategies to accomplish flight testing in a cost-effective and accident/incident free manner.
- Collaborated with industry to lower the number of fatal accidents from a five-year average of 30 to 14 per/year. This was accomplished by culture change and industry outreach.

FAA – Assistant Manager Engine & Propeller Directorate (1998-2001)

- Responsible for engine, propeller and APU policy/certification and FAA oversight of 325 companies in a twelve state area (Eastern US), Canada, and Europe for Production and Manufacturing.
- Revamped Directorate business plan to establish deliverables, milestones and accountability.
- Instituted FAA-Industry partnerships to reduce program times and costs.
- Led cross-functional team to research, analyze and report to FAA Administrator and Secretary of Transportation on leading fatal accident causes.

FAA - Experimental Test Pilot (1995-1998)

United States Army Pilot (1974-1995)

- Planned, executed, and reported on all Army aviation engineering flight tests. Duties as Chief Engineering Test Pilot and Chief, Flight Test (1993-1995).

Aviation Experience

- Exchange test pilot with United Kingdom. Performed duties as liaison for US government with host nation. Duties as Senior Test Pilot.
- Extensive international experience in Europe (UK, France, Germany, Norway, Italy), India and Far East (Korea).
- FAA Airline Transport Pilot, Helicopter, Multi/single-engine sea plane; over 4,000 hours of fixed and rotary wing accident-free flying.

EDUCATION

- Masters of Science, University of Tennessee Space Institute
- Bachelor of Science, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
- US Naval Test Pilot School
- Defense Systems Management College, Program Managers Course
- US Army Command & General Staff College