Dawne S. Hickton: Vice Chair, President & CEO • RTI International Metals, Inc.

Dawne Hickton is Vice Chair, President and CEO of RTI International Metals, Inc., a leading vertically integrated global supplier of advanced titanium mill products, fabricated components and engineered systems for the aerospace, defense, energy and medical markets. Prior to Ms. Hickton’s 25+ years of diversified metals experience, she was an attorney at USX and professor of Clinical Law at the University of Pittsburgh. She is a Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Pittsburgh Branch; Vice President and Board member of the International Titanium Association; and a member of the Board of Governors of the Aerospace Industries Association. In addition, in 2013 she was recognized in the 100 CEO Leaders in STEM. She serves on the advisory council of UPMC’s Hillman Cancer Institute, and is a University of Pittsburgh Trustee. She graduated from the University of Rochester and received her J.D. Degree from the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Law.

Dr. Kevin Michaels: VP & Aerospace and MRO Practice Leader • ICF SH&E

Dr. Kevin Michaels is a Vice President in ICF SH&E’s Ann Arbor office, where he leads its Aerospace & MRO practice. He has 28 years of aviation experience, including hundreds of consulting engagements for leading aviation and aerospace companies across the globe. Dr. Michaels is a globally recognized expert in the aerospace manufacturing and MRO sectors, and also has significant expertise in business-to-business marketing, customer satisfaction, M&A advisory, technology assessment, and strategic planning. His experience spans all major market segments, including air transport, business & general aviation, and military. Dr. Michaels was a co-founder and partner with AeroStrategy from 2001-2011, until its acquisition by ICF SH&E in 2011. Previously, Dr. Michaels was Director - Strategic Development with Rockwell Collins Government Systems, and Principal with The Canaan Group, an aerospace consultancy. He began his career as a senior project engineer with Williams International, a leading gas turbine OEM. Dr. Michaels holds BS - Aerospace Engineering and MBA degrees from the University of Michigan, and MSc and Ph.D. Degrees in International Relations from the London School of Economics.

John Byrne: VP - Aircraft Materials & Structures • Boeing Commercial Airplanes

John Byrne serves as Vice President of Aircraft Materials and Structures for Boeing Commercial Airplanes’ Supplier Management. He is responsible for the purchase of raw materials, standards, fabricated parts, assemblies and major structures for all commercial airplane programs. Additional responsibilities include managing Ural Boeing Manufacturing, a Boeing joint venture, located in Russia, focused on titanium machining. Mr. Byrne joined Boeing in 1987 as a quality engineer at the company’s Fabrication Division in Auburn, Washington, following five years of work with the United States Department of the Navy. In 2003, he was named the Director Raw Materials and Purchased Outside Production; two years later Standards were added to his responsibilities. He was named to his current position in June of 2011.

David Williams: VP - Procurement • Airbus Americas

David Williams was appointed Vice President of Procurement for Airbus Americas in January of 2011. In this newly created position, Mr. Williams provides leadership to a new Procurement organization which is responsible for Procurement and Supplier Sourcing in North America. He is tasked with growing established relationships with existing suppliers as well as facilitating new opportunities for additional procurement in North America for Airbus. He has held previous positions in the areas of sourcing and supply chain management including EADS Lead Buyer – Standard Parts, Low Cost Country Project Manager, and until recently, Head of Supply Chain and Quality Materials Procurement for Airbus, based in Toulouse, France. Prior to joining Airbus, Mr. Williams worked in the automotive industry as Materials Manager and a Board Member at Fenner as well as spending 14 years at Lucas. While working in the automotive industry, he held positions of Senior Buyer, Materials Manager, Purchase Agent, and Total Quality Change Manager. Mr. Williams holds a Mechanical Engineering Degree from the University of Wales, a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Studies from Lanchester University, and a Master’s Degree in Business, specializing in Lean, from Cardiff University.
Michael Blair: VP & General Manager, Aerostructures • Exelis, Inc.

Michael Blair is Vice President and General Manager of Aerostructures for Exelis, Inc., the business area headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah. In this role he oversees the management and operations of three composite structures facilities in two states. Exelis Aerostructures has more than 40 years experience in the design and manufacture of composite aerospace products for a variety of commercial and military aircraft. Exelis supplies structures to Lockheed Martin for the F-35, Sikorsky for both military and civil helicopters, and to Boeing and Airbus for commercial jet applications. Mr. Blair joined Exelis in 2011 as Vice President of Business Development for Composite Structures and transitioned into Vice President and General Manager in April 2012. He assumed his current position as VP & GM of the Aerostructures business in January 2013. Prior to joining Exelis, He spent 25 years with Alliant Techsystems (ATK) serving in a variety of positions including Vice President of Commercial Programs, Vice President of Business Development, Manager of Propulsion Technology and various Program Management and Engineering positions. Mr. Blair graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Utah.

Patrick Schatz: VP - Global Supply Chain Program • ThyssenKrupp Aerospace

Patrick Schatz is Vice President of Global Supply Chain Programs at ThyssenKrupp Aerospace, a subsidiary of the internationally operating ThyssenKrupp Group. ThyssenKrupp Aerospace focuses on supplying aerospace raw materials and finished parts logistics to the world’s leading aerospace companies and their supply chains. He is in charge of the company’s ‘TMX Aerospace’ unit, which manages the global supply chain for commercial aluminum and titanium raw materials for the Boeing Company and its subcontractors. Mr. Schatz started his professional career in metals distribution and strategy consulting in Germany. He joined ThyssenKrupp North America in 2002. Prior to managing TMX Aerospace, he worked in Project and Sales management. He then oversaw several aerospace OEM accounts as a General Manager and later served as VP- Asset Management & Procurement for the North American region. Mr. Schatz holds Master’s Degrees in Industrial Engineering and Business Administration from Berlin Technical University and a Marketing Degree from the University of California at Berkeley.

Johan Petry: VP - Aerospace • Aleris

Johan Petry is Vice President, Aerospace, for Aleris Corporation. He is responsible for sales and marketing of Aleris aerospace products globally. He has held this position since January 2012. Mr. Petry joined Aleris in 2001 and has held various commercial management positions across the Aleris product portfolio. His previous roles include Aleris Sales Director Aerospace and Sales Director Automotive. Prior to joining Aleris, he held commercial positions within different industries. Mr. Petry is a graduate of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium and holds a Master’s Degree in Economics. He is based in Koblenz, Germany, which is home to Aleris’ world class aluminum rolling mill which has served the global aerospace industry for many years.

Cliff Collier: VP - Supply Chain • Triumph Group, Inc.

Mr. Cliff Collier is Vice President of Supply Chain for Triumph Group, Inc. He has 28 years of aerospace experience in a variety of leadership roles including Human Resources where he implemented cost reduction strategies to reduce the benefits burden, Information Technology where he implemented SAP and his current role as the leader of Supply Chain. In his current role, Mr. Collier is responsible for leveraging the spend of forty-five independent Triumph Group companies to deliver value to Triumph’s customers and shareholders. He has responsibility for direct and indirect material strategies and leading the effort to source globally. He earned his Bachelor of Arts and Masters Degrees in Economics at the University of Texas at Arlington.
Speaker Biographies

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Julie Yates Stewart: VP - Equity Research • Credit Suisse
Julie Yates Stewart is a Vice President of Equity Research at Credit Suisse and is responsible for the firm's coverage of SMID Cap Aerospace and the Specialty Metals subsector. Her primary focus is on aerospace materials and the supply chain. Mrs. Yates joined Credit Suisse in 2008 as a research associate in the industrials sector, covering aerospace and defense. Prior to joining Credit Suisse, she worked in public accounting at Ernst & Young for just over three years. She holds a Master of Accounting Degree from the University of Alabama where she also graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Commerce and Business Administration in 2003.

Robert Mraz: VP - Sales & Marketing • TW Metals
Robert Mraz is currently employed as the Vice President of Sales & Marketing by TW Metals with corporate headquarters in Exton, PA. TW Metals is a global aerospace distributor of specialty metals with over 39 locations worldwide. Prior to assuming his current position, Mr. Mraz was National Sales Manager, Regional General Manager, Branch Manager and held numerous other senior leadership positions. Current responsibilities include the strategic planning and deployment of global sales & marketing programs that drive profitable growth consistent with company objectives. In this role he has responsibility for the Marketing Services Department, major account and emerging market development, globalization, the integration of aerospace supply chain initiatives, Government sales, aerospace fabrications, strategic pricing and Program Management. Coordinating over 180 Account Managers, several business units, and integrated call centers that he oversees strategic deployment of programs designed to provide superior customer satisfaction and responsiveness. Mr. Mraz holds a Degree in Psychology from Keene University and an MBA in Marketing from The University of Phoenix.

Earl Golla: Aerospace Market Development Manager • Victrex Polymer Solutions
Earl Golla is an Aerospace Market Development Manager at Victrex. In his role, he is responsible for supporting Aerospace OEMs and Tier Suppliers in identifying and developing innovative solutions using VICTREX® PEEK polymers. Prior to joining Victrex, Mr. Golla was a Materials and Process Engineer at The Boeing Company where he focused on the use of advanced materials in commercial, defense, and space applications. He holds an MBA from the University of Washington, a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Southern California, and a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Physics from the University of San Francisco.

Chris Red: Managing Partner • Composites Forecasts & Consulting, LLC
Chris Red founded Composites Forecasts and Consulting, LLC in 2011, an independent materials and supply chain consultancy based in Mesa, AZ. He has 16 years of experience as a researcher, editor, and analyst focused on the carbon fibers and advanced composite materials industries. During this time he has participated in or lead more than 100 separate consulting projects. During his career, he has additionally served as a frequent lecturer on the markets for advanced composites, and as regular contributing author for many composites trade publications, including High Performance Composites, Composites Technology, Manufacturing Engineering, Composites Manufacturing, Advanced Composites Monthly, Composites Industry Monthly, as well as subject matter expert in support of a number of government reports and policy statements, market analysis, and other newspapers and publications. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Arizona State University.
Trevor Stansbury: Founder & President • Supply Dynamics

Trevor Stansbury is the Founder and President of Supply Dynamics. He has been a pioneer in the area of ‘Extended Enterprise’ Collaboration and the design, development and deployment of related multi-enterprise, web-based solutions. At Supply Dynamics, he has helped leading aerospace, medical, energy, automotive and industrial companies obtain real-time visibility and control over the materials that go into their outsourced parts. Prior to launching Supply Dynamics, Mr. Stansbury held a number of operating executive roles including Director of International Programs & Risk/Revenue Sharing Programs at Honeywell International (formerly Allied Signal) and President of a trading company established by McDonnell Douglas Helicopter Systems (now Boeing Helicopter) specializing in the fulfillment of global reciprocal-trade obligations. In 2009, he was selected as the “Thunderbird Alumnus Entrepreneur of the Year” by the Walker Institute of Entrepreneurship, Thunderbird School of Global Management. He received a B.A. with High Honors in International Relations and Economics from Lynchburg College in Virginia and earned an International MBA degree from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Glendale, Arizona.

Justin W. Salmans: VP - Supply Chain Management • Cessna Aircraft Company

Justin Salmans is Vice President Supply Chain Management for Cessna Aircraft Company, the world’s leading manufacturer of general aviation aircraft, headquartered in Wichita, Kansas. In this role, he manages all aspects of Cessna’s direct and indirect material strategic sourcing. He also manages the Textron Center of Excellence for Indirect Materials and has a leadership role on the Textron Procurement Council seeking to leverage indirect and direct purchasing across the Textron enterprise. He began his career with General Electric in their Leadership Development Program and held various positions of increasing responsibility in the Overhaul & Maintenance business. He is a business process improvement and supply chain management professional with over 15 years of service in the industry. He earned a Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering from Kansas State University and a Master’s of Business Administration from Baker University.

David Vargas: Global Strategic Sourcing Manager • United Technologies

David Vargas is a Global Strategic Sourcing Manager for Metals at United Technologies Corporation (UTC). United Technologies (UTC) is a diversified company that provides a broad range of high-technology products and services to the global aerospace and building systems industries. Their commercial businesses are Otis elevators and escalators and UTC Climate, Controls & Security, a leading provider of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, fire and security systems, building automation and controls. Their aerospace businesses are Sikorsky aircraft and the new UTC Propulsion & Aerospace Systems, which includes Pratt & Whitney aircraft engines and UTC Aerospace Systems aerospace products. The company also operates a central research organization that pursues technologies for improving the performance, energy efficiency and cost of UTC products and processes. Mr. Vargas has over 27 years of experience at UTC, 21 years at Sikorsky Aircraft in a variety of management roles in planning, continuous improvement and supply chain. His past 6 years have been leading UTC’s metals commodity team for the corporation. Mr. Vargas holds a Bachelor’s of Science Degree from Central Connecticut State University and a Master’s of Science from Rensselaer Hartford.

Bradley Forsythe: VP - Supply Chain Management • ATI

Bradley Forsythe joined ATI in April 2003 as Director of Planning. He held various roles with growing responsibilities and in June 2011 was promoted to his current role of Vice President, Supply Chain Management. Prior to joining ATI, he was employed at TIMET and held various operations management positions including Operations Manager- Sheet, Strip and Plate and Logistics Manager. Additional metals industry experience was gained through employment at Erie Forge and Steel with positions in production supervision, master scheduling, and purchasing. Mr. Forsythe attended Penn State University Behrend College where he earned his BS in Business Management and an MBA.
Jack Elrod: President & CEO • TW Metals

Jack Elrod, President and CEO, has over twenty years of senior executive experience in distribution and geographically dispersed service businesses. Mr. Elrod began his career in 1976 working for Purolator Courier, which was later bought by Emery Worldwide. While working for Purolator/Emery, he held numerous positions in a number of locations throughout the country including Region General Manager, Director of Finance, Vice President of Sales and Marketing and Vice President and General Manager. In 1990, he approached new challenges and began work for Chemical Leaman, a $320 million bulk chemical transportation company, located in Exton, PA. He began his career with Chemical Leaman as the Vice President and General Manager; was promoted to the position of Vice President of Operations and eventually became President & CEO. Mr. Elrod also was a Managing Director with BrightStar Partners, an acquisition firm specializing in turnarounds. He graduated from North Georgia College & State University in Dahlonega, GA, where he received a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration.

Joanna Speed: Managing Director - Conferences • SpeedNews

In 1979 Gilbert and Ann Speed launched SpeedNews, the aviation industry's most innovative newsletter. In 1994 their daughter Joanna Speed joined the company putting to use her degree from Cal Poly State University San Luis Obispo and her acumen for business and marketing. While beginning her informal education in commercial aviation under Publisher Gil Speed, she studied business in the Pepperdine University graduate program. Over the years, Ms. Speed streamlined the company to increase revenue and reduce costs, led the effort toward online distribution, and created new marketing programs for large corporate subscribers. When SpeedNews Conferences emerged as influential forecasting and intelligence forums, she refined and expanded marketing strategies for the Aviation Suppliers Conferences. As Managing Director, she introduced three more forecasting and intelligence forums for the Aerospace & Defense Industry. SpeedNews has been part of Penton’s Aviation Media Group since 2006. Following Penton’s acquisition of Aviation Week in 2013, Ms. Speed was promoted to Managing Director, Aerospace & Defense Events, with an expanded portfolio of conferences that now includes Aviation Week’s A&D Programs, Defense Technology & Requirements and Executive Roundtables.