Speaker Biographies

SpeedNews 7th Annual Aerospace Raw Materials & Manufacturers Supply Chain Conference

Dr. Kevin Michaels: Managing Director • AeroDynamic Advisory

Dr. Kevin Michaels is Managing Director of AeroDynamic Advisory, a consulting firm focused on the global aerospace and aviation industries. His 30 years of aviation experience includes 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, cluster development, and strategic planning. His experience spans all major market segments, including air transport, business & general aviation, and military. Previously, he was a VP with ICF’s Aerospace & MRO consulting practice, was a co-founder and partner with AeroStrategy, until its acquisition by ICF. Prior to that, he was Director - Strategic Development with Rockwell Collins Government Systems, and Principal with The Canaan Group, an aerospace consultancy. Dr. Michaels began his career as a project engineer with aeroengine supplier Williams International. His Bachelor’s degree in Aerospace Engineering, an MBA degree, was obtained from the University of Michigan, and MSc and PhD degrees in International Relations from the London School of Economics.

John P. Byrne: VP, Procurement, Aircraft Materials & Structures • Boeing

Mr. John P. Byrne serves as Vice President of Procurement, Aircraft Materials and Structures for Boeing Commercial Airplanes’ Supplier Management and 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 of Raw Materials and Purchased Outside Production; two years later Standards were added to his responsibilities and he was named to his current position in June of 2011.

Nicole Lecca: Senior VP, Material & Part Procurement • Airbus

Ms. Nicole Lecca has spent the major part of her professional career - more than 30 years - within the Airbus Group where she held various positions including Head of Financial control, various positions in Strategic procurement from Engine to Cabin and Cargo loading system. In 2005, she joined Customer Services of Airbus Commercial as Head of Strategy, Business Development and Change. Then she moved to Engineering in 2009, where she took the presidency of the Airbus subsidiary in charge of product Lifecycle Management (PLM). Five years after, she took the position of Program Management of PMR (Professional Mobile Radio) activities in Airbus Defence & Space and joined Airbus Helicopters as Head of Company Improvement & Transformation. Since January 2017, she has moved to the position of SVP Material & Part Procurement commodity. As such, she deals with metallic and composite raw materials, along with standard & detail parts procurement for all Airbus Group programs. Ms. Lecca holds a Master's degree from the Institute of Political Studies.

Richard Apps: Director • Counterpoint Market Intelligence

In 2004, after a career with GKN and Westland, Mr. Richard Apps joined with George Burton to launch Counterpoint Market Intelligence Ltd., an aerospace market research and strategic planning consultancy. His aerospace career in production management started at Marconi Avionics (now part of BAE Systems). In 1991, he joined Westland Group and stayed on with GKN after it acquired Westland in 1994. Mr. Apps worked on strategic planning, business development and the evaluation of acquisitions and managed GKN’s industrial offset commitments in Kuwait. Mr. Apps holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from Manchester Business School and an Engineering degree from Cambridge University.
Mr. Peter Zimm has over 20 years of aerospace experience in strategy development, acquisitions and integrations, market management, and marketing communications. Since joining ICF, he has helped clients improve performance through market studies, strategy development, acquisition searches, market due diligence, and operations and supply chain due diligence projects. His areas of market expertise include aerospace supply chain, manufacturing, and raw materials; product, process and aircraft technologies; and MRO. Mr. Zimm also has experience in operations and supply chain assessment and improvement. Prior to joining ICF, he held various Business Development, Marketing, and Sales management positions for Timken Aerospace and Timken Aftermarket Solutions. Mr. Zimm holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics and Government from Dartmouth College and an MBA from Boston University.

Mr. Trevor Stansbury is the founder and President of Supply Dynamics. For the last fourteen years, Mr. Stansbury has been overseeing the design, development and deployment of multi-enterprise, Web-based solutions that enable OEM customers to pro-actively extend their influence and control throughout their extended value chains. Clients included Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Cessna Aircraft Company, United Technologies Corporation, John Deere, Westinghouse Electric Company and General Electric. Prior operating executive roles include: Director of International Programs & Risk/Revenue Sharing Programs at Honeywell International and President of a trading company established by McDonnell Douglas Helicopter Systems. Mr. Stansbury holds a Bachelor’s degree with High Honors in International Relations and Economics from Lynchburg College in Virginia and an MBA from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Glendale, Arizona.

Mr. Matthew Stifter is the head of aerospace for Henkel’s North American and Latin American aerospace business units, and has been with Henkel for 27 years. In his role, he oversees sales, operations, strategic planning and overall business management, and manages the F-35 program globally. Mr. Stifter holds a Bachelor's degree in finance and an MBA from Wayne State University.

Mr. Kendall Simmonds covers industry trends, legislation and provides financing to Middle Market Clients. He has over nine years of financial services experience in both banking and treasury services, with the last five years in Corporate and Commercial Banking. Over the course of his career, he has served a wide range of both public and private transportation, aerospace and defense companies. Prior to joining Wells Fargo in 2016, Mr. Simmonds worked in the Corporate Bank at MUFG Union Bank N.A. Mr. Simmonds Batchelor's degree in Economics/Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley and an MA in International Economics and International Relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).
**Joanna Speed: Managing Director, A&D and SpeedNews 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 AerospaceDefenseChain, formerly SpeedNews Annual Aerospace & Defense Suppliers Conference, Aviation Week’s A&D Programs, Defense Technology & Requirements and Executive Roundtables.

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**Tom McFarland: Chief Executive Officer • EnCore Composite Structures**

Mr. Tom McFarland started his career at C&D Aerospace, helping grow the company organically from $20M to $400M and also assisted in establishing facilities around the world. C&D Aerospace became the first company to supply fully integrated, complete interior systems. Following the acquisition of the company by Zodiac, he continued to grow the business to $700M. In 2011, he partnered with Jim Downey to start EnCore. The partnership has grown EnCore to over $100M in revenue and more than 750 employees in the five years of operation. EnCore has three platforms: Interiors, Seats and Composite Structures. Mr. McFarland holds a Bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from University of Notre Dame.

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**Don Myers: Senior Manager, Aerospace Sales & Marketing • Toray Composites**

Mr. Don Myers has been with Toray Composites (America), Inc since 2010 and is responsible for leading the management of their commercial aerospace unit. His primary roles include the integration of new aerospace programs, long range business planning and marketing strategies in the aerospace sector, as well as global customer support strategy. Mr. Myers has led the team responsible for developing the architecture to support Toray’s global prepreg demand in the Boeing Commercial Aircraft programs. Prior to joining Toray Composites (America), Inc., he worked in the corporate and general aviation industry as a source consultant and in rotary and fixed wing acquisitions. Mr. Myers is a prior military aviator and has extensive experience in commercial, military, and corporate aircraft operations, sales and finance, supply chain management, and Federal Aviation Regulations. Mr. Myers holds a Bachelor’s degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and has also completed Advanced Certifications for Senior Executives at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.