

People in Aviation: October 2018

by [Alexa Rexroth](#)
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West Star Aviation announced **Marty Rhine** as vice president of sales and **Steve Bates** as manager of technical sales. Rhine joined the company in 2005 and has more than 10 years of technical avionics experience. Bates joined the company in 2015 as Challenger and Global technical sales manager.

SyberJet has announced **Brett Francis** as vice president of quality assurance and **Doug Gore** as vice president of production. Francis previously worked for Epic Aircraft while Gore previously was the production director at SyberJet.

Bombardier has announced **Daniel Desjardins** will retire as senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of the company, effective December 31, and will be succeeded by **Alain Rondeau**. Post-retirement, Desjardins will serve as a special advisor to Bombardier president and CEO Alain Bellemare and also as chairman of Bombardier transportation's board of directors. Rondeau has worked as a consultant for Bombardier throughout the past year and has more than 30 years of legal and aerospace experience.

Skytech has named **Ann Parks** vice president of administration after 27 years as assistant corporate secretary for the company. Parks will be responsible for banking and accounting duties, along with administrative functions, in support of the company's aircraft sales efforts.

Jean-Paul Ebanga has been appointed by *Thales* as vice president of flight avionics. Ebanga previously served as senior vice president of corporate strategy for Safran.

Mente promoted **Cole White** to the role of vice president of strategic consulting. White formerly served as the company's director of strategic consulting.

AirTech hired **Tony Kline** as vice president of maintenance operations. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, Kline held maintenance positions with DHL Airways, PSA Airlines, and First Choice Aerospace.

Sir Brian Burridge has been selected as the new CEO of the *Royal Aeronautical Society*. Burridge worked for Leonardo as senior vice president after serving as a pilot in the Royal Air Force and as commander-in-chief of Strike Command.

Jake Gerstein has been named chief information officer for *JSSI*. Gerstein has more than 20 years of experience and has worked for Computershare, UBS, and Perot Systems.

Fargo Jet Center has promoted **Bob Rasmussen** to chief pilot of charter operations. Rasmussen has 13 years of aviation industry experience and has worked with the company for the last seven.

Andy Tretiak has been named chief marketing officer of *Executive AirShare*. Tretiak was previously chief marketing officer for Sporting Kansas City before serving as managing partner and co-founder of Brand Propulsion.

Cutter Aviation appointed **Rachel Varela** to client relationship manager in support of HondaJet clients and promoted **Shelbey Hooker** to director of client support. Varela served as a turbine engine mechanic in the U.S. Navy before working for Boeing and N1. Hooker flew unmanned aircraft for General Atomics before taking the role of client relationship manager for Cutter. The company has also promoted **Kyle Turner** to client relationship manager. In his new role, he will be responsible for Pilatus clients. Turner previously worked as a maintenance coordinator for a Pilatus service center before joining Cutter last year as a technical service representative.

Gene Portela has been promoted to director of sales at *Aircraft Specialties*. Portela and will now be responsible for all sales-related functions worldwide.

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MROinsider has named **Perri Bischoff** an account executive and **Maritza Perez** based in Napa Valley, California, while Perez will be based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Asian Sky Group has added **Ivy Zhou** as business development director. Zhou will focus on Greater China and recently served as chief representative for Global Jet Concept.

Tim Goh has been appointed sales director of *VSE Aviation Singapore*. Goh will be responsible for sales and support activities to airline and business aviation customers throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Gulfstream appointed **John King** director of field and airborne support teams operations. King joined the company in 2013 and is a U.S. Army veteran with more than 25 years of aviation industry experience.

Asian Sky Group has added **Michael Hui** as consulting manager and has brought back co-founder Jay Shaw as head of advisory. Hui previously worked for Flight Ascend Consultancy, while Shaw returned to ASG after recently founding Sea to Sky.

Carl Janssens has joined *AircraftPost* as asset manager and ASA appraiser. Janssens was previously editor and chief appraiser of Aircraft Bluebook.

Terry Cooper is the new general manager of *Dallas Aeronautical Services*. Cooper has more than 30 years of corporate and commercial industry experience.

StandardAero has announced several new regional sales managers, including **Jon BonDurant**, **Andrew Camp**, **Lee Holloway**, **Scott White**, and **Doug Shinke**. BonDurant will cover the Midwest and Southern regions, while Camp's territory will include the upper Midwest. Holloway will be based in Bahrain. White will be based in North Carolina and Shinke will represent southern Texas and New Mexico.

Duncan has announced **Anthony Loniero** as manager of the company's satellite avionics shop in Van Nuys. Loniero has worked for the company since 2004 and has more than 30 years of industry experience.

Baron has hired **Daniel Gallagher** as an enterprise product manager. Gallagher has more than 18 years of meteorological research and software development experience and will be responsible for developing the company's enterprise solutions products.

Scott Setzer is now executive underwriter for aviation at *Allianz Global Corporate and Specialty*, while **Adam Johnson** has been hired as an aviation underwriter. Setzer has more than 30 years of aerospace experience and Johnson previously worked in insurance and risk management for Unmanned Aerial Systems.

Olivia Stone has been elected new council chair of the *Joint Inspection Group*, where she will help to ensure the safety and quality of global refueling at airports. Stone is Air BP's global operations standards manager.

AWARDS & HONORS

NBAA announced the 2018 flying safety award recipients for decades of safe flying. Growmark, Honeywell International Flight Operations, Meredith, the State of Nebraska Department of Aeronautics, UNC air operations, and the Williams Companies were recognized for 50 accident-free years, while Federal-Mogul was honored for 60 years.

Flightdocs CEO, **Greg Heine** has been selected for *Aircraft Maintenance Technology* magazine's 40 under 40 next-generation maintenance professionals award. Heine has been with the company since 2009 and has contributed significantly to the development of Flightdocs Enterprise.

FINAL FLIGHT

After devoting almost 50 years of his career to aviation, Max Bleck died on September 6 at the age of 91. Bleck served in various executive roles for companies including Beech Aircraft, Gates Learjet, Cessna, and Raytheon. Additionally, Bleck was once chairman of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association.

Bleck began his industry career at Cessna, where he worked initially as a chief engineer before eventually becoming group vice president of aircraft operations. After leaving Cessna, Bleck became president of Piper Aircraft, and then executive vice president and CEO of Gates Learjet.

After Gates Learjet, Bleck joined Beech as vice president and assistant to the president and manager of engineering and then left to go back to Cessna as president and CEO. After one year in that role at Cessna, he returned to Beech as the company's president and CEO. Bleck then left Beech to begin a role as president of Raytheon for four years before he retired from the company in 1995.

"I worked with Max early in my career at Cessna and enjoyed crossing paths with him often at GAMA meetings and NBAA Conventions for more than two decades," said David Franson. "He was a consummate executive who deservedly earned the distinction of being a Wichita legend."