

Pete Agur, Chairman, The VanAllen Group

Pete Agur is the Chairman and Founder of The VanAllen Group, a highly respected business aviation consultancy. Pete is responsible for the strategic direction of the firm. He has written more than 100 articles for a wide variety of popular and industry publications. Pete holds an MBA, a BS in Aeronautical Sciences and is an NBAA Certified Aviation Manager (CAM). He holds an ATP for fixed wing, commercial helicopter and private glider ratings. He is active member of the Flight Safety Foundation's Business Aviation Advisory Committee and the chair for the NBAA's Safety Committee's Safety Assurance Team.

Belinda Bryce, Partner, Aviation, Magnes Group Inc.

Belinda Bryce is a Partner at The Magnes Group Inc. She is the National Aviation Team Leader with client experience in all facets of General Aviation including Business Aircraft, AMOs, FBOs, Airports, Charter Operators, Cargo Operators, Air Ambulance and Aerospace Manufacturing. Belinda has worked on several complex international aviation placements. As a pilot, she has more than 20 years of relevant experience in the aviation insurance industry.

John Cox, CEO, Safety Operating Systems

Captain John Cox is the Chief Executive Officer of Safety Operating Systems. He is a 45-year aviation veteran with experience as a corporate pilot, airline pilot, instructor, test pilot and safety professional. In 2005, he retired from US Airways after 25 years and 14,000 flying hours to found Safety Operating Systems, which has grown into a dynamic company with clients worldwide including airlines, business flight operations, legal firms, manufacturers and government regulators.

He holds a Masters in Business Administration from Daniel Webster College, a graduate of the University of Southern California's Aviation Safety Program. For the last seven years teaches aviation safety at the University of Southern California. He is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and a member of their Flight Operations Group, a Liveryman in the Honorably Company of Air Pilots and a member of the International Society of Air Safety Investigators.

He has received numerous awards and recognition for his work including the Flight Safety Foundation's Laura Taber Barbour Award, The Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators' Sir James Martin Award, the ALPA Air Safety Award, the US Airways Air Safety Award.

For the last seven years he has been the aviation analyst for NBC, MSNBC, CNBC and the Weather Channel. He regularly appears in the news media worldwide regarding aviation safety. Captain Cox also writes the weekly column "Ask the Captain" for USA Today's website.

[Brian Deane, President, Brian Deane Consulting Ltd.](#)

Brian Deane holds a M1/M2 AME licence and has been involved in the aviation industry for approximately 35 years. He toured northern Canada as the flight engineer on DC3's and C 46's and later, working with the Manitoba water bomber and air ambulance program, became involved in Quality Assurance obtaining a Certificate in Quality Assurance Management. This led to a position as the Quality Assurance Manager for the Manitoba Apprenticeship AME training program and Red River College Stevenson Campus aviation training programs. After retiring Brian started Brian Deane Consulting Ltd. providing training, auditing and manual development services to the aviation industry

[Dave Dueck, President, Dueck Aviation](#)

Dave Dueck began as a pilot and aircraft owner, and is an AME M1 and M2 experienced on both fixed and rotary wing aircraft. He has been instructing Canadian aviation regulations through four decades of regulatory evolution including SMS requirements. His unique textbook "Aircraft Regulations Simplified" explains the regulatory requirements applicable to all aspects pertaining to an aircraft. He provides regulatory assistance services for aircraft operators and maintenance organizations across Canada, from the smallest to the largest. He will provide the business aviation community with a clear understanding of the Private Operator maintenance control requirements.

[Thomas Fissellier, Manager, Market Analysis, Market Development and Business Planning, Bombardier Business Aircraft](#)

Thomas Fissellier, Manager of Market Analysis, Market Development and Business Planning is responsible for Bombardier's annual 10-year Business Aircraft Market Forecast. He leads a team of specialists responsible for intelligence collection, competitive strategy, and identifying market shifts and economic trends impacting Business / General Aviation

[Jean-Christophe Gallagher, Vice President, Strategy, Marketing and Innovation, Bombardier Business Aircraft](#)

Mr. Gallagher has extensive engineering experience in new product design and continues to play a leading role across Bombardier in the increasingly critical environmental portfolio. A private pilot since 1997, his current responsibilities include managing Bombardier's fleet of Learjet, Challenger and Global demonstration aircraft with operations in Wichita, Kansas; Hartford, Connecticut; and Montreal. Mr. Gallagher is active with several industry associations and agencies worldwide, and currently represents Bombardier as its deputy representative with the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA)

[Julie Gingras, Partner, Wilson Vukelich LLP](#)

Julie Gingras is a partner with Wilson Vukelich LLP. Her practice has a particulate focus on asset-based financing transactions including equipment lease financing and aircraft financing. Julie represents financial institutions including major Banks in aircraft financing transactions for business jets and helicopters. Julie also worked at a major aircraft manufacturer where she negotiated terms and conditions of sale for multimillion-dollar aircraft transactions and facilitated purchase agreements on behalf of international clients

[Adam Hartley, Manager, Charter Team, Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc.](#)

Adam has established himself as one of the industry's top experts at helping operators comply with complicated and often unclear regulations. His regulatory and operational expertise has earned him invitations to speak both domestically and internationally at major industry events and conferences held by the NBAA, EBAA, Boeing Business Jets, Bombardier Aerospace, Cessna, CABAA, and other regional business aviation associations

[Brendan Kapuscinski, Vice president Marketing, Beyond Risk Management. Ltd](#)

Brendan is a safety professional with over four decades of experience in the field of Emergency Response in both the public and private sectors. His involvement in the planning for, responding to and management of a multitude emergency events has provided him with holistic understanding of the inexact science of emergency response. Brendan has assisted organizations in both preparing for and dealing with serious events. Brendan currently instructs an emergency response planning course at the University of Calgary.

Debbi Laux, Director, Trade Relations & Sales Support, MedAire

For 24 years, Debbi Laux has worked in business aviation with development and management roles. Prior to joining MedAire in 1998, she was employed by Corporate Jets (SDL) and American Express. She attended Arizona State University. Ms. Laux is an enthusiastic member of NBAA's International Operators Committee, Schedulers & Dispatchers Advisory Council and Safety Committee. She is former President of the Arizona Business Aviation Association. Debbi is MedAire's representative for the International Standard of Business Aircraft Operations (IS-BAO) as an International Standards Service Support Affiliate and serves on the International Standards for Business Aircraft Handling (IS-BAH) Standards Board.

Michele Mentink, President, ICFS Inc

Michele Mentink, President of ICFS/Altitude has been in the aviation industry, for over 30 years. First as a Flight Attendant for commercial aviation and then started her career in the Corporate Industry as a contract Flight Attendant (PAOBD). She founded ICFS in 1999 as a Flight Attendant (PAOBD) Management company and later founded Altitude, in 2008, as training company, specializing in training for PAOBD. Altitude has been working closely with the CBAA and Transport Canada in the last year to find solutions to facilitate training for the operators in Canada who would like to use PAOBD for their operations.

Elaine Parker, Vice President, Operations, Beyond Risk Management

Elaine is a safety professional with over forty years of experience in the aviation industry. Throughout her career to date she has served in many senior management positions in operations, marketing, safety, security and training both in the public and private sector. She instructed for fifteen years at the University of Southern California's Engineering Department (in Aviation Safety) and has spoken at international conferences worldwide. Elaine has held an Airline Transport Rating for well over thirty years (IFR not current presently) however she frequently conducts operational and technical courses to remain abreast of the skills and knowledge requirements.

In 2001 she was honoured by the Canadian Minister of Transport with the "2001 Canadian Aviation Safety Award" for her work to promote safety in all sectors of the industry. Elaine is also a director in Risky Business Productions Ltd. a video production company that produces safety and training videos as well as historical documentary projects. Elaine has been a full member of the International Society of Air Safety Investigators (ISASI) since 1990 and has sat as a member of the executive of the Canadian Society since 1994

[Chris Pavone, Senior Technical Advisor and International Sales, Skyplan Services Ltd.](#)

-Working in the aviation industry for 16 years. -Earned PPL and Glider license via Cadet program. -ATC Training from Nav Canada. -7 years in dispatch/flight operations. - Previous position of Manager of Training and Standards included developing and providing classroom and practical instruction to Skyplan dispatch group. -Currently responsible for advising/assisting new and current customers with regulatory and technical concerns. -Currently responsible for representing Skyplan at industry events, both domestically and internationally

[Randy Pettipas, President & CEO, Global Public Affairs](#)

As President & CEO, Randy Pettipas provides strong strategic policy advice and delivers tangible results to Global's clients in all major industries, including energy, natural resources, telecommunications and transportation. He continues to be a trusted advisor to the leaders of many of Canada's largest corporations. Randy joined Global Public Affairs in 1997. Since then, Global has expanded its reach beyond Ottawa, establishing offices in Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria, Vancouver, and Washington DC. Global now operates in federal, provincial and municipal jurisdictions, providing a team-based, fully-integrated public affairs service offering to clients across Canada and internationally

[Richard Peterson, Manager of Flight Attendant Services, Air Culinaire Worldwide](#)

Chef Richard Peterson is the Manager of Flight Attendant Services for Air Culinaire Worldwide and is also a certified Corporate Flight Attendant. He is responsible for the creation, instruction and training of domestic and international Flight Attendants in the culinary arts, food safety and fine dining services. In addition to his Flight Attendant instruction duties, Richard also works directly with the Air Culinaire Worldwide Special Projects Team supporting menu research and development, catering service arrangements and vendor qualifying for multi-leg international and domestic trips.

[Ed Ratzlaff, President, Aerofoil Consulting Inc.](#)

By trade Ed Ratzlaff is a Commercial Pilot and Aircraft Maintenance Engineer. A decade of experience in aviation management has given him the hands-on expertise needed to thoroughly understand the world of Quality, Risk, and Safety Management in aviation. Through trial and error he has successfully built systems and processes that are functional, thorough, and efficient. In his current role as an aviation consultant his goal

is to help his clients see that in reality things are much simpler than they often seem at first. In addition to his technical qualifications Ed holds degrees in Education and Arts.

[Kellie Rittenhouse, Director of Aviation, Hangar Aviation Management](#)

Kellie Rittenhouse is the Director of Aviation at Hangar Aviation Management, with five aircraft based at the Oakland County International Airport (PTK). Kellie's Certified Aviation Manager (CAM) and serves on the CAM Governing Board. A licensed dispatcher and former chair of the NBAA Schedulers and Dispatchers Committee, Kellie entered business aviation as a customer service representative for a flight school and FBO in Bloomington, IL. She's devoted her career to bringing the non-aviation savvy customer perspective to her organization and get to "yes" when the first answer is "no"; if truly "no", provide customers options and develop a trusted partnership

[Mike Tretheway, Chief Economist & Chief Strategy Officer, InterVISTAS](#)

Mike is considered one of the leading transportation economists in the world. He serves as an expert witness and advisor to governments, airlines, airports, ports, and railways. Mike has done work throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Asia, Africa, and Europe. He is a frequent speaker at industry events and organization planning sessions.

Dr. Tretheway earned a PhD in economics from the University of Wisconsin and served for 14 years as Associate Professor of Transportation & Logistics at the University of British Columbia.

[Michael Wittman, Director of Operations, EVO Jet Services and Fuel](#)

Mike is an Aviation Meteorologist dispatcher and has been briefing flight crews on worldwide weather in business aviation for over 40 years. His career began in the United States Navy during Viet Nam. He is a graduate of Cal State Long Beach with a BA in Geography and emphasis on climatology. Mike is founder of Pilot Weather Training and Pacific Coast Forecasting companies. In his Director position at EVO Jet, Mike leads a team of dispatchers and flight planners providing International Trip Support services around the world.