

MEET NEW HEAD OF FLIGHT PHYSICS FOR VERTICAL AEROSPACE

News / Business aviation, Personalities



Vertical Aerospace announces the appointment of Richard Alexander, formerly Chief Flight Dynamics Integrator on the Mitsubishi M100 Regional Jet and Head of Flight Sciences at Bombardier Aerospace, as Head of Flight Physics to help Vertical move towards their vision of electric flight for everyone. Richard will play a key role in ensuring that the Flight Physics aspects, including noise, performance, and handling, are safe and optimised for certification and operation of the first Vertical Aerospace aircraft to fly the public.



Newly appointed Head of Flight Physics Richard Alexander commented: “Joining Vertical Aerospace at such an exciting time in the development of the eVTOL market segment will be a great challenge for me and I am looking forward to meeting the team and starting to contribute. My background is based on fixed wing aircraft and so I have quite a bit of catching up to do on the world of rotorcraft: I will have to add some "up" skills to my "forward (with a bit of up)" toolbox. However, as the VA-1X will transition from vertical to forward flight during operations, I am sure I will have a good deal of useful aircraft development experience to add to Vertical's overall capability. I am also motivated by the zero-carbon emissions aspect: our vehicles will replace polluting, dinosaur-burning modes of ground and flight transport. My recent electric aircraft activities at CAE have already ignited an engineering passion to move the planet forward and develop the greenest, most commercially successful product in its class."

With over three decades of experience in the aerospace domain, Richard has a proven record of accomplishment both as a Flight Physics Engineer and as a leader of teams, completing the conceptual design, development, testing, certification, and entry into service of many aircraft designs, from the simplest derivative to complete clean-sheet programs. This includes the BAe 146-RJ, Bombardier CRJ700 and 900, Bombardier CSeries (now Airbus A220) and all the most recent versions of the Bombardier Global family.

Most recently, Richard has been leading the aircraft configuration development of the CAE projects to achieve zero carbon emissions in their global flight training fleet.

Eric Samson, Head of Engineering, Vertical Aerospace said: “I am absolutely thrilled to welcome Richard Alexander to Vertical Aerospace. Richard’s broad aerospace experience will contribute exceptional technical and leadership capabilities to our growing world-class engineering team.

Richard brings extensive experience earned by successfully leading key aircraft performance functions across a wide range of very well-known and successful development programmes. Richard's joining the team is a significant step forward in carrying our ambitions to certify the most technologically advanced all-electric eVTOL vehicles."



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