Aviation and Women in Europe

Speaker Profiles

Judith Moreton
Managing Director
Bombardier Skyjet International

Judith Moreton is the Managing Director of Bombardier Skyjet International. She was born in England in November 1963 and holds a degree in English Literature (1988) and a Diploma in Personnel Management (1990).

Judith joined Bombardier Flexjet Europe in 2002 as Head of European Operations, receiving impressively early promotion the following year to the position of Managing Director, with overall responsibility for business management and operations for the UK, France and Italy. Following the company’s rebranding to Bombardier Skyjet International in 2006, Judith continues in her role as Managing Director overseeing business operations in Europe, the Middle East and Asia Pacific.

During her twenty year career in aviation, Judith has undertaken and been recruited to an unparalleled number of senior positions for a woman in her field, including Operations Officer for Paramount Airways, various senior roles during ten years at Shell Aircraft Ltd and Operations Manager for UPC Aviation Service where she set up a new private flight department. In 2000 Judith was appointed General Manager at Virgin Express where her talent for aircraft operations and management, customer care and retention were further perfected.

Gretchen Burrett
Director, Safety
National Air Traffic Services

Gretchen is an internationally recognised expert in human factors, and respected throughout the industry for her knowledge and leadership of safety performance. She has worked in nuclear certification and safety of intercontinental ballistic missiles, joint airworthiness trials for military aircraft, design and development of defence systems, and as an expert advisor to NATO on human performance and safety critical systems. Gretchen currently works for NATS and was the first woman to be appointed as Director of Safety within the organisation.

Gretchen has a strong aviation background, having served in the US Air Force, flown jet and piston aircraft, and led a multi-national team of test pilots and aircraft designers through the development and execution of a new approach to operational performance and safety certification.
Squadron Leader Sue Freeman
Royal Air Force

Sue Freeman joined the Royal Air Force (RAF) as a pilot in April 1991, after taking A levels at Sixth Form College in Hull. Following graduation from Initial Officer Training in July 1991, Sue went to 5 Squadron (Tornado F3) at RAF Coningsby while awaiting her first flying training course at RAF Swinderby, flying Chipmunk aircraft.

Sue was then selected to go to Basic Flying Training (BFT) at RAF Linton-on-Ouse. She flew the Jet Provost Mk3 followed by the Mk5 once assessed as suitable for fastjet training. Subsequently, Sue attended fastjet training at RAF Valley flying the Hawk. She graduated in October 1994 and then proceeded to BFT Instructor Training on the Tucano at RAF Linton-on-Ouse, becoming a Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI).

Sue instructed on the Tucano for four years prior to attending the Tornado F3 Operational Conversion Unit (OCU) known as 56 Squadron. On completion, Sue was posted to 111 Squadron and became Combat Ready in March 1999. Several detachments to Iraq ‘No-Fly Zone’, Falklands, North American multi-national exercises and European exercises followed.


Sue is married to another fighter pilot, Tim (currently on 111 Squadron and soon to be detached to the Falkland Islands for four months). She enjoys spending time with her three-year-old son and running with her two Weimeraner dogs.

Deanna Amos
B777 Aircraft Engineer

Deanna Amos was born in North Africa and grew up in North & East England, Wales & Germany. Following twelve years service in the Airforce, Deanna worked for her own leasing company in the Middle East and Northern Europe. Since achieving an FAA Airframe & Powerplant license, Deanna currently works as a B777 Aircraft Engineer for a large American-based airline.

Outside of work, Deanna enjoys nothing more than taking beautiful pictures of deep sky objects with her telescope. She hopes to earn a University certificate and an RAS fellowship in the subject in the near future.
Marjolijn de Greef
Bristow Helicopters

Marjolijn began gliding at the age of seventeen and within a couple of years started flying Fixed Wing aircraft as well. Once in possession of her Fixed Wing Commercial Pilots Licence and Instrument Rating, she decided to give helicopter flying a try.

In 1997, after obtaining her Commercial Pilots Licence Helicopters, Marjolijn started flying for Schreiner Airways, a helicopter company that specialised in offshore transportation. As the company’s first female pilot, she flew the Dauphin (AS365N) helicopter to offshore platforms in the North Sea.

In 1998, Marjolijn left Schreiner to join Bristow Helicopters, working out of Den Helder airport in the Netherlands on behalf of Shell. Here she transferred to the Sikorsky 76 helicopter and became the first Dutch female captain. In 2003, Bristow won a contract to provide 24-hour search and rescue (SAR) cover for the Dutch sector of the North Sea and Marjolijn joined the SAR unit. This involved flying a Super Puma L2 helicopter, a heavy twin helicopter able to carry 21 people in addition to its four-man crew. The average number of call outs a year is 60, varying from transporting people with a broken finger from an oil platform to winching people off vessels with serious medical conditions and searching for missing windsurfers and swimmers. Sadly Marjolijn had to make an emergency landing with this helicopter in November 2006. As a result, she now flies a replacement Super Puma L1, which is shortly due to be replaced permanently by a Sikorsky 61.

Marjolijn’s impressive helicopter career has spanned ten years. She has achieved more than 4,000 hours total flying time in more than 20 different types of helicopters and aeroplanes.

Jo Salter
Pilot, Author and International Speaker

Jo Salter was Britain's first female fast jet pilot. While flying the Tornado GR1, she was one of five women fighter pilots in the world. As a combat ready pilot with 617 Squadron, the Dambusters, Jo experienced operational tours of duty and took part in large international NATO exercises around the world. She worked in intelligence and also became a fast jet instructor. Her military experience is multifaceted: technical; professional; managerial; political. In addition, Jo has seven years of e-commerce experience and management consultancy in both the public and private sector, an MBA and an Associate Lectureship with the Open University Business School. Furthermore, Jo spends her weekends flying air cadets as a volunteer pilot for the RAF.

Jo now uses her experiences from such an elite world to offer alternative insights into personal development, meeting challenges and succeeding in the face of adversity. She facilitates workshops, carries out life changing seminars, conducts high performance coaching sessions and enables individuals and organisations to solve problems. She also has extensive experience of working with the media, from national newspapers to international radio and television.

Achievement is a way of life for Jo - and, yes, achievement while living in the real world as a daughter, sister, parent, friend.
Jenny Payne
Director
Product Marketing and Product Analysis
Boeing Commercial Airplanes

Jenny Payne is the director of Product Marketing and Product Analysis. She is responsible for managing the organisation that markets the airplane products directly to the airline customers, leasing companies, media, investors, appraisers, and other key constituencies. Jenny was appointed to this position in April 2002.

Prior to that assignment, Jenny was the director of 757 Brand Management. In this position, she was responsible for development and implementation of the overall marketing strategy for the Boeing 757 Programme. Other previous Marketing assignments include regional director of Airline Analysis where she developed and implemented the marketing strategy for the sale of aircraft to airline customers in North America.

Prior Boeing experience includes four years as an Engineering manager in Weight Engineering where she led the organisations responsible for sales support, customer introduction, mass properties and airplane loadability analysis for all airplane programmes. Jenny also served as a Weight Engineering product development engineer on the 777 and 767 programmes.

Jenny previously held leadership positions within the Puget Sound community, including President, Spectrum Dance Theatre Board of Directors and Associate Board member for ArtsFund. Jenny received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ballet and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Utah. She is also a graduate of the Executive Master of Business Administration Program at the University of Washington.

Commander Trish Beckman
System Operator and Flight Navigator
Boeing Commercial Airplanes

Commander Trish Beckman, US Navy (retired), currently flies for Boeing Commercial Airplanes Group, Seattle, Washington. She holds FAA licenses as an Aircraft Dispatcher and a Flight Navigator. She flies as a System Operator (similar to flight engineer) for production and engineering test flights of the Boeing 737, and as a Flight Navigator for ferry flights and engineering test flights (737, 767, 777). She has over 4100 flight hours in 71 aircraft types.

Trish spent over 28 years on active duty in the US Navy (8 years enlisted and 20 years as an officer). As a Naval Flight Officer (NFO, or Navigator), she flew in 67 types of aircraft. Her primary aircraft qualifications were in the EC-130Q, F/A-18D, E-6A, S-3A/B, and F-15E. She was the first woman to qualify as a crewmember in the F-15E (1992), and she was the first American woman to qualify as a crewmember in the F/A-18D (1990).

Besides being a graduate of the US Naval Test Pilot School, Trish also instructed there. She holds a BS in Aerospace Engineering (North Carolina State University), an MS in Aeronautical Engineering (Naval Postgraduate School), and a Masters in Business Administration (MBA, Webster University).

Trish is a Past President of Women Military Aviators, Inc. (WMA), and is a founding board member of Women in Aviation, International (WAI). She volunteers as a workshop presenter for Sally Ride Science, at festivals around the country, to encourage girls to pursue careers in math and science.
Jennifer Murray
Triple Round-the-World Helicopter Pilot

Jennifer Murray is 66 years old, is US born and UK educated. She entered the Guinness Book of Records in 1997 as the first woman to circumnavigate the globe in a helicopter and in 2000 she achieved another world first – flying her helicopter solo around the world. In 2001, Jennifer and her colleague, Colin Bodill, flew the London Sydney Air Race, setting a new world speed record. After crashing in Antarctica on their first attempt when both were badly injured, Jennifer and Colin succeeded in setting a new world record for flying around the world via the North and South Poles.

Dr. Peggy Chabrian
President
Women in Aviation International

Dr. Peggy Chabrian is President and Founder of Women in Aviation, International (WAI). The organization was incorporated in 1994 as a result of the success of the annual International Women in Aviation Conference in 1990. The conference began with 150 participants in 1990 and has grown to more than 3,000 attendees. WAI represents over 15,000 women and men from all segments of the aviation industry including general, corporate, commercial and military.

A long-time aviation enthusiast and professional aviation educator, Dr. Chabrian is a 2,200-hour commercial/instrument multi-engine pilot and flight instructor who has been flying for over 20 years. Most recently she added helicopter and seaplane ratings to her flight qualifications.

Dr. Chabrian has held several top positions in aviation education including: Academic Dean and Associate Vice President of Parks College; Dean of Academic Support for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University’s Prescott, Arizona campus; Director of the Center of Excellence for the Aviation/Space Education at ERAU’s Daytona Beach, Florida campus; and, Chair of the aviation department at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Chabrian was the second woman to ever hold the position of dean of an engineering school in the United States. She is currently also the publisher of Aviation for Women magazine.

The recipient of numerous aviation and education awards, Dr. Chabrian has received the FAA Administrator’s Award for Excellence in Aviation Education and the Civic Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. She has been inducted into the Crown Circle of the National Congress on Aviation and Space Education. In 2001 she received the Vision Award from Business and Commercial Aviation magazine.

Dr. Chabrian is active in numerous aviation organizations and serves as a member of several boards including the Experimental Aircraft Association and the National Aviation Hall of Fame. She is the past president and board member of the University Aviation Association.

An international speaker, Dr. Chabrian has given numerous keynote and motivational presentations to hundreds of audiences. She has also authored numerous articles and a textbook on aviation management.