

FRIDAY, 10 APRIL 2026

0730-0830 Continental Breakfast
Olive Ann Beech Hall

TECHNICAL SESSION

0830 - 0845

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Allen Herbert (M), Symposium Chair, Textron
Steve Helmer (M), Textron Aviation

0845 - 0915

UPDATE ON SOCIETY

Kelly Latimer (F), SETP President

0915 - 0945

“Validating the “Thousand Foot” Separation”

Nate Kerr, Textron Aviation
Ben Ewoldt, Textron Aviation

0945 - 1000 COFFEE BREAK

1000 - 1030

“The Safety Paradox Flight Testing Pegasus”

Ed Grabman (F), Bombardier
Ryan Grabman, Bombardier

1030 - 1100

“Departing the T-7A from Controlled Flight”

Lt Col Jonathan Aronoff, USAF (M)
Steve Schmidt (AF), The Boeing Company
Evan Thomas (F), The Boeing Company

1100 - 1130

**“Technical Photography in
Support of Flight Test”**

Gregory Davis, Textron Aviation
Tyler Mabie, Textron Aviation

1130 - 1300 LUNCHEON

Joe Morse
Associate Test Pilot

Pivotal

1300 - 1330

“SFTE Recommended Practices”

Ben Povall, SFTE Vice President

1330 - 1400

**“Citation X Autopilot Pitch Trim Event
Or How Accurate Can You Type”**

Mark Schlegel (F), Textron Aviation

1400 - 1415 COFFEE BREAK

1415 - 1445

**“Performance Characterization of Light
Aircraft Using Rapid Flight Tests”**

Mujahid Abdulrahim, Univ of Missouri,
Kansas City

1445 - 1500

SETP SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

Presentation of the Lloyd C. Stearman Award

The Society would like to thank our
SPONSORS:



Bombardier



Beechcraft

BY TEXTRON AVIATION



**THE SOCIETY OF
EXPERIMENTAL TEST PILOTS**

**17th ANNUAL CENTRAL SECTION
SYMPOSIUM IN CONJUNCTION
WITH THE SFTE WICHITA CHAPTER**

10 APRIL 2026

The Textron Aviation Activity Center
Wichita, Kansas

CENTRAL SECTION OFFICERS

Chair

Steven Helmer (M), Textron Aviation

Vice Chair

Paddy Kelleher (M), Raytheon

Secretary

James Bearman (M), Textron Aviation

Treasurer

Regis Hancock (M), The Boeing Company (Ret)

SETP

P.O. Box 986
Lancaster, CA 93584
661-942-9574

setp@setp.org www.setp.org

Laurie Balderas, SETP Executive Director

CORPORATE MEMBERS

ABSI Aerospace & Defense
Adaptive Aerospace Corporation
Aerospace Operations, LLC
Aerospace Services International, LLC
AeroTEC, LLC
Airborne Tactical Advantage Company
Air Force Test Pilot School (India)
Airborne Systems Group
Airbus Defence and Space GmbH
Anduril Industries
Archer Aviation
Astronautics Corporation of America
Bell
Beta Technologies, Inc.
The Boeing Company
Boom Supersonic
Butler Parachute Systems, Inc.
Calspan Corporation
Cert Center Canada
Cruz Associates, Inc.
David Clark Company Incorporated
Delta Burn, Inc.
Denmar Technical Services
Electra Aero
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Empirical Systems Aerospace, Inc.
ETPS
eXAQT Consultant Group
Flight Level Engineering
ForeFeathers Enterprises
FTR Enterprises, LLC
Game Aerospace, LLC
Garmin International
GE Aerospace
General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc.
Gentex Corporation
Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation
G-Unlimited GmbH
Honda Aircraft Company
Honeywell Aerospace Flight Test Operations
International Test Pilots School
IPEV - Flight Test and Research Institute
Joby Aviation
JT4, LLC
K2 Aviation
KBR
Leonardo S.p.A.
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Martin-Baker Aircraft Company, Ltd.
Merlin Labs, Inc.
Mid-Continent Instrument Company, Inc.
MIT Lincoln Laboratory
Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.
Mojave Air and Space Port
Moog Avionics
National Test Pilot School
Nominal
Northrop Grumman Corporation
Reliable Robotics
Royal Netherlands Aerospace Centre
Saab Aeronautics
Sage Cheshire, Inc.
Scaled Composites, LLC
Skyryse, Inc.

CORPORATE MEMBERS CONTINUED

Stratolaunch, LLC
Sunshine Aero Industries, Inc.
Symbolic Displays, Incorporated
Tactical Air Support, Inc.
Textron Aviation
Thales VISIONIX, Inc.
Tiger Century Aircraft, Inc.
Tiltrotor Flight Test Consulting, LLC
Turkish Aerospace Industries
Vertical Aerospace Group
Virgin Galactic, LLC
Wisk
XP Consulting Services
XP Services, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Kelly Latimer

Vice President - Dan Hinson, Textron Aviation

Secretary - Klas Ohman, The Boeing Company

Treasurer - Michael Lippert, Lt Col, USMC (Ret)

Legal Officer - Glenn Graham, Lockheed Martin

Executive Adviser - Andrew McFarland, Airborne Tactical Adv Co

President-Elect - William Koyama, Northrop Grumman

Technical Adviser - Rusty Lowry, ABSI Aerospace & Defence

Technical Adviser - Jeffrey Mabry, Mabry Consulting

Canadian Section Rep. - Perry Comeau, Nt'l. Res. Council Canada

Central Section Rep. - Jack Waters, The Boeing Company

East Coast Section Rep. - John Rudzis

European Section Rep. - Gideon Singer, Swedish Accident Inv.

Great Lakes Section Rep. - Jason Wierzbanski, Contrails Cons.

Indian Section Rep. - Subash John, Wg Cdr, Indian AF (Ret)

Northwest Section Rep. - Michael Kingen, The Boeing Company

Southeast Section Rep. - Paul Steele, CW5, USA (Ret)

Southwest Section Rep. - Kevin Christensen, Bell

West Coast Section Rep. - Jameel Janjua, Virgin Galactic