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## **International Flight Test News**



**Virgin Galactic Moving Test Flights to New Mexico to Prep for Commercial Operations** – New Mexico  
The spaceflight company is moving its development and testing activities from Mojave, California, to its commercial-operations headquarters, Spaceport America, in New Mexico. More than 100 employees will relocate, starting immediately. Virgin's suborbital spaceflight system — the space plane VSS Unity and VMS Eve, the airplane that carries it aloft — will make the move this summer, after technicians complete Unity's cabin interior and some other finishing touches. That work is being done by The Spaceship Company (TSC), Virgin's sister manufacturing entity. Mojave will remain the home base of TSC, which is building a fleet of spaceliners and carrier planes (which are known as SpaceShipTwo and WhiteKnightTwo, respectively.) [Space.com](http://Space.com)



**XTI TriFan Prototype Makes First Flight**– Placerville, CO

XTI Aircraft Company (XTI) successfully completed the first flight of a 65%scale prototype of its TriFan 600 VTOL last week in Placerville, California. The unmanned, tethered flight occurred on May 2 and included multiple takeoffs, hover, and landings, which validated the electric motors, battery power system, ducted fan propulsion, flight controls, other electrical systems, and instrumentation. XTI said future flights at a certified UAV test facility will be untethered and will test hover, forward, and wing-borne flight as well as the transition phase between vertical and forward-flight modes. “In one year, we have progressed from conceptual design to a flying prototype,” said XTI CEO Robert LaBelle. “The

aircraft proved to be stable in hover and had no problems throughout several runs.” Once produced in full scale, the TriFan 600 will seat six, have a top speed of 300 knots, a maximum range of 1,200 nm, and a service ceiling of 29,000 feet. XTI previously reported it had booked reservations for 77 aircraft from customers worldwide. Total value of the orders is \$500 million. [AINOnline](#)



#### **Boeing shows off its Starliner's latest parachute test**

Boeing [posted this video](#) showing a test of the parachutes on its [Starliner](#) vehicle. The plan is for the crew to parachute down in the American southwest after departing the ISS aboard Boeing's spacecraft, and keep it in good enough shape to be reused up to ten times. [EnGadget](#)



## **Flight Test Safety Workshop**

**Charleston, South Carolina**

7-9 May 2019

**SFTE-SETP-AIAA**

Chairman **Peter Donath**<sup>F</sup>

Report by **Jeff Canclini**<sup>F</sup>

*Lockheed Martin Flight Test Fellow*

### **Day 1 - Tuesday 7 May**

All day tutorial and exercises covering best practices for holistic Accident Response to include initial emergency response, crisis communication and family assistance for ALL affected. Morning session led by CEO of [Fireside Partners](#), Don Chupp, an NTSB veteran who has pioneered NEXTGEN tactical Emergency Response Plans. Their most recent ERP was for Scaled Composites Stratolaunch first flight. Excellent candidate to bring into any organization.

Aviation widow recounted enlightening personal story of the support received from husband's company all the way up to CEO. Afternoon session covered Safety Assurance Best Practices and Techniques.



### **Day 2 – Wednesday 8 May**

SMS is different than Flight Safety and more than Risk Assessment. Focus is “forward looking” safety assurance and risk management. [Flight Test Safety Committee](#) Chairman and Gulfstream Aviation Safety Officer/Test Pilot, Tom Huff is open to visiting any company to share SMS best practices and lessons learned.

TPS Instructor/Curriculum Lead, Lt. Col. (Ret) Tom “Sulu” Hill, overviewed the **NEXTGEN curriculum** USAF TPS is moving towards that encompasses a holistic systems approach.

USAF Test Pilot and DT&E Program manager Col. Doug Wickert overviewed using **STPA** tool and **Risk Awareness** techniques to improve Risk Management and the current SRB process. Paper available at [https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZWht3xhs2\\_eXmNiGSEpQpJwcdw4mycBd](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZWht3xhs2_eXmNiGSEpQpJwcdw4mycBd) (can be viewed on iPhone). This was also presented at SETP last September.

Boeing Chief Test Pilot Keith Otsuka & Steve Wicklund overviewed their latest **Operational Risk Management** process and forms. The catalyst for Boeings enhanced approach came after Chief Pilot Otsuka attended last year’s workshop and heard the Airbus Chief pilot’s ORM presentation. Both Boeings and Airbus’s enhanced ORM approach go beyond a pilot only form. It solicits inputs from key test team members with both quantitative and qualitative output that is collaboratively assessed by test team pre and post flight.

Art “Turbo” Tomassetti (F) presented a hilarious and very compelling talk on how to get test teams to better see and avoid risks, “Why ~~We~~ I Don’t Learn Lessons”.

The evening dinner speaker was Mr. Peter Garrison of *Flying Magazine* presenting his most interesting experiences in “Melmoth – Homebuilt Aircraft Odyssey” (pictured below).



### **Day 3 – Thursday 9 May**

Final day included A-29 Tucano accident board report presented by Hollmann 586th CO/F35 Test pilot Lt Col Hans “Money” Buckwalter and an update on NASA Pilot breathing assessment by NASA Test Pilot

James Less and Hill 514th DO Lt Col Hall. Both contained enlightening lessons learned that could have applicability to all flight ops.

Some workshop presentations will be posted as podcasts at <http://www.flighttestsafety.org/workshops> but several key presentations will not. The interactions in this intimate collegial venue are immeasurable.

By way of illustration, today during the tour of Boeing's 787 final assembly had the opportunity to speak with workshop speaker and test pilot Col. Douglas Wicket. He is looking to develop Risk Awareness and T&E courses during his upcoming tour as head of Engineering at the USAF Academy.

Turbo's parting admonition (sung from Elvis Presley) to workshop attendees was apropos, "a little less conversation and a little more action..."



**174 attendees** evenly divided between test pilots, FTE's and Flight Safety personnel from over **62 companies and government agencies** including:

AeroTEC  
Airbus  
Aurora Flight Sciences  
Bell  
Boeing  
Bombardier  
Boom Supersonic  
Cirrus Aircraft  
FAA  
German Aerospace Center  
Gulfstream  
Gov of Canada / Department of Defence  
Honeywell  
International Test Pilot School  
KBRwyle  
Leonardo  
Lockheed Martin  
MIT Lincoln Laboratory  
Mitsubishi  
Moog  
MTSI  
NASA  
NAVAIR

Northrop Grumman  
Piper Aircraft  
Royal Canadian Air Force  
US Coast Guard  
US Navy  
US Army  
US Air Force  
US Marine Corps  
SAAB  
Sikorsky  
Textron  
Transport Canada  
USN TPS  
USAF TPS

**2020 Workshop will be held in Denver 4-7 May**



## **SFTE Tech Council Webinar** **Flight Test Safety Lessons Learned**

### **Part 3**

**15 May**

**1330-1500 EDST**

**G-650 - Ryan Stanford<sup>M</sup>**

**Ranger 2000 – Al Lawless<sup>F</sup>**

### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/949298044>

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,949298044# US (San Jose)

+16468769923,,949298044# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: **949 298 044**

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abECw7AFW>

**Parts 1 & 2 Now Available on the SFTE Tech Council Webpage:**

<http://www.sfte.org/tech-council/>





## **SFTE 50<sup>th</sup> International Symposium**

**10-14 June 2019**

**Toulouse, France**

In conjunction with the [European Test & Telemetry Conference \(ETTC\)](#) with admission allowing attendance to both events

**Website:** <http://www.sfte-symposium-2019.com/en/index.html>

### **Registration\***

\*Limited number of seats for Members attending on their own funds. Please contact [SFTE-symposium-2019@inp-toulouse.fr](mailto:SFTE-symposium-2019@inp-toulouse.fr) to provide your justification before registration.

### **Symposium Short Courses**

**Hotel Mercure Compans**

**Monday 10 June**

Courses 1 and 2, in parallel, from 9am to 12am

Courses 3 and 4, in parallel, from 1:30pm to 4pm

### **Scientific Program**

#### **Social Program**

**Wednesday Evening 12 June**

Guided Tour and Reception Downtown Toulouse

**Thursday Afternoon 13 June**

Aeroscopia Museum



**Thursday Evening 13 June**

Gala Awards Dinner

Restaurant "Les Ecuries de la Tour"

**Friday Morning 14 June**

Airbus Visit



### **Tickets for Paris Airshow Trade Days Available**

Tickets for 17-20 June trade days are now available

<https://siaepro.mybadgeonline.com/Pro-en-US>

[https://www.siae.fr/en/general\\_info/prices.htm](https://www.siae.fr/en/general_info/prices.htm)

### **Only A Few Exhibitor Spots Still Available**

The SFTE symposium will be held in conjunction with the [European Test and Telemetry Committee](#) (ETTC) conference with a common exhibit hall. A few booths are still available for 3500€ each.

Contact Yves Saint-Upéry at [yves.saint-upery@airbus.com](mailto:yves.saint-upery@airbus.com) to reserve your spot!

## **SFTE Awards**

**Winners for the 2019 Kelly Johnson, James S. McDonnell, Directors, and Scholarship Awards were made by the SFTE Board of Directors at the 1 May Board meeting.**

Announcement of winners and presentation of the awards will take place at the SFTE Gala Awards Dinner in Toulouse on the evening of 13 June.

Selection of the 2019 SFTE Fellows is in progress.



**Jesualdo Martínez – New Award**

***Due 21 May***

As a memorial for Jesualdo Martinez and our colleagues who have sacrificed their lives while performing their job, the European Chapter has established this award. The candidacies will be received by the European Chapter Board, and the award will be delivered every two years. The first one will be awarded this June during the 50th SFTE and 30th European Chapter Symposium in Toulouse. As a memento for the winner, a copy of a special painting will be delivered. This painting has been created by the Spanish artist Ms Aida Mauri Crusat, under the title "Empty Desk". The original of this painting will be exhibited at the Spanish Air Force museum in Madrid. This museum is well worth paying a visit anytime visiting Madrid. Please send nominations to European Chapter President Jesús Javier Fernández Orío at [oriojj@inta.es](mailto:oriojj@inta.es)

## **Individual Membership**

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Member Renewal Items for 2019!**

The first 300 mailings have been made primarily to Lifetime members, Fellows, and early 2019 renewals. The next 200 are now in the mailing process.

Make sure you renew your membership this year to receive the following member items to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SFTE.

Don't worry, if you would like to renew early to receive your items early your membership will be extended from its annual due date.



### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Patch for all Members**

The special commemorative patch designed by the Seattle Chapter, originators of SFTE 50 years ago, will be going out to all renewals in 2019 (and Lifetimes/Fellows).



### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Member Certificate for Members, Senior Members, and Fellows**

This classic format from the beginning of SFTE returns but with the special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo designed by the SFTE Coastal Empire Chapter.

### **New SFTE App in the Works?**

A new SFTE App is being developed. Planning for a rollout of the Beta version in Toulouse.

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## [Join/Renew SFTE membership](#)

SFTE Member Level denoted as Exponent (SETP in parenthesis)

ST - Student Member

AL – Affiliate Member

AS – Associate Member

M – Member

SM – Senior Member

F – Fellow

(HF) – Honorary Fellow

(PAM) - Provisional Associate Member

For more info on SFTE member grades & to apply for upgrade:

<http://www.sfte.org/membership-individual/>

## **2019 Calendar**

### **16 May**

South Florida Chapter – Monthly Meeting at Twisted Trunk on PGA

### **21 May**

Nominations due for Jesualdo Martínez Award to European Chapter

### **24 May**

SETP Canadian Chapter Sectional, Canada Air and Space Museum Ottawa, ON

### **7 June**

North Texas Chapter - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday at the Flying Saucer, Fort Worth, TX

### **10-14 June**

SFTE 50<sup>th</sup> International Symposium, Toulouse, France

### **20 June**

South Florida Chapter – Monthly Meeting at Twisted Trunk on PGA



### **17-23 June**

[Paris Airshow](#)

### **5 July**

North Texas Chapter - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday at the Flying Saucer, Fort Worth, TX

### **18 July**

South Florida Chapter – Monthly Meeting at Twisted Trunk on PGA

### **6-7 September**

SFTE/SETP/AIAA Southwest Aerospace Symposium, Keynote Charlie Bolden, UT Arlington, TX

## **2020 Calendar**

### **4-7 May**

Flight Test Safety Workshop, Denver, CO

### **TBD**

51<sup>st</sup> Annual SFTE Symposium – St. Louis, MO



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***Have some Flight Test news or Chapter Events to share?***

Just send as a reply to this email. Make sure it is public-released information and/or reference a news release. Include names of SFTE members contributing to the events.