



Leo Knaapen

Leo Knaapen is an experienced leader and an influential force in his representation of Bombardier to the civil aviation industry. As Chief, Industry Affairs, Bombardier Business Aircraft, he is responsible for strengthening Bombardier's contributions within the international civil aviation industry. By engaging, supporting and guiding its involvement in industry associations, as well as regulatory and government agencies through working groups and committees, speaker opportunities, events and sponsorships, Mr. Knaapen ensures Bombardier assumes its role as a key influencer within the industry.

Mr. Knaapen began his career in aerospace at Pratt & Whitney Canada in 1985. He joined Bombardier Aerospace in 1989, and in 1992 was named spokesperson for Bombardier's Canadair division. In 1997, Mr. Knaapen assumed responsibility for media and public relations at Bombardier Business Aircraft. In this role, he led the team responsible for communications on a complete range of products including Learjet, Challenger and Global business jets, pre-owned aircraft, Skyjet International charter, special mission aircraft, and customer support and services.

In 2007, he assumed leadership of Bombardier's industry affairs portfolio, and has been instrumental in heightening Bombardier's overall profile within the industry. He has increased the involvement of Bombardier Business Aircraft in key business and general aviation portfolios including safety, environment and air navigation, and has also guided Bombardier's overall engagement with international civil aviation organizations.

Mr. Knaapen serves as Chair of the Quebec Chapter of the Canadian Business Aviation Association. He is also a member of the Safety Standdown Advisory Council, and was engaged in the development of the Safety Management Systems involving Design and Manufacturing for ICAO Annex 19. Furthermore, he sits on the Board of the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG), the Board of the National Aeronautic Association (NAA), and is the Bombardier representative on the Communications Committee of the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA).

Born in The Hague, Netherlands, Leo Knaapen is proficient in Dutch, French and English. He graduated from Concordia University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism,

and worked at several newspapers and periodicals before entering corporate communications in 1981.

Mr. Knaapen is based at Bombardier Business Aircraft headquarters in Montreal, Canada.