



नागर विमानन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION



Webinar: “Navigating through COVID Clouds to Safer Cruising Heights”

Thursday, 27th August 2020; 10.30 am – 4.30 pm (IST)

Join URL : <https://iaa.webex.com/iaa/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0108aaf850b3f26554309154c122c63a>

Event password: 839209

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Webinar opens for audience/ Video - Future of Flying

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Inaugural Session on Navigating through COVID Crisis
(Moderated by Mr. Hareendranathan EP, Director, Indian Aviation Academy)

Ms. Usha Padhee (Ministry Perspective)
Joint Secretary
Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA)

Mr. Arun Mishra (ICAO Perspective)
Regional Director Asia & Pacific
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Mr. Salil Gupte (Industry Perspective)
President
Boeing India

11:00 AM – 12:45 PM

Session One: Weathering the Crisis
(Moderated by Mr. Sandeep Bahl, Executive Program Director, US – India ACP)

Mr. Arun Mishra (Guidelines for Aviation)
Regional Director Asia & Pacific
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Mr. Salil Gupte (Confident Flying)
President
Boeing India

Mr. Ashim Mitra (Airlines Management)
Senior Vice President, Flight Operations
IndiGo



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Professor David Yu (Aircraft Finance and Leasing)
Chairman,
Asia Aviation Valuation Advisors (AAVA)

Dr. KJ Devasia (Management of Operation in Crisis)
General Manager & Head - Enterprise Risk & Corporate Resilience,
Bengaluru International Airport Limited (BIAL)

Mr. Rakesh Narayanan (Customer / GDS behavior)
Vice President, Regional General Manager - Asia Pacific,
Travel Solutions Airline Sales,
Sabre

Mr. Raja Saggi (Latest Travel Insights)
Director, Marketing and Strategy & Operations,
Google

12:45 PM – 1:00 PM

Q & A and Summary of the First Session by Mr. Sandeep Bahl,
Executive Program Director, US – India ACP

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Break

2:30 PM – 4:15 PM

Session Two: Path to Resurgence
(Moderated by Captain Sarvesh Gupta)

Mr. Amitabh Khosla (Global Situation Going Forward)
Country Director, India,
International Air Transport Association (IATA)

Mr. Steve Robinson (Contactless Airport Journey)
Director of Account Management and Sales Asia Pacific,
Collins Aerospace

Mr. Shinya Naruse (Japan's revival case study)
Country Manager,
Japan Airlines

Mr. Harvinder Singh (Standards, Procedure, Customer)
Country Manager, **United Airlines India &**
Director, **United Airlines Business Services Pvt. Ltd.**

Mr. Jetendra S Gavankar (JS) (Technology Innovations)
Director Engineering,
Honeywell



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Mr. S. Vasudevan (Management of Change, Winning Trust)
Partner and Head – Aviation in India &
Global Sector Lead – Airports
KPMG

Group Captain (Dr.) YS Dahiya (Doctor's perspective on Safe Flying)
DMS (CA)
Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)

Mr. Vishal S. Amin (FAA perspective on Future of Flying)
Senior Regional Representative, South Asia (Incoming)
Federal Aviation Administration &
Co-chair (US Government),
US – India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP)

4:15 PM – 4:25 PM

Q &A and Summary of the Second Session by Captain Sarvesh Gupta

4:25 PM – 4:30 PM

Mr. Manoj Chansoria (Vote of thanks)
General Manager, Training,
Indian Aviation Academy



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Speaker's Profile



**Mr. Hareendranathan EP,
Director,
Indian Aviation Academy**

Shri Hareendranathan EP is Director Indian Aviation Academy (IAA), a joint venture of AAI, BCAS and DGCA.

Shri Hareendranathan is a Mechanical Engineer, International Airport professional (IAP) and ICAO Course Developer (IQCS)/Course Validator & Qualified instructor. Earlier he worked as Executive Director in Technical, Cargo, Fire Services directorates and as Airport Director, Chennai Airport.

Shri Hareendranathan participated in Indo-US Aviation Summit 2009 held at Washington, USA, representing AAI. He participated in Conference on 1st ICAO NGAP & TRAINAIR PLUS Regional Conference at South Korea and TRAINAIR PLUS Symposium 2015 at Trinidad and Tobago.



**Ms. Usha Padhee
Joint Secretary
Ministry of Civil Aviation**

The 1996-Batch IAS officer of Odisha cadre, Mrs. Usha Padhee is an alumna of Gulbarga University, Karnataka, from where she has pursued Civil Engineering. She has served as Sub-Collector of Baliguda, Kandhamal. She was also the Additional Project Director (watershed) of District Rural Development Agency, Kalahandi, and then Additional District Magistrate of Bolangir (Odisha). District Magistrate in 3 districts, Nabarangpur, Koraput and Dhenkanal.

Mrs. Usha Padhee, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) is the incharge of Domestic Transport Division, Civil Aviation Security and the flagship Scheme of MoCA 'RCS-UDAN'. She was also the incharge of 'Lifeline-Udan' during the lockdown period and ensured seamless transportation of medicines, medical equipment and Doctors to nook and corners of the country. She had held the additional charge of Chairperson and Managing Director (CMD) of Pawan Hans Limited and She is currently holding the additional charge of DG, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security.

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Mr. Arun Mishra (ICAO Perspective)
Regional Director Asia & Pacific
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

Born on 26 June 1962, Mr. Arun Mishra holds a BSc. Chemistry (Hons.) from St Stephen's College, Delhi University in 1982 and a MSc Chemistry from Delhi University in 1984. Mr. Mishra also holds a MBA in Public Service from the University of Birmingham, UK, in 2003. Mr. Mishra took over as Regional Director of ICAO Asia & Pacific Office in Bangkok on 3 February 2014.

Prior to this Mr. Mishra was the Director General in Directorate General of Civil Aviation of India. He has also been the Permanent Representative of India on the Council of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Montreal from July 2009 to July 2012. A member of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Mr. Mishra has served in various capacities with Government of India for 27 years. He has occupied several positions of responsibility, both in Provincial and Central Government. These positions were in the field of District Administration, Health & Family Welfare, Home & Internal Security, Finance, Surface Transport, Cabinet Secretariat, Civil Aviation and more.



Mr. Salil Gupte
President
Boeing India

Salil Gupte is President of Boeing India and the senior in-country executive, who integrates and advances Boeing's activities in India across its three business units: Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Boeing Global Services, and Boeing Defense, Space & Security, leading a team of 3500 employees across New Delhi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai and Chennai.

Previously, Gupte was vice president of Boeing Capital Corporation, a wholly owned Boeing subsidiary, primarily responsible for arranging, structuring and providing financing for Boeing's commercial airplane, space and defense products. Gupte's earlier roles at Boeing include supply chain execution for Boeing Global Services and leading commercial operations for Boeing's spare parts business. Gupte has worked closely with customers across the Boeing enterprise, led sales and marketing teams, and has experience in commercial and defense supply chains, overseeing

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manufacturing, sourcing, and fulfilment activities for Boeing products. Gupte has also led Boeing's aftermarket strategy teams, completing joint ventures and acquisitions to accelerate Boeing's growth in services.

Before joining Boeing in 2009, Gupte worked with Citigroup and Goldman Sachs, as an investment banker in the aviation and infrastructure sectors.

Gupte holds an M.B.A. from Stanford University and a B.A. in Economics from Cornell University.



Mr. Sandeep Bahl
Executive Program Director
US – India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP)

Sandeep is Executive Program Director for US-India Aviation Cooperation Program and has over 30 years of managing business and consulting experience. He has diverse cultural understanding and has worked in various companies from US, India, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, Maldives and China.

Sandeep holds an MBA and post graduate degree from Oxford Brookes University in the UK. A diploma holder from the Institute of Hotel Management in New Delhi, he completed Executive Development Program from University of Technology, Sydney.

Sandeep is a visiting professor of economics and marketing at Civil Aviation University of China for its Aviation MBA program and at Fudan University for MTA program. A member of Australian Institute of Company's Director, Sandeep previously acted as International Advisory Chair for Travel Transport Industry Association of USA.



Captain Ashim Mittra
Senior Vice President, Flight Operations
IndiGo

Captain Mittra has been a DGCA Designated Examiner & Trainer. He joined IndiGo at its inception, when IndiGo had NIL aircraft. He has consistently managed to fabricate and build the flight operations department and its team into

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a futuristic, highly safety oriented and operationally skilled part of the airline from scratch to 276 Aircraft (Airbus 320 /321s & ATRs) in the fleet.

Ashim was always extremely passionate about flying and started his career by becoming an aircraft maintenance engineer with Indian airlines in 1979 and then a flight engineer on Airbus 300 B2.

After clocking 4000 hrs. as Flight engineer, he decided that he was ready for the front seat of the cockpit and began his journey as a first officer with Indian Airlines on Boeing 737-200 and Airbus 320. Ashim has a total of around 15000 flying hours, mostly as an examiner & trainer.

Ashim has worked with many airlines in various capacity starting with Indian Airlines, Air Lanka, Air Sahara, Alliance Air, Air India express and finally IndiGo.

In his rich career of close to 43 years as an Aviator, Ashim besides active flying has also side-by-side held increasing responsibilities in Operation and in Management leadership roles.

Captain Mitra has also been a member of many DGCA constituted committees on Flight Operational aspects and more importantly has been an early Indian aviation industry proponent & voice to the DGCA for acceptance & implementation of MPL & EBT programs.

He has also been nominated to the BAR of RGNAU (Board of Affiliation and Recognition (BAR) of the Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University (RGNAU).

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer with Indian Airlines (1979-1981)
- Flight Engineer on Airbus 300 with Indian Airlines (1981-1987)
- First Officer on Boeing 737-200/A320 with Indian Airlines (1987-1994)
- First Officer A320 on A320 with Air Lanka (1994-1997)
- Captain/Check pilot with Alliance Air on Boeing 737-200. (1997-2004)
- Captain Boeing 737-700/800NG with Sahara/Air India Express. (2004-2006)
- DE/TRE on A320 and Fleet Captain Line operations south with Indigo. (2006- 2011)
- Director-Flight Operations IndiGo (Jan 2012 till Sep 2013)
- Vice President- Flight Operations IndiGo (Oct 2013 till Feb 2018)
- Senior Vice President – Flight Operations IndiGo since Feb 2018 till date



Professor David Yu
Chairman,
Asia Aviation Valuation Advisors (AAVA)

Professor David Yu is Chairman of Asia Aviation Valuation Advisors (AAVA) the only professional aviation valuation and advisory company in Asia. He is a professor of practice in finance at New York University and Stern

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School. A recognized expert and thought leader in cross border investing, financing, valuation, real assets and aviation. A Senior ISTAT (International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading) Certified Aviation Appraiser.

An entrepreneur, PE investor, lessor, banker and appraiser, he is board director, advisor of companies and funds including an airline.

A contributing writer to many industry publications including Forbes, Nikkei Asian Review, FT, WSJ, NY Times, Airfinance Journal, etc. His upcoming book titled, "Aircraft Valuation: Airplane Investments As An Asset Class" will be published in October by Palgrave Macmillan. He previously was a senior instructor for IATA.

Prof. Yu is a CFA Charter holder and has a double major B.A. (full honors) and an M.S. from Johns Hopkins University. An M.B.A. from New York University's Stern School of Business, Ph.D. in Finance from the University of Nottingham Business School.



Dr. KJ Devasia
General Manager & Head - Enterprise Risk & Corporate Resilience,
Bangaluru International Airport Limited (BIAL)

He holds a Doctorate (PhD) in Disaster Management and an overall 20 years of domain experience, in which 13 years in aviation industry itself.

Currently, heading the department of 'Enterprise Risk & Corporate Resilience' at Bangalore International Airport Ltd., with the direct responsibilities of Aerodrome Emergency Management, Corporate Business Continuity, Enterprise Risk Management, Recovery of Disabled Aircraft Operations, Airport Medical Services and Building Safety and Evacuation Planning

Prior to this, worked with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Vision India, and the Pratichi (India) Trust of the Nobel Laureate Prof Amartya Sen.

- He was recipient of the Karnataka Chief Minister's Meritorious Award for outstanding contributions to Civil Defence and Disaster Management in the State;
- Winner of the 'Continuity and Resilience Professional (Private Sector-INDIA) 2017' award by the Business Continuity Institute (BCI-UK); and nominee for the Global Award under the same category;
- One of the key contributors and reviewer of the 'ACI Handbook of Airport Business Continuity Management' published by the Airport Council International in 2019.
- Currently Chairing the Aviation Council Think Tank hosted by BCI Global for the Next Level Business Continuity Practices.

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He has addressed more than 20 International Conferences in various countries, besides numerous Summits in India.



Mr. Rakesh Narayanan
Vice President, Regional General Manager - Asia Pacific,
Travel Solutions Airline Sales,
Sabre

Rakesh Narayanan is Vice President, Regional General Manager, Asia Pacific, Travel Solutions Airline Sales. In this role, Rakesh oversees airline relationships in the region, ensuring that Sabre meets their evolving retailing, distribution and fulfillment needs. Together with his team, he connects airlines to thousands of travel agents, travel management companies, and corporate travel departments through Sabre's global travel marketplace. Rakesh also works closely with Sabre's global product and technology teams to deliver strategic solutions that drive higher revenue and deliver improved efficiencies for carriers in the region.

With Sabre for over 20 years, in roles spanning across Asia Pacific, the Middle East and North and South America. Rakesh has a Bachelor of Technology degree in Electrical & Electronics Engineering from the University of Calicut, India, Master of Management Information Systems and a Master of Business Administration degree from University of Texas, Arlington.



Mr. Raja Saggi
Director, Marketing and Strategy & Operations,
Google

Raja is Director of Strategy & Ops and Ads Marketing SMB in the UK – the biggest market for Google outside the US and the world's most advanced country in terms of e-commerce and online advertising spending.

Raja's team is responsible for acquiring, on boarding and growing customers for products such as Ad Words and Google My Business through a variety of offline, online and partner channels. His team also manages flagship programs such as Google Partners and Think with Google. During the Covid-19 crisis, his team has supported businesses in the UK, with programs that help them get online and grow successfully, and manage and motivate their

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teams effectively.

Prior to this role Raja spent 15 years in marketing, business development and consulting with Hibu (Yell), SAP (Ariba) and Accenture, as well as startups in London and Silicon Valley. He has a degree from UCL and an MBA from Insead.

Raja is an advisor to tech startups and non-profits.



Captain Sarvesh Gupta

He is a Graduate in environmental science, having over 33 years in Aviation and 25 years as airline Pilot with over 15000 hours of flight time mostly as trainer.

He started with aeromodelling, glider pilot in NCC and since then he have had opportunities to perform at various verticals of Civil Aviation namely – cockpit crew, Examiner and Test Pilot on Boeing 737 fleet, Instructor on Airbus fleet, Airports, Air navigation services, air safety and regulatory authorities functions as Flight Operation Instructors, technical advisor to the govt of Andaman & Nicobar Iseland on civil aviation etc. He also have been an Examiner for English Language proficiency, Aviation- DGCA

There are the number of additional interests that he engage with which include newer technologies, Individual Social Responsibility, education enhancement initiatives, community services and contributing to the success of his surroundings as a whole by exchange cultural and social beliefs as well as foster and maintain an open, communicative and supportive environment.



Mr. Amitabh Khosla
Country Director, India,
International Air Transport Association (IATA)

Amitabh Khosla is the Country Director for the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in India. IATA is the global trade association for the airline industry, which promotes safe, secure and efficient air transportation on behalf of its 300 member airlines, which carry 84% of the world's scheduled international airline traffic. Amitabh oversees

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IATA's activities and priorities in India, Nepal & Bhutan – covering the streams of aviation safety, operations, standards, infrastructure and regulatory affairs among others.



Mr. Steve Robinson
Director of Account Management and Sales Asia Pacific,
Collins Aerospace

Steve is responsible for the Sales and Account management for Airports, Airlines and Defence for Collins Aerospace's IMS division, providing IT managed solutions to the Aerospace ecosystem. Steve has been in this role for over 3 years, having previously held senior IT sales and business improvement roles in major IT companies. He has helped many industries with digital transformation and is assisting Collins Aerospace to apply this to the aviation domain and key customers in the region.



Mr. Shinya Naruse
Country Manager,
Japan Airlines

DEC2003 Director, Marketing Planning Department

NOV2007 Station Manager, Frankfurt Airport

FEB2013 Vice President, Narita Airport

JUN2017 Country Manager, India

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Mr. Harvinder Singh
Country Manager, United Airlines India &
Director, United Airlines Business Services Pvt. Ltd.

Harvinder Singh is Country Manager India for United Airlines. In this role, which he assumed in 2011, Singh is responsible for managing the commercial business of United Airlines in India and spearheads key functional areas including Sales, Marketing, Reservations and Contact Centre operations.

Harvinder Singh is also Director of United Airlines Business Services Pvt. Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of United Airlines Inc. in India that provides back end analytical support to United Airlines Inc. Prior to joining United Airlines, Singh worked for Lufthansa German Airlines.

Singh holds a Master's Degree in Hospitality and Tourism from Victoria University in Melbourne, Australia.



Mr. Jetendra S Gavankar (JS)
Director Engineering,
Honeywell

'JS' as he is popularly known, is a seasoned Aerospace professional with three decades of hands on experience at various aerospace technologies, complex programs and leadership positions in IAF, DRDO, Adani Group and Honeywell.

He was instrumental in many large-scale programs for IAF distinctive being the Sukhoi 30 MKI upgrade, establishment of avionics integration lab & resurrection of complete airfield with new ATC tower.

He is alumnus of IIM-Ahmedabad, BITS-Pilani and Air Force Technical College.



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Mr. S. Vasudevan
Partner and Head – Aviation in India &
Global Sector Lead – Airports
KPMG

Dr. Vasudevan heads the Aviation practice in KPMG in India. He is also the Global Sector Lead for KPMG's Airports business and advises governments, airport owners, operators and aviation stakeholders on policy, strategy, finance, operations and transaction related solutions.

He has been actively engaged on various policy and regulatory matters in aviation and PPP transactions in the wider transport sector, over the last 18 years. He was part of the team that advised the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India on the National Airports Strategy and the National Civil Aviation Policy (2016).

Vasu led project teams that successfully advised the Maharashtra and Goa governments to select the Greenfield airport PPP concessionaires in Navi Mumbai and Mopa. He also led the team that Government of Andhra Pradesh in selecting a joint venture partner for developing the Bhogapuram International airport near Vizag (AP) on PPP basis. He has worked with MoCA, AAI and AERA, the airport economic regulator on a number of strategic engagements including preparing the report on corporatization of air navigation services, operationalization of GAGAN, business

plans, tariff and regulatory matters and transaction related services. He has worked all leading private airport operators in the country in various capacities.

In his global role, Vasu has worked extensively with aviation and transport sector clients in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Bhutan, Qatar and Oman on airport development strategies, policy reforms, feasibility studies and PPP transaction related procurement. He is a member of the US-India Aviation Co-operation Program.

Other than airports, Vasu has led many engagements for leading transport clients including Virgin Hyperloop One (VHO), Adani Group, CIDCO, NHAI, RVNL, DMRC, Ministry of Shipping & Road Transport, GMR Group, Mitsui, Balfour Beatty, the World Bank and USTDA. He also led the project management consultancy for the Government's flagship USD 100 billion Sagarmala program before handing over the reins to his colleague and focus on his aviation portfolio.

Vasu is an economist by training and holds a Ph.D. in Transport Management from the Indian Institute of Science. He is a recipient of the prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fellowship (JNMF) for doctoral studies and was invited to pursue his work as a research scholar in the National University of Singapore before choosing a career in the consulting industry.

He is currently based in Bangalore and is actively involved in building KPMG's global airport advisory portfolio with a focus on PPP transactions, operations and technology-enabled transformation solutions.

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Group Captain (Dr.) YS Dahiya
DMS (CA)
Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)

Group Captain (Dr) Yashvir Singh Dahiya graduated (MBBS) from Pandit BDS Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (PGIMS), Rohtak in 1998, did his Masters Degree (MD) in Aerospace Medicine from Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM), Indian Air Force, Bangalore in 2008 and Diploma in Aviation Medicine from US Air Force (AAMIMO), School of Aerospace Medicine in 2012. He has an excellent academic record. He won the 'IAM Commandant's Rolling Trophy' for 'The Best Outgoing Officer' of the year at IAM, Bangalore in 2008, 'AVM Srinagesh Medallion' for standing first in the Advance Course in Aerospace Medicine in 2008 and he also holds the University 'Rank Certificate' for standing first in MD (Aerospace Medicine) at Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore (2008). He has been commended by the Chief of the Air Staff in 2005 for his valuable contribution to the Indian Air Force. He has done two instructional tenures at IAM and No. 1 AMTC and has served at operational fighter bases in IAF as Squadron Flight Surgeon. At IAM, he headed the Department of Human Factors and Human Engineering for four years. He is Associate Professor (Aerospace Medicine) at RGUHS, Bangalore. He is also the 'Senior Advisor' Aerospace Medicine for Indian Air Force. He is Associate Fellow of the reputed Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine (ISAM). He has presented numerous papers at various National & International Scientific Conferences (including ASMA and ICASM). He has several publications in National Journals of repute. He has been honoured by the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine for the 'Best Paper' in field category during the annual scientific meeting of ISAM in 2009. He has been awarded the coveted 'Air Marshal Kuldip Rai Medal' for the best published scientific paper in 2018 in the Indian Journal of Aerospace Medicine. He has been the editor for the Indian Journal of Aerospace Medicine for three consecutive years and is at present one of the reviewers of the same journal as well as Medical Journal of Armed Forces India (MJAFI). His areas of interest are Operational Aerospace Medicine and Human Factors. At present, he heads the Medical Directorate at Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Headquarters as Group Captain (Medical Services) Civil Aviation.



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Mr. Vishal S. Amin
Senior Regional Representative, South Asia (Incoming)
Federal Aviation Administration &
Co-chair (US Government),
US – India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP)

Vishal S. Amin, brings over 20 years of diverse experience in civil and military aviation. Prior to returning to government service, Vishal was the Chief Executive Officer of Aertron, Inc., a veteran-owned business providing innovative transportation solutions. Vishal was also appointed by the Governor of Maryland to serve as a Commissioner on the Maryland Aviation Commission overseeing Baltimore/Washington Thurgood Marshall Airport. Prior to founding Aertron, Vishal was Chief of Staff to the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) where he led engagements with key international stakeholders such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the Transportation Safety Board of Canada, the Japan Transport Safety Board, and the United Kingdom Air Accidents Branch.

As the first Indian-American diplomat serving as the Senior Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regional representative for South Asia, based out of the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, Vishal is responsible for building strong

partnerships with counterparts in the civil aviation authorities in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives. Vishal is responsible for being the top FAA authority in South Asia on U.S. civil aviation, policies, practices and procedures. He is responsible for coordinating and managing aviation related activities with other U.S. Government agencies, foreign civil aviation authorities and international aviation organizations. Vishal is passionate about aviation safety and will also promote international aviation safety and efficiency, solicit support for U.S. standards, policies, and procedures that promote safety and efficiency in the global air transportation system.

Vishal began his Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) career as an air traffic controller and worked in numerous leadership roles within the FAA. Vishal is also a FAA certified Commercial Pilot and Single and Multi-engine Flight Instructor. Vishal has a Professional Certificate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelor's of Science in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Vishal served four years in the United States Air Force and was also appointed to the U.S. Air Force Academy. Vishal is also multi-lingual and fluent in both Hindi and Gujarati. Vishal is happily married and is a proud father of two boys.

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