



Mike Spanos has been appointed chief operating officer of *Delta Air Lines*. He was president and CEO of Six Flags, before which he held leadership

positions at PepsiCo.

SES has named current chief technology officer **Ruy Pinto** interim CEO following Steve Collar's resignation. Pinto has worked with the company since 2017 and was at Inmarsat for 25 years.

Jose Vicente de los Mozos is succeeding Ignacio Mataix as CEO at *Indra*, effective immediately, a role he holds alongside chairmanship of trade fair consortium IFEMA Madrid's executive committee. Mataix will stay on as strategic advisor for the board of directors for two years. **Sofia Collado Echaure** moves up to human resources director from Indra subsidiary Minsait, where she held the same role.



AVX Aircraft has hired **Joseph "Scott" Helsing** as senior vice president for uncrewed aircraft systems. He was director of VDS and program manager of advanced programs at Dzyne Technologies.

Michael Scott will take over as executive vice president and chief financial officer at *WestJet* from Harry Taylor, who retired last year. Scott was chief financial officer at StandardAero. Interim Chief Financial Officer **Jennifer Bue** has been named senior vice president for finance and deputy chief financial officer.

Megha Bhatia has joined *Jet Support Services Inc.* as chief marketing officer. She was vice president of sales and marketing for Rolls-Royce's business aviation unit.

Israeli counterdrone technology company *D-Fend Solutions* has announced three hires to its U.S. office: **Brett Feddersen** as vice president of strategy and governmental affairs, **Michael Langman** as vice president of strategic partnerships and **Danny Rajan** as U.S. general manager.

Feddersen brings experience from several federal agencies, including the FAA and Defense Intelligence Agency. Langman has worked at Thales and The McLean Group, and Rajan at L3Harris, ITT and Exelis.

Kelly M. Austin has joined *Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University* as senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. He was vice president for commonwealth campuses and executive chancellor at The Pennsylvania State University.

Frederico Lemos has joined *Embraer's* defense unit from EID S.A. as chief commercial officer for international businesses, replacing Joao Bosco da Costa, Jr., who was appointed president and CEO in November 2022. In Embraer's commercial aviation unit, **Mark Neely** has been promoted to vice president for freighter from vice president for sales and marketing for North America. **Nigel Patterson** has succeeded him, leaving his role as vice president for strategic sales and development at Certified Aviation Services.



Defense manufacturer *MBDA* has appointed **Giovanni Soccodato** executive group director of sales and business development and managing director of MBDA Italy as well as to the company's executive committee. He was chief strategic equity officer at Leonardo. **Lorenzo Mariani**, whom he succeeds, has become co-general manager at *Leonardo*, helming its new general business and operations department. He also has been appointed chairman of the board of directors of MBDA Italy and representative for Leonardo on the MBDA group board.

Melissa Quinn has joined *Slingshot Aerospace* as general manager of its subsidiary Seradata, effective July 1.

The former head of Spaceport Cornwall, she succeeds Tim Fuller, who is retiring. The company also has hired **Megan Sieffert** as general counsel from Axiom Space, where she was associate general counsel. Sieffert previously served as attorney-advisor for NASA's Office of Inspector General.

Yvonne Manzi Makolo, RwandAir CEO, is succeeding Mehmet T. Nane as chair of the board of governors at the *International Air Transport Association*, following the end of his one-year term. She is the first woman to take this role. Makolo joined RwandAir as deputy CEO in charge of corporate affairs in 2017 and was named CEO in 2018. Prior to that, she was chief marketing officer and acting CEO at telecommunications company MTN Rwanda.



Advanced air mobility company *Electra.aero* has appointed **James F. Albaugh** and **Allan McArtor** to its board of advisors and **Kirsten Bartok Touw** to its board of directors. Albaugh serves concurrently as chairman of the National Aeronautics Association and was executive vice president at Boeing as well as president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes. McArtor was chairman of Airbus Americas. Bartok Touw is



also managing partner at AirFinance, which she co-founded.

Charles W. Hooper, a former U.S. Army lieutenant general, has joined the board of directors at *General Dynamics*. He served in the Army for more than 40 years, including as director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency. Hooper also is senior counselor for the Cohen Group and senior fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. ☪

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