



The AMA History Project Presents: Biography of JOHN S. LANGFORD



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The following information about 2015 AMA Foundation Board Member John S. Langford was published on the AMA Foundation website.

John S. Langford, AMA Foundation Board Member

The AMA Foundation is honored to welcome John S. Langford to its board of directors. John is the Chairman and CEO of Aurora Flight Sciences Corporation, which he founded in 1989. Langford is a native of Atlanta, Georgia. He received his Bachelor's degree in Aeronautics (1979), Masters in Aeronautics & Astronautics (1984), Masters in Defense Policy (1983) and Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Public Policy (1987) from MIT.

Prior to Aurora, Langford worked for the Institute for Defense Analyses in Alexandria, Virginia. While at MIT, Langford organized and led a series of human-powered aircraft projects, culminating in the Daedalus Project, which in 1988 shattered the world distance and endurance records for human-powered flight with a 72 mile flight between the Greek islands of Crete and Santorini. Earlier, Langford worked for the Lockheed Corporation as an engineer on the development of the F-117 stealth fighter, and as an intern at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

John is not only a long-time AMA member, but has a long history with the National Association of Rocketry (NAR) as well. He has been a competitor or U.S. team manager in eight space model world championships and serves as the U.S. liaison to the FAI.



Langford is a Fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a Fellow in the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS), and has served on academic advisory boards at MIT, the University of Maryland, and Mississippi State University. He has served on the Board of Directors of the National Aeronautics Association (NAA) and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA).

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