

CLF Appoints New Chair of Aerospace Group

The Composites Leadership Forum (CLF) has appointed a new chair of its Aerospace Group.

Jahan Ali, the Head of Research and Technology and Head of Aerospace Innovation Centre for Spirit AeroSystems in Europe, took over the reins at the beginning of September. He follows Craig Carr, GKN Aerospace's Technology Director for Integrated Composite Structures - Civil Airframe, in the role. Craig led the Aerospace Group for 3 years and has been chair of the wider CLF group since May.

Jahan, a highly qualified and experienced aerospace and mechanical engineer, has worked in the aerospace sector for over 12 years, working at Airbus on wing development projects for just over 6 years before moving to Spirit AeroSystems in 2017 where he is now Head of Europe Research & Technology and the Aerospace Innovation Centre (AIC).

Craig comments: "It's been a pleasure to have chaired the aerospace group for the last few years. The pressures the industry has experienced over the last year have been immense but the opportunity this brings to the different UK composite sectors along with the sustainability challenge is a welcome one and is a golden opportunity to further the UK capability and positioning on a global scale. I leave the CLF's Aerospace Group in safe hands with Jahan taking up the reins and look forward to working with him in my role as CLF Chair."

Jahan adds: "It's been a difficult time for aerospace over the last 18 months, but with every set of challenges comes significant opportunity. I look forward to taking up this challenge with the CLF Aerospace Group to maximise the use of composite technology across the sector."

Website: www.compositesleadershipforum.com

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Notes to Editor:

Composites Leadership Forum: The CLF was formed in 2012 to provide leadership and direction to the UK Composites Industry in response to a requirement highlighted in the 2009 UK Composites Strategy. Meeting quarterly, it brings together key national bodies from the composites sector, end-sector groups, academia and UK government.

Composites UK is the official trade association for the UK composites industry. The association acts to encourage continuous growth and development of the industry, promoting the best-practice use of composites materials. Its role is to bring companies throughout the supply chain together creating partnerships, as-well-as creating a unified voice to drive the industry forward, benefiting all of those involved. Composites UK is the secretariat for CLF.