Dedicated to innovation in aerospace

Michel Peters

Chief Executive Officer

Since 2010, Michel Peters (born 1959) has been the Chief Executive Officer of NLR - Royal Netherlands Aerospace Centre, the leading centre for aerospace research and innovation in the Netherlands with a global reach. Michel is responsible for NLR's strategy and applied research agenda. In partnership with industry and government, NLR focuses on more sustainable civil aviation, safe and secure integration of drones in civil airspace, protection of aircraft and helicopters during international peacekeeping missions, and the development of small-scale, affordable satellite systems.

Michel Peters believes collaboration is extremely important, as shown by his other positions. He is the chair of the Association of European Research Establishments in Aeronautics (EREA), a board member of the Association of European Space Research Establishments (ESRE), a board member of the International Forum for Aviation Research (IFAR), a member of the Advisory Council for Aviation Research and Innovation in Europe (ACARE), chair of the board of German-Dutch Wind Tunnels (DNW) and a member of the Netherlands Aerospace Council.

Aerospace is the connecting theme in Michel Peters' career. Before being appointed as CEO of NLR, he served as head of NLR's Aerospace Systems & Applications division and Air Transport division. Prior to NLR he held various positions at the airline Martinair (now part of KLM), where he was responsible for aircraft maintenance. The foundation for his career was established at Delft University of Technology, where he obtained an MSc in 1987 specializing in Avionics Engineering.

Royal NLR operates as an unaffiliated research centre that carries out contracts for aerospace customers from government and industry.

It employs over 600 highly qualified personnel at the main offices in Amsterdam and Marknesse plus two satellite offices in the Netherlands.

NLR owns and operates advanced research, development, testing and evaluation facilities, including mission simulation and verification facilities, wind tunnels and a secure networked computing infrastructure.

NLR also carries out demand-driven long term research programs under auspices of the Netherlands Government.