

Siegfried Knecht
aireg/Airbus



"Reducing aviation's CO2 emissions by 50% in 2050 is an ambitious but achievable goal if all stakeholders - aerospace industry, oil companies, airlines, airports, science and politics - stick together for a climate neutral aviation. The #AeroDays2020 is the right forum to address besides technological advancements and regulatory necessities how the market ramp-up for SAF can be accomplished."

Siegfried Knecht (61), VP Director R&T Affairs in the Airbus Public Affairs Germany Department, has over 10 years of experience in the aerospace industry and over 20 years of political lobbying expertise.

After graduating from the Technical University Aachen with a diploma degree in Computer Science he began his career in 1987 at the Research Center Jülich where he was appointed Assistant Director in 1991. From 1994 to 1997 he was with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research in Bonn, finally as PA to the Parliamentary State Secretary.

In 1998 Siegfried joined the German Association of Research-based Pharmaceutical Companies as Head of its Berlin office and became Head of International and Regional Affairs in 2000. He stayed in this position until 2006 when he changed to EADS (today Airbus) as Senior Manager Political Affairs.

In September 2013 he was appointed as VP Head of Political and External Affairs for Airbus (commercial airplanes) in Germany. He held responsibility for all political matters related to Germany with a particular focus on German and foreign government officials, parliamentarians, business associations and think tanks.

In January 2016 Siegfried joined the Airbus Group Corporate Technical Office, with direct links to the COO and the Head of R&T Support, where he provides support and advice on German R&T funding and policy as well as on general political issues.

In July 2017 he joined Airbus Public Affairs Germany as VP Director R&T Affairs.

In June 2011 Siegfried accepted the honorary appointment as Chairman of the Board of aireg, the Aviation Initiative for Renewable Energy in Germany.