

October 2012

**Roger Béteille****FORMER GENERAL MANAGER & FORMER PRESIDENT OF AIRBUS**

Roger Béteille was born in August 1921 in Vors (Aveyron) France.

He graduated from Polytechnique, and chose to go to the "Corps de l'Armement".

He also studied at Sup Aéro, at the Centre des hautes études de l'armement (CHEAr) and obtained his pilot's licence in 1945.

From 1952 to 1957 he was Chief Flight Test Engineer and Head of Flight Test at Sud Aviation (at the time Sud-Est Aviation SNCASE) in Toulouse. During that period, in the early 50s, he was the Flight Test Engineer during the Caravelles' maiden flight (France's first commercial jetliner).

From 1957 to 1968 he became Head of the Rocket and Satellite Division of the Société Nationale des Constructions Aéronautiques du Sud-Ouest (SNCASO) in Cannes.

In 1967, at the time of the creation of Airbus Industrie, he was appointed A300 Chief Engineer at Sud Aviation where he oversaw the certification of the A300, the world's first twin-engined widebody aircraft.

In 1970 he became "Senior Vice President Engineering" at Airbus Industrie. At that time he had already foreseen the necessity and the benefits of developing a family of aircraft with the B9, B10 and B11. This led to the A310, A330 and A340.

In 1975 he was appointed General Manager of Airbus and he remained in this position until early 1985. He was appointed President of Airbus Industrie at the beginning of 1985 and remained in this position until his retirement.

Roger Béteille is known as "l'homme à la cravatte blanche" (the man with the white tie). He loves to read in French, English, Latin, German and Russian. His wife was a former opera singer at the Toulouse opera house. They have one daughter called Anya.

\* \* \*