



## P R E S S   I N F O R M A T I O N

### **Ernie Edwards Appointed Chief Commercial Officer**

**Reno, Nevada — May 4, 2015** Aerion has appointed Ernest (Ernie) Edwards, one of business aviation’s most accomplished executives, as Senior Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer. He joins Aerion’s senior leadership and has responsibility for all sales activity related to the company’s Mach 1.5 AS2 supersonic business jet. Edwards reports to Aerion CEO Doug Nichols.

Edwards retired as president of Embraer Executive Jets at the end of 2013 and earlier served as that company’s vice president of sales & marketing for North America. In those roles (from 2005 to 2013), he helped build Embraer, a new entrant to business aviation, to become one of the industry’s leading brands.

“Ernie is known and respected throughout the business jet community around the globe,” said Nichols. “He understands our customer base, which, of course, encompasses the absolute elite users of business aircraft. His contribution to Aerion will be invaluable.”

“From his days at Embraer, and even earlier, Ernie has been a pioneer and a very successful one at that,” remarked Aerion Co-chairman Brian Barents. “We will benefit greatly from his vast experience and talents.”

A 45-year veteran of the industry, Edwards most recently served as non-executive chairman of Veling Tayara Ltd., a Dubai based company that provides structured operating leases for business jets and is a sister company of Veling Ltd., one of the world’s top 40 commercial leasing companies. He has held senior management positions with Cessna and Gulfstream and is the former president of Swift Aviation Group, which introduced Embraer to the business aircraft market in 2002 by offering the Legacy 600, a variant of the Embraer EMB-135 regional jet.



“Aerion is taking dramatic steps forward as it expands relationships within the industry and adds to its exceptionally talented team,” commented Chairman Robert M. Bass. “The appointment of Ernie Edwards provides astute and tremendously capable leadership on the sales side that will substantially increase program momentum.”

Edwards is an ATP pilot, type rated in Citation series aircraft, and also holds an Airframe and Powerplant license. He is a 1972 graduate of Kelsterton College and speaks Arabic.

“The most rewarding times in my career have been those when I had the chance to run with a new idea, and remake the industry,” said Edwards. “Aerion will do more than that, it will simply revolutionize the way the world travels. I could not ask for a more exciting opportunity.”

### **About Aerion Corporation**

Aerion is pioneering a new generation of efficient supersonic aircraft aimed at revolutionizing flight and giving travelers back the most precious commodity of all—time. It is developing the Mach 1.4 AS2 supersonic business jet. This 12-passenger jet will save travelers as much as three hours across the Atlantic and five hours across the Pacific. It is as much as 60 percent faster than today's civil jets. The AS2 will redefine the passenger experience, providing a new level of luxurious, connected, productive and serene flight at 1,000 mph. Aerion plans to fly the AS2 in 2023, with certification in 2025.

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