



Biography

Mr. Robert A. Pearce

*Deputy Associate Administrator for Strategy, Office of the Associate Administrator,
NASA Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)*

Mr. Pearce is responsible for leading aeronautics research mission strategic planning to guide the conduct of the agency's aeronautics research and technology programs, as well as leading ARMD portfolio planning and assessments, mission directorate budget development and approval processes, and review and evaluation of all of NASA's aeronautics research mission programs for strategic progress and relevance.

Previously he was director for strategy, architecture and analysis for ARMD, responsible for establishing a strategic systems analysis capability focused on understanding the system-level impacts of NASA's programs, the potential for integrated solutions, and the development of high-leverage options for new investment and partnership.

From 2003 until July 2010, Pearce was the deputy director of the FAA-led Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) Joint Planning and Development Office (JPDO). The JPDO was an interagency office tasked with developing and facilitating the implementation of a national plan to transform the air transportation system to meet the long-term transportation needs of the nation.

Prior to the JPDO, Pearce held various strategic and program management positions within NASA. In the mid-1990s he led the development of key national policy documents including the National Science and Technology Council's "Goals for a National Partnership in Aeronautics Research and Technology" and the "Transportation Science and Technology Strategy." These two documents provided a substantial basis for NASA's expanded investment in aviation safety and airspace systems.

He began his career as a design engineer at the Grumman Corporation, working on such projects as the Navy's F-14 Tomcat fighter and DARPA's X-29 Forward Swept Wing Demonstrator. Pearce also has experience from the Department of Transportation's Volpe National Transportation Systems Center where he made contributions in the area of advanced concepts for intercity transportation systems.

Pearce has received NASA's Exceptional Service Medal for sustained excellence in planning and advocating innovative aeronautics programs in conjunction with the White House and other federal agencies. He received NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal for outstanding leadership of the JPDO in support of the transformation of the nation's air transportation system. Pearce has also received NASA's Cooperative External Achievement Award and several Exceptional Performance and Group Achievement Awards.

He earned a bachelor's of science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering from Syracuse University, and a master's of science degree in technology and policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



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