
Report on the Founder of Airbus and His Journey

Introduction

Airbus is one of the world's leading aircraft manufacturers, known for revolutionizing global aviation. While Airbus itself was not founded by a single individual, it was the result of a European consortium driven by political visionaries, engineers, and aviation leaders. However, one name that stands out in Airbus's founding history is **Roger Béteille**, often regarded as the "Father of Airbus."

The Visionary: Roger Béteille

Roger Béteille, a French aeronautical engineer, played a pivotal role in the formation and early success of Airbus. Born on August 28, 1921, in Aveyron, France, Béteille graduated from the prestigious École Polytechnique and Supaéro, institutions known for producing top aerospace engineers.

He began his career at **Sud Aviation**, where he gained experience in aircraft design and project management. His most notable contribution prior to Airbus was his involvement in the development of the **Caravelle**, one of the first short/medium-range jetliners.

Formation of Airbus

In the 1960s, the American aerospace industry dominated global aviation. European nations realized the need for collaboration to remain competitive. In response, France, Germany, and the UK came together in 1967 to begin work on a new wide-body aircraft that could challenge American dominance—particularly Boeing's 747.

Roger Béteille was appointed **technical director** of this project. Under his leadership, the Airbus A300 program was launched—the world's first twin-engine wide-body jet.

Key Contributions of Béteille:

- Advocated for English as the working language of Airbus to ensure global appeal.
- Chose imperial measurements (feet, inches) to match global aviation standards.
- Emphasized international cooperation, with manufacturing spread across Europe.

The A300 made its maiden flight in 1972 and gradually proved to be a commercial success, paving the way for the creation of **Airbus Industrie** in 1970 as a formal multinational consortium.

The Growth of Airbus

Thanks to B  teille's engineering vision and business insight, Airbus gained credibility. Over the years, the company introduced successful models like:

- **A320** (launched in 1984) – first commercial plane with a fully digital fly-by-wire control system.
- **A330/A340** – long-haul aircraft for global routes.
- **A380** – the world's largest passenger plane.

By the early 2000s, Airbus had become a direct competitor to Boeing, marking the success of the European aerospace vision.

Legacy and Impact

Roger B  teille retired in 1984, but his legacy lives on. Often dubbed "Mr. Airbus," he is remembered for:

- Championing European collaboration in aviation.
- Laying the foundation for Airbus's global reputation.
- Making bold decisions that went against convention but proved visionary.

He passed away in 2019 at the age of 97, leaving behind a lasting legacy in the aerospace world.

Conclusion

While Airbus was a collaborative effort of several European nations and leaders, **Roger B  teille's** engineering foresight, diplomatic skill, and passion for aviation make him the central figure in its founding story. His journey—from a young French engineer to the father of Airbus—reflects the power of innovation, cooperation, and long-term vision.

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