



# Lars Q. Andersen

*2024 Pathfinder Award Recipient in The Engineering & Operations Categories*

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The Museum of Flight's Annual Pathfinder Awards honor individuals with ties to the Pacific Northwest who have made significant contributions to the development of the aerospace industry. Pathfinder Award recipients are selected by The Museum of Flight, the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and representatives of other aviation and aerospace organizations and companies throughout the Northwest.

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When Lars Andersen was a boy, his dad talked about living in rural Washington in the 1930s. There, after seeing a mail delivery seaplane, Lars' father decided to study aerodynamics, earning a degree in aeronautics in 1946 from the University of Washington. Lars decided to do the same, graduating from the University of

Washington in 1968 with a degree in Aerodynamics Engineering.

Joining The Boeing Company in 1973, Lars embarked on a 26-year term, marked by pioneering contributions to the 777 program. As leader of early ETOPS (Extended Twin Operations), he navigated uncharted territory, ensuring the 777's readiness for twin-engine operations worldwide. Lars' foresight led to groundbreaking collaboration with engine manufacturers and regulatory agencies, securing ETOPS approval at entry into service, a milestone in aviation history.

Throughout his career, Lars displayed a knack for problem-solving and collaboration. Whether resolving engine testbed debates or addressing in-service issues like

false fire warnings, his leadership proved invaluable. Promoted to Chief Project Engineer, Lars oversaw operational readiness, working with airlines to tackle challenges head-on.

Even in retirement, Lars remained committed to innovation, leading the development of the 777X series. His vision for enhanced fuel efficiency and passenger comfort shaped the future of long-range travel, earning acclaim from industry leaders.

With over 2,200 777 aircraft ordered cementing Lars enduring legacy as a pioneer of aviation engineering, his induction as a Museum of Flight Pathfinder is a fitting tribute to his creativity, perseverance and lasting impact on the region's aerospace industry.