

Robert John Commander

Key Skills

- Comfortable and skilled negotiator at government level within the UK, Europe and the Caribbean. Currently providing aviation advice to the Scottish Government and recently to the States of Jersey.
- Certificated auditor for the International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations (IS-BAO) and successful advisor to companies aspiring to this standard.
- Carried out IS-BAO audits for UK companies holding AOCs.
- Secretary and latterly Chairman for an international group within the Joint Aviation Authorities harmonising the regulation of corporate and business jet operations flying as international General Aviation.
- Experienced trainer and presenter for the Royal Air Force, British Caledonian, British Airways and the UK CAA.
- Developed practical staff training courses and aircraft operations documentation with UK airlines and the CAA.

Career History:

2006 - Present

Aviation Consultant, owner of and working as **Commander Aviation Services Ltd (CAS)**

Providing:

- Aviation business and safety risk management.
- Advice on Safety Management Systems.
- Accredited Audit to IS-BAO standard.
- Aerial Work and Commercial Air Transport negotiations and legal compliance.
- Expert witness in aviation operations including helicopter and fixed wing AOC.

Typical tasks undertaken as CAS

- Advised the Jersey Government on the requirements for an aircraft registry. The Jersey Aircraft Registry (JAR) opened in November 2015. Acted as interim Registrar pending selection and training of a suitable permanent Registrar.
- Expert witness in High Court case (2014) requiring an expert assessment of aviation oversight for helicopter AOC operations in Peru. Parallel assessment of the ICAO structure and audit program for oversight of operations in Contracting States to provide a comparison between AOC operations in South America and the UK, the USA, Europe and Africa.
- Writing guidance aviation advice to companies at the tender stage for the use of aerial survey or newsgathering aircraft operators. Establishing the tender requirements and considering the responses to the operating standards that must be met for a successful tender.
- Research and production of a plan for one of the UK's Overseas Territories to establish its own Directorate of Civil Aviation, including, costings, staffing levels and key staff terms of reference within the requirements of the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirements (OTARs).
- Advice on Safety Management Systems, particularly using the IS-BAO standard. After CAS assistance, a client recently demonstrated at independent audit the highest level of compliance possible.

Clients include:

The Crown Estate	Siemens Offshore Wind	Specsavers Aviation
EON(UKandGermany)	Chubb Insurance	GAMA Aviation (UK)
Jersey Government		

1988 -2006

Civil Aviation Authority, Safety Regulation Group

General Aviation Department 1995 to 2006

Head of Policy and Deputy Head of General Aviation Department.

Overall responsibility for formulating policy and progressing changes in the law affecting General Aviation.

The post involved liaison with the associations representing all aspects of GA, from hang gliders and balloons to corporate jet operators.

Specific tasks included:

- Safety and Business Risk management for the General Aviation Department and member of the Safety Regulation Group Risk Management Committee.
- Oversight of commercial balloon operations in UK registered aircraft, reviewing audits carried out by the CAA's Balloon Inspector.
- Two years as Secretary and latterly Chairman of the Joint Aviation Authorities' (JAA) Operations Sub-Committee developing harmonised European regulation of aerial work and corporate operations for aeroplanes and helicopters. This JAA work was taken up by the International Business Aviation Council (IBAC) and formed the basis of the IS-BAO standard for business aircraft operations, mentioned earlier.
- Drafting a Memorandum of Understanding with the Health and Safety Executive on responsibilities for recreational flying.
- Liaising on the implementation of the EU Working Time Directive with the Department for Transport (DfT).
- Developing operating standards for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) involving meetings with industry representatives, military and civilian.
- Drafting and developing the UK National Private Pilot's Licence (NPPL) for pilots wishing to fly recreationally in fine weather in the UK.

Personnel Licensing Department 1988 to 1995

Licensing policy work included:

- Licensing civilian pilots to fly ex-military aircraft for film work.
- Considering medical appeals by pilots contesting medical assessments.
- Drafting answers to parliamentary questions on the CAA's oversight of gliding in the UK.

1985 - 1988

British Caledonian, later British Airways

Appointed Safety and Survival Instructor responsible for:

- Cabin and flight crew safety training and route checking on DC10, B747 and Airbus A320 aircraft.
- Launching safety trainer for the Airbus A320.
- Developing the A320 *ab initio* SEP course for British Caledonian.
- Training 3rd party airlines including Air Seychelles and Sabena.
- Training the first Japanese and Chinese cabin staff in preparation for the launch of British Caledonian long haul flights to Tokyo and Hong Kong.

1967 - 1985

Royal Air Force

Joined the Royal Air Force as a Navigator and General Duties Officer.

Highlights

- Canberra low level bomber Navigator Germany
- Support Helicopter Squadron Operations Officer, Germany
- Search and Rescue Navigator RAF Valley
- A2 ground instructor at the RAF School of Survival:
 - Completed jungle and arctic survival courses
 - Organised and ran RAF winter survival courses in Southern Germany
 - Ran RAF long instructor courses including land and sea survival
 - Took part in 'Ridge Runner' - an American two week escape and evasion exercise in the Blue Ridge Mountains of West Virginia

Training

- Cardiff University Bond Solon (CUBS) Expert Witness Certificate 2017 (Copy attached)
- IS-BAO Accredited Auditor course - August 2010 and renewal 2019
- CAA Audit Techniques Training - December 1996
- CAA Management Training – Henley Management College - May 1992
- Royal Air Force Ground Instructor - November 1983
- Royal Air Force General Duties Officer and Navigator - 1967 - 1968

Additional Information

- Held Commercial Balloon Pilot's Licence 20 years as commercial balloonist until 2008
- Held Private Pilot's Licence for aeroplanes
- Clean UK driving licence

Awards

- RAF Commendation for meritorious service during Search and Rescue duties
- Lancashire Constabulary Commendation for a sea rescue near Blackpool

Associations and Societies

- Freeman of the City of London
- Liveryman, Honourable Company of Air Pilots
- Fellow Royal Aeronautical Society (FRAeS)
- Associate Fellow of the Royal Institute of Navigation (AFRIN)
- Council Chairman British Association of Aviation Consultants
- Member British Balloon and Airship Club

Publications

- A Review of UK Search and Rescue Provision for Offshore Renewable Energy Projects 2012 (Copyright The Crown Estate)
- CAP 755 Recreational Aviation Activities Manual 2005 (Copyright UK CAA and revised 2008)

References available on request

RJC
January 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RJC', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

IS-BAO Training Certificate

The International Business Aviation Council attests that

Robert Commander

completed the Fundamentals of IS-BAO Workshop

on September 10, 2019 in Brussels, Belgium



Workshop Content (7 Hours):

Background of IS-BAO

Implementing an SMS

IS-BAO Standards

Audit Considerations

*Katherine Hilst
Operations Manager, IBAC*



Expert Witness Certificate

Robert John Commander

This is to verify that, having followed an approved training programme and successfully completed each of the required assessments of the Cardiff University Law School Bond Solon Expert Witness Scheme, Robert John Commander has been certified by Cardiff Law School as an Expert Witness this 15th day of July 2017.

Completed elements:	Grade.
Excellence in Report Writing	Competent
Cross Examination and Courtroom Skills	Competent
Law and Procedure (Civil)	Competent



Signed:

Kathryn Clague
Chair of Test Board: Expert Witness Certificate
Professional Development Unit
Cardiff Law School