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# ANDRÉ BORSCHBERG

## Executive Chairman



Fueled by a drive to push the boundaries of the possible in both technology and human endeavors, André Borschberg is an entrepreneur whose passion for exploration is matched only by his persistence to drive economic, environmental and spiritual growth.

A leader in pioneering technologies, André is best known as the CEO, Co-founder and Pilot of Solar Impulse, the first electric airplane able to fly day and night without any fuel and which successfully flew around the world in a journey, covering 45’000km. Under his leadership, André assembled and managed the team that conceived, designed, built and flew Solar Impulse, an electric airplane which the aviation industry said would be impossible to make. Solar Impulse showed that electric flight with renewable energy and clean technologies is in fact a reality, as illustrated by André’s historical world record Pacific Ocean solo non-stop flight, lasting 5 days, and 5 nights.

In 2017, André co-founded H55, a technological spinoff of Solar Impulse, developing certified electric propulsion solutions battery packs and energy management systems. Based in Switzerland, H55’s mission is to make aviation clean, safe, and affordable. The company’s strengths and competencies lie in developing propulsion and energy storage solutions which are modular, lightweight, and certifiable.

The demand from first class, well established and respected aerospace companies for H55 products have been accelerating. The company is recognized for its experience in electric aviation, its patented technology which is suitable for a wide range of applications, and its certification achievements. The company now includes 120 engineers and continues to expand its global footprint. In 2022, H55 opened its Canadian subsidiary in Montreal and in 2023, it established a French subsidiary in Toulouse.

André contributes as a mentor by driving initiatives as a member of the World Presidents’ and the Young Presidents’ Organizations and is a frequent speaker at leadership forums such as the World Economic Forum. André is the recipient of a Doctor Honoris Causa from the University of Mons in Belgium, decorated with the Wissam Al Alaoui distinction from the King of Morocco, and was awarded the Swiss and British Governments’ Medal for Aeronautics, La Grande Médaille de l’AéroClub de France and The Explorers Club Medal for Extraordinary Contribution to Aviation Technology.

André is widely recognized as entrepreneurial statesman whose accomplishments have included creating companies which have brought technology to new levels. As such, André enjoys deep respect and loyalty from his teams for his strategic thinking and leadership. He is especially valued for his ability to unite an enormous diversity of talent, personalities and expertise around a higher goal; for bringing out the full potential of all his collaborators; for his accountability, leadership and perspective in periods of high risk; and, for his investment in individuals to tap their deeper drives, enabling the achievement of broader personal goals through a shared mission.

From childhood, André dreamt about flight and showed a thirst for tackling new challenges. Trained as a pilot in the Swiss Air Force, he has flown numerous types of airplanes and jet fighters. In his spare time, he earned an assortment of additional professional airplane and helicopter pilots’ licenses and enjoys air aerobatics.

While serving in the Air Force, André earned an engineering degree in mechanics and thermodynamics from the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale, Lausanne, along with diplomas in financial management and business management at Ecoles des Hautes Etudes Commerciales, Lausanne. After earning a master’s degree in management from the Sloan School at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, André joined McKinsey, serving as a consultant for five years, before embarking on his own entrepreneurial activities. In addition to partnering in a venture capital firm for eight years, André successfully launched two start-ups, including Innovative Silicon, a technology company in the field of microprocessor memories.

Through to his wife Yasemin, André discovered yoga and meditation, which have been essential to his successes in exploration and entrepreneurship. These practices have helped him develop a state of being that aligns the mind with the body, and have played a critical role in his preparation for stressful and physically taxing situations, such as piloting Solar Impulse.

The father of three children, André Borschberg lives in Valais, Switzerland.



# MARTIN LAROSE

## Chief Executive Officer



Martin Larose is a recognized leader, known for driving change and delivering results in complex program and project environments within the mobility related industries. Graduated from Sherbrooke University, Canada in Mechanical Engineering, he started his career joining Bombardier Aerospace. Martin held various senior management roles in the aviation industry, rising to the position of Director of Aircraft Operations for Bombardier, whereby amongst his achievements included overseeing industrialization scale-up, leading to production rate improvements through the implementation of lean concepts.

Martin then joined Nova Bus, a subsidiary of the Volvo Group, whereby he was division President, directly responsible for managing all aspects of the business from sales to product development, through to operations and aftermarket. During his tenure at Nova Bus, Martin and his team successfully launched a new full electric bus for public transport in major cities across North America.

H55 appointed Martin as CEO in 2023, to enable H55 to respond to a fast-growing market demand for its products and solutions. With the size of the company doubling every year, certification and commercialization of its full electric propulsion system foreseen by the end of 2024, a customer service organization currently being put in place, and the setting up of automated production facilities in Switzerland and Canada, Martin’s experience in aviation and electric mobility will play a key role in the next chapter of the company’s growth, further accelerating H55’s position as the leading enabler in clean aviation.

Martin lives in Switzerland with members of his family, enjoying sports and mountain activities.

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# Sebastien Demont

## Chief Technology Officer



H55 co-founder and CTO, Sebastien Demont is leading the development of the power and energy management systems. An electrical engineer by training and an avid pilot, Sebastien Demont was part of the Solar Impulse project early on. He notably designed the electrical system architecture of the airplane. Sebastien’s work at Solar Impulse earned him the prestigious AIAA aircraft design award for innovative design of a piloted all-electric aircraft. His career began at the Kudelski Group before working on the Antares Electric Glider improving the battery management system. His passion for clean technologies has led him to work as a renewable energy manager for the Canton of Valais’ innovation arm, CimArk SA.

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# Gregory Blatt

## Co-Founder and Across USA Mission Director



Gregory Blatt, H55 co-founder, leads the organization’s business development, marketing and communications, partnerships and government relations. Gregory comes to H55 from Solar Impulse where he was Managing Director for Marketing, Communications and External Relations. Gregory worked directly with both the Chairman and the CEO with responsibilities in marketing and communications, fundraising, mission planning and coordinating relations with governments, airports and other stakeholders. Before moving to the aviation industry and sustainable technology, Gregory Blatt began his career at the World Economic Forum where he rose to the position of Director and Member of the Executive Board, before moving into media and technology, occupying senior management positions.

Gregory holds postgraduate degrees in economics, diplomacy and negotiations.