LARRY WIRSING

Experienced Executive | Program Leader | Aerospace Engineer
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Summary

Aerospace executive with 15+ years leading advanced aircraft development, R&D, and cross-functional engineering teams. Proven success developing autonomous systems, electric propulsion, and sustainable aviation solutions across commercial and defense sectors.

Experience

REGENT — *North Kingstown, RI*

Vice President, Programs — *03/2026 - Present*

- Lead Seaglider product development and go-to-market for commercial and defense customers.

Aurora Flight Sciences, A Boeing Company — *Cambridge, MA*

Vice President of Aircraft and Product Development — *08/2023 - 03/2026*

- Led core business unit responsible for ~75% of company revenue.
- Directed nine concurrent aircraft development programs for Boeing, DARPA, NASA, Army, and Wisk.
- Collaborated with Boeing to accelerate technology development and product transition.
- Drove continuous improvement through senior leadership engagement.

Vice President of Commercial Programs — *12/2020 - 08/2023*

- Grew portfolio across urban air mobility, sustainable aviation, autonomy, and space exploration.
- Led major program captures including NASA EPFD.
- Clients included Boeing, NASA, FAA, Wisk, Virgin Galactic, and SkyGrid.

Director of Business Development, Commercial Programs — *01/2020 - 12/2020*

- Restarted business development initiatives following COVID and 737-MAX impacts.
- Secured contracts with NASA and Wisk through targeted business development.

Program Manager, Commercial Programs — *10/2015 - 01/2020*

- Led multi-engine autonomy technology demonstrator program.
- Managed Aurora's D8 program and NASA aeronautics research portfolio.

Deputy Program Manager, Military Programs — *02/2014 - 10/2015*

- Deputy PM for AACUS prototyping program.
- Served as Flight Test Director and acting PM.

Aerospace Engineer and Principal Investigator — *02/2012 - 10/2015*

- Systems and flight test engineer on UAS programs deployed to Afghanistan.
- Executed SBIR projects on diverse aerospace applications.

Belcan Corporation — *Lynn, MA*

Propulsion Design Engineer — *05/2011 - 02/2012*

- Provided design and analysis for GE Aviation military and commercial engine programs.

Skills

Technical Program Management, Aircraft Development, Rapid Prototyping, Technology Development, Product Development, Portfolio Management, Conflict Resolution, People Leadership, Business Development, Contract Negotiations, Stakeholder Management, Earned Value Management, Risk Management, Change Management.

Education

Boston University, College of Engineering — *Boston, MA*

Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering — *09/2007 - 05/2011*

Languages

English — Native · German — B2 CEFR

PROGRAM SUMMARIES

DARPA CRANE (X-65) *08/2023 - 03/2026*

X-Plane program with the objective of demonstrating the feasibility of active flow control.

- Led the program through a successful CDR.
- Secured Phase 3 contract award.
- Guided design-to-manufacturing transition; first flight planned for 2026.

DARPA Liberty Lifter *08/2023 - 03/2026*

Seaplane demonstrator program with the objective of demonstrating in-ground effect flight operations in high sea states.

- Performed numerous feasibility studies, wind tunnel tests, and tow tank tests.
- Received $25M upscope after DARPA downselected Aurora as sole performer.
- Partnered with naval architecture firms and shipyards on maritime design and manufacturing.

DARPA SPRINT *10/2023 - 03/2026*

High Speed Vertical Takeoff and Landing (HSVTOL) aircraft demonstrator program with objective of 400–450 knots at cruise.

- Boeing Vertical Lift and Aurora teamed to develop fan-in-wing blended wing body concept.
- DARPA downselected Aurora and Bell concepts after a successful CoDR.
- Performed wind tunnel testing at the Boeing Vertical Wind Tunnel and held a successful PDR.

Army Launched Effects Medium Range (LE-MR) *08/2023 - 12/2024*

Prototype development program aimed at integrated and testing mission systems and payloads.

- Aurora integrated Anduril's Altius 700, Northrop Grumman payloads, and Collins mission system.
- Conducted multiple successful flight test events at Dugway Proving Ground.
- Army is re-competing the LE-MR program in 2025 based on program learnings.

NASA Electrified Powertrain Flight Demonstration (EPFD) *06/2020 - 03/2026*

Partnership with GE Aerospace to integrate and flight test a 1-MW hybrid-electric propulsion system on a SAAB 340B.

- Served as the capture lead for Boeing on the EPFD proposal.
- Completed Critical Design Review; ground test hardware built for 2025 testing.
- SAAB 340B modifications underway; flight testing planned in early 2026.

NASA Sustainable Flight Demonstrator (X-66) *06/2021 - 03/2026*

Boeing and Aurora are developing thin-wing technologies to be demonstrated on a modified MD90 aircraft.

- Supported development of the $1.15B proposal to NASA.
- Aurora led thin-wing development and supported Boeing across other disciplines.

Wisk's 6th Generation Air Taxi *07/2020 - 03/2026*

Wisk, Boeing, and Aurora are developing the world's first self-flying four-seat, all-electric air taxi.

- Secured major role for Aurora at the start of the 6th Generation Air Taxi program.
- Provided dedicated engineering and management resources to the program since 2020.
- Battery and electric systems testing at Aurora's Manassas headquarters.

Virgin Galactic Mothership *03/2022 - 05/2023*

Aurora contracted to provide engineering services to design replacement for VMS Eve.

- Completed conceptual design and preliminary design of clean-sheet mothership aircraft.
- Program ended by mutual agreement shortly after PDR.

Proprietary Programs *08/2023 - 03/2026*

Develop, field, and operate several UAS products for Government customers.

SKIRON-X *08/2023 - 03/2026*

Group 2 UAS designed for multi-hour intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) missions.

- Conducted R&D on platform, including hydrogen fuel cell that achieved 7h endurance record.
- Overseeing productization and business development efforts.

Unpiloted Autonomous Twin Engine Prototype *05/2018 - 03/2020*

Designed a prototype 19,000 lb twin engine autonomous aircraft while Boeing Commercial Airplanes conducted product studies.

- Aircraft design and autonomy architecture achieved a PDR-level of maturity.
- Engaged with potential customers to evaluate market and product feasibility.

NASA D8 X-Plane *10/2015 - 09/2018*

The D8 is a single-aisle aircraft replacement concept with a double-bubble fuselage and boundary-layer-ingesting engines.

- Received multiple NASA contracts to design a subscale X-Plane and help inform the SFD program.
- The D8 competed against Boeing's Transonic Truss-Braced Wing and Blended Wing Body concepts.

NASA Passive Aeroelastic Tailoring (PAT) *07/2017 - 12/2019*

Designed, built, and ground tested a 40 ft wing box with tow-steered composite skins.

- Used automated fiber placement (AFP) processes to produce tow-steered skins.
- Manufactured and assembled large scale wing box.
- Load testing and vibration testing took place at NASA Armstrong.

FAA CLEEN II *10/2015 - 12/2018*

Designed, built, and tested a key D8 double-bubble fuselage joint using pi-clips.

- Participated in consortium with engine companies and Boeing.
- CLEEN II program helped mature and reduce risk for the NASA D8 X-Plane concept.

ONR Autonomous Aerial Cargo Utility System (AACUS) *02/2014 - 10/2015*

Prototype program to develop advanced autonomous capabilities to enable rapid cargo delivery by unpiloted rotorcraft.

- Developed a suite of autonomy capabilities and tested them on the Boeing H6-U and a UH-1H.
- Procured and modified a UH-1H aircraft to support closed loop autonomous flight.

NOAA Gravity for the Redefinition of the US Vertical Datum *07/2013 - 12/2017*

Integrated an advanced gravimetry sensor on Aurora's Centaur aircraft and supported data collection efforts.

- Demonstrated that the sensor, coupled with Centaur's autopilot, delivered superior data quality.
- Received follow-on contract to collect gravity data as part of the GRAV-D program.

Skate Small UAS (SUAS) *02/2012 - 02/2014*

Group 1 platform designed for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions.

- Developed Skate from concept through low-rate production and operational deployment.