



Sir Michael Ryan CBE
Vice President, European Space & Defence, Government Affairs,
and Chairman, Spirit AeroSystems UK



Michael was appointed Vice President, European Space & Defence, Government Affairs, and Chairman, Spirit AeroSystems UK, in June 2022. Prior to that, he was Vice President & General Manager for Spirit AeroSystems, Belfast, which is the largest manufacturer in Northern Ireland.

Before the acquisition by Spirit of Bombardier's Northern Ireland operations in October 2020, Michael held various senior management positions at Short Brothers plc and Bombardier, including in Advanced Composites Production, Fabrications, and Procurement. In July 2017, he was appointed President of Bombardier Aerostructures and Engineering Services, and in September 2018 he became Bombardier Aviation's Chief Operating Officer, Aerostructures. Following the Spirit acquisition, Michael was appointed Vice President and General Manager.

He graduated from Queen's University Belfast in 1981 with an Honours degree in Aeronautical Engineering and joined Short Brothers the same year. In 2009, he was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science (Engineering) by Queen's University Belfast for services to engineering, business and commerce. In 2015, he received an honorary Doctorate of Science from Ulster University for distinguished service to business and corporate social responsibility.

Michael is a chartered engineer and Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Royal Academy of Engineering. He was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2005.

He is a member of the NI Economic Advisory Group, which provides independent advice to the Northern Ireland Minister for the Economy, and a member of the NI Makers Productivity group, looking at NI productivity and competitiveness, led by the chair of Invest NI. In 2021, he was appointed chair of the Makers Alliance, an independent industry-led body to drive the strategic development of the Advanced Manufacturing sector in Northern Ireland. Its focus is to accelerate innovation, digitalisation and the green agenda within manufacturing. He also sits as a Board member, and former Chair, of Business in the Community (Northern Ireland).

In June 2021, Michael was awarded a Knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to the economy.

In January 2022, he was appointed Industry Chair of the Aerospace Growth Partnership, a strategic partnership between the UK Government and industry aimed at boosting competitiveness and exports, and growing the UK aerospace industry.

