

Northern New Mexico Chapter 691 of the **Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)** will meet **Saturday, May 16** in the **Atlantic Aviation** (formerly Santa Fe Jet Center) Pilot Lounge at the Santa Fe Regional Airport (KSAF). The program will feature a presentation by a Consultant Flight Test Designated Engineering Representative (DER) and former company test pilot, who will share selected experiences from his experience in the industry. The meeting, will begin at 9:30 with coffee, pastries, and informal discussion, followed by the presentation beginning at 10:00

Flight Test and Evaluation

Rigor is embedded in every flight test program that successfully demonstrates compliance with the aircraft's respective certification basis. When an aircraft is designed to achieve a Standard Airworthiness Certificate, a team of company test pilots, FAA test pilots, flight-test-designated engineering representatives (pilots), and Flight Test Engineers guide applicants through the process.

Our guest will speak openly, sharing and pulling from experience in flight tests with Bombardier Learjet, Eclipse, Honda, Aviat, GE Aviation, Adams Balloons, and others, to obtain initial Type Certifications, Amended Type Certifications, and Supplemental Type Certifications, and discuss a couple of programs that failed to make certification.

Our guest will discuss the kinds of testing typically performed, depending on the experience a pilot or flight test engineer brings to the project. This may include avionics and electrical systems, mechanical systems, the powerplant, performance or handling qualities, or a combination of these.

Home builders and future flight testers can learn about resources and processes for test planning, how to identify, quantify and mitigate risks, how build ups and build downs are performed, what corner cases are, possible action to take when results are unexpected, what behaviors certain design quirks and features tend to introduce into the behaviors of aircraft, and other considerations to incorporate in your test program, all through the lens of lessons learned.

Our guest, a New Mexico native and EAA lifetime member, shares the building passion and will discuss how he intends to bring industry experience and industry-standard practices to his personal Amateur-Built flight test program to create greater rigor.

