



Biography

Boeing Northern Europe
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Jan Närlinge

Vice President, Boeing International
President, Boeing Northern Europe

Jan Närlinge was named regional president for Boeing Northern Europe in December 2006. He coordinates Boeing business activities and represents the company in the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Austria and Switzerland.

Närlinge spent the first decade of his career as a commissioned officer in the Swedish Air Force. He served as squadron leader and studied at the Swedish Air Force Military College and Military Academy. He also attended the United States Navy Test Pilot School from 1978 to 1979 and was in class 76. During the last six years of military service, Närlinge was an experimental test pilot responsible for flight quality and flight control systems for all fighter aircraft in the Swedish military.

From 1983 to 1993, Närlinge was CEO of Helifyg Ab, Sweden's largest helicopter operator, and was CEO of helicopter parts suppliers Helimatic Ab and Heliparts. He merged the three companies and was credited for establishing Sweden's first helicopter emergency medicine program (HEMS).

Närlinge joined the Swedish Aircraft manufacturer Saab in 1994 to lead the Systems and Flight Test Department. In 1996, he was appointed executive vice president of Industrial Co-operation and created a program called Business Value Development. The program created a strong advocacy, marketing and lobby network, which resulted in Saab winning a 1.6 billion euro Gripen fighter contract with South Africa.

In 2000, Närlinge chaired the BAE Systems-Saab Gripen Fighter joint venture and secured a 500-million Euro lease contract with Hungary. He was then appointed CEO of Fokker Space In 2001.

Närlinge was co-founder and a former board member of the Swedish Federation of Aviation Employers and Svenskt Flyg. He has served as a board member of the Swedish Helicopter Association and a Swedish council representative in the European Helicopter Association (EHA) in Amsterdam and participated in the formation of the European Joint Aviation Rules (JAR).

As a member of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots and former member of the Society of Flight Test Engineers, Närlinge was appointed in 1993 by the Swedish government to serve on the Federal Swedish Accident board as an aviation expert. He has logged more than 2000 hours in fighter aircraft, civilian aircraft and helicopters.

Närlinge was born December 17, 1951 in Linköping, Sweden. He is married and has three daughters.

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