

2017 Judith Weizmann Women in Engineering Champion Award

Izabela Witkowska, P.Eng.



Izabela graduated from the Technical University of Lodz (Poland) with a master's degree in Material Science/Metallurgy in 1986. She has been employed with StandardAero for over 20 years, and is recognized within the organization, as well as across the industry, as a Subject Matter Expert on both aerospace materials and component failure analysis. Izabela is fluent in English, Polish, Russian, and Spanish, and is conversant in German.

For the past 10 years, Izabela has held the position of Senior Airworthiness Engineer at StandardAero. Izabela is one of few women in the country who have obtained delegation from the Minister of Transport to make 'Findings of Compliance' on matters related to aircraft certification (i.e. major repairs), and is an active member of StandardAero's Design Approval Organization. She was previously qualified by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) as a Deputy Senior Design Engineer, and in 2016 was selected for the role of 'Senior Design Engineer' for StandardAero's Approved Engineering Organization by the Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA). Her knowledge, experience, and judgment are highly valued within StandardAero. Izabela has coached and mentored a large number of junior engineers, technologists, and materials laboratory technicians at StandardAero. She's an ambassador for StandardAero at many public functions, and continues to promote StandardAero as an attractive place to work for women in the aerospace engineering profession.

Izabela recognizes that women are vastly underrepresented in the aviation and aerospace sectors in Canada and believes that it is critical to inspire girls and young women to enter her field. She understands the importance of acting as a role model and mentor to young engineers in the aerospace profession. Izabela volunteers and sits on the organization committee for Girls in Aviation Day (GIAD), a Women in Aviation International event established in 2015, and was interviewed on TV (CTV Live) regarding this initiative. Izabela helped to organize and participated in the Women in Aviation GIAD 2015 and GIAD 2016 events which were a success, attracting over 120 attendees. Izabela has volunteered as a mentor with the University of Manitoba's WISE Kid-Netic Energy event Make Your Move, in which girls are paired with a female engineer for the day to learn about engineering and compete in design-build challenges. She has also attended high school events as a guest speaker promoting aerospace and engineering, and was recently scheduled to present at WomenFly 2017 in Winnipeg.

Izabela is passionate about employment equity: she is a member of StandardAero's employment equity committee and, since 2013, has chaired the company's women in engineering subcommittee. Izabela also actively participates in the Manitoba Employment Equity Practitioners Association of Manitoba (MEEPA), is a member of the StandardAero's Recreational and Wellness Committee (SARA) and has served as the President of the Manitoba chapter of ASM International, which is the world's largest association of metals-centric materials engineers and scientists.

In recognition of her outstanding advancement and support of women in engineering, Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba is pleased to present the 2017 Judith Weizmann Women in Engineering Champion Award to Izabela Witkowska, P.Eng.