

Aviation NZ this week hosted the Inaugural Women Leaders in Aviation Summit, on the 20-21 October 2015 in Wellington.

“This initiative is the first major event in our Tomorrow’s Leaders in Aviation series where we bring together the aviation industry to work on how we collectively secure the next generation of talent - with diversity being a significant component of this”

said Samantha Sharif, CEO of Aviation NZ.

The Summit attracted overwhelming industry support and secured a number of leading aviation professionals both from New Zealand and overseas.

Keynote speakers included:

Hon Louise Upston - Minister for Women

Maureen Dougherty - Maureen Dougherty, Boeing President for Australia, NZ and South Pacific

Michelle Guthrie - Managing Director, Agencies, Google APAC & Director Auckland Intl Airport

Bridgette Reid from Airbus Group Australia Pacific was the inaugural winner of the Aviation NZ Women Leaders in Aviation Mentoring Programme. I am “very excited to have received the Award and can’t wait for the mentoring to start. What a great conference” said Bridgette.

“This event was rated 10 out of 10 by many participants - so we’re very happy about that” said Samantha Sharif, Aviation NZ CEO.

“Now Aviation NZ is putting together our action plan on next steps to make sure we grow momentum and participation – we are about action, outcomes and results. Our mentoring programme is a key part of this.”

For further information please contact:

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Key facts about Aviation New Zealand

Aviation New Zealand exists to lead, inspire and grow the New Zealand aviation industry. Aviation NZ is the industry body representing the aviation sector in NZ

It was established in 1950 to encourage the safe growth of the aviation industry in New Zealand. In more recent years, it has also become involved

in helping the international development of its members.

Aviation New Zealand has over 300 members and over 2000 on its database. Members include UAV commercial operators, agricultural companies, air operators (fixed wing and rotary), aircraft designers and manufacturers, airports, aviation trainers, emergency and medical services companies, helicopter companies and component/parts manufacturers.

