



National Institute for Aviation Research  
Wichita State University

## KEY R&D PERSONNEL

Personnel	Expertise
Aldag, Thomas Director of Research & Development (316) 978-5326 <a href="mailto:thomas.aldag@wichita.edu">thomas.aldag@wichita.edu</a>	New materials and fabrication methods, linking research and development to government and industry needs
Boldsai Khan, Enkhsai Khan (EK) Research Engineer, Advanced Joining Lab (316) 978-5205 <a href="mailto:eboldsai Khan@niar.wichita.edu">eboldsai Khan@niar.wichita.edu</a>	
Braden, Larry Manager, Full-Scale Structural Testing Lab (316) 978-8222 <a href="mailto:larry.braden@wichita.edu">larry.braden@wichita.edu</a>	Full-scale and component D&DT and static testing; instrumentation and systems
Brown, Brian Associate Director, CAD/CAM Lab (316) 978-3246 <a href="mailto:brian.brown@wichita.edu">brian.brown@wichita.edu</a>	CAD/CAM, CATIA course instruction and curriculum development
Brown, Jeremy Research Engineer, Advanced Joining Lab (316) 978-7272 <a href="mailto:jbrown@niar.wichita.edu">jbrown@niar.wichita.edu</a>	Friction stir welding/processing, friction stir spot welding and tool fixturing/design
Burford, Dwight A. (Ph.D.) Director, Advanced Joining Lab (316) 978-3204 <a href="mailto:dwight.burford@wichita.edu">dwight.burford@wichita.edu</a>	Friction stir welding/processing, metallurgical engineering and failure analysis
Chan, Kah-Loon Manager, Research & Qualification, Mechanical Test Lab (316) 978-2233 <a href="mailto:kah-loon@niar.wichita.edu">kah-loon@niar.wichita.edu</a>	
Chaparro, Alex (Ph.D.) Senior NIAR Fellow, Associate Professor, Psychology (316) 978-3038 <a href="mailto:alex.chaparro@wichita.edu">alex.chaparro@wichita.edu</a>	Color vision, motion perception, night vision and visual requirements of reading
Clarkson, Beth Research Engineer/Statistician, NCAMP (316) 978-3952 <a href="mailto:beth.clarkson@wichita.edu">beth.clarkson@wichita.edu</a>	Statistical analysis, computation of engineering basis values, statistical process control
Crockett Bonitati, Allison Manger, Composites Layup Room; Research Engineer, Composites Lab (316) 978-5461 <a href="mailto:allison.bonitati@wichita.edu">allison.bonitati@wichita.edu</a>	Project coordination, qualification of composite material systems
Ehrstein, Shawn Director, CAD/CAM Lab (316) 978-5839 <a href="mailto:shawn@cadcamlab.org">shawn@cadcamlab.org</a>	PLM curriculum design and research

Gadberry, Chad Manager, Crash Dynamics Lab (316) 978-5239 <a href="mailto:chad.gadberry@wichita.edu">chad.gadberry@wichita.edu</a>	
Gomes, Chaminda Manager, Cyclic Testing, Mechanical Test Lab (316) 978-6575 <a href="mailto:chaminda@niar.wichita.edu">chaminda@niar.wichita.edu</a>	
Horn, Walter Julian (Ph.D.) Professor, Aerospace Engineering (316) 978-5919 <a href="mailto:Walter.horn@wichita.edu">Walter.horn@wichita.edu</a>	Applied Mechanics, Advanced Composite Materials, Smart Materials, Aircraft Structural Analysis
Hickey, Timothy Director, Full-Scale Structural Testing Laboratory (316) 978-8204 <a href="mailto:thickey@niar.wichita.edu">thickey@niar.wichita.edu</a>	Full-scale and Component DDT and Static Testing, Experimental Structural Modifications
Irani, Eddie Research Scientist, Walter H. Beech Wind Tunnel (316) 978-3569 <a href="mailto:eddie.irani@wichita.edu">eddie.irani@wichita.edu</a>	Experimental aerodynamics
Johnson, Bill Manager, Visual Technology Lab (316) 978-6812 <a href="mailto:bill@cadcamlab.org">bill@cadcamlab.org</a>	Curriculum development and classroom education in Maya 3-D computer animation and corporate and broadcast video production
Kostogorova-Beller, Yulia Research Scientist, Composites Lab (316) 978-5378 <a href="mailto:yulia@niar.wichita.edu">yulia@niar.wichita.edu</a>	Lightning strike protection, electromagnetic shielding, nanomaterials
Laffen, John W. Director, Walter H. Beech Wind Tunnel, Crash Dynamics Lab and Environmental Test Labs (316) 978-5481 <a href="mailto:john.laffen@wichita.edu">john.laffen@wichita.edu</a>	Experimental aerodynamics
Laubach, Melinda M. Manager, Aging Aircraft Research Lab (316) 978-5209 <a href="mailto:melinda@niar.wichita.edu">melinda@niar.wichita.edu</a>	Solid mechanics, damage tolerance and aircraft structures
Lee, Walter Director of Quality & Performance, Manager, Calibration & Quality Lab (316) 978-6139 <a href="mailto:walter.lee@wichita.edu">walter.lee@wichita.edu</a>	
Lovingfoss, Royal Research Engineer, Composites Lab (316) 978-5317 <a href="mailto:royal.lovingfoss@wichita.edu">royal.lovingfoss@wichita.edu</a>	Project management, composite material systems
Mah, Shin Manager, R&D Testing, Mechanical Test Lab (316) 978-5232 <a href="mailto:shin-liang.mah@wichita.edu">shin-liang.mah@wichita.edu</a>	
Miller, L. Scott (Ph.D.) Professor & Chair, Aerospace Engineering (316) 978-6334 <a href="mailto:scott.miller@wichita.edu">scott.miller@wichita.edu</a>	Experimental aerodynamics, airfoil design, rotor aerodynamics
Minaie, Bob (Ph.D.) Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering (316) 978-5613 <a href="mailto:bob.minaie@wichita.edu">bob.minaie@wichita.edu</a>	Advanced polymer composites, nanocomposites, functionally-graded hybrid composites, metallic materials

<p>Ng, Yeow Associate Director, National Center for Advanced Materials Performance (NCAMP) (316) 978-5212 <a href="mailto:yeow.ng@wichita.edu">yeow.ng@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Materials and processes, qualification and allowables of composite and other advanced material systems</p>
<p>Olivares, Gerardo (Ph.D.) Research Scientist, Crashworthiness (316) 978-7273 <a href="mailto:gerardo.olivares@wichita.edu">gerardo.olivares@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Structural crashworthiness, occupant injury biomechanics, automotive and aerospace safety systems development, mechanical systems design and analysis</p>
<p>Porter, Arthur C. Manager, Research Machine Shop (316) 978-3656 <a href="mailto:arthur.porter@wichita.edu">arthur.porter@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Design, fabrication and maintenance of the mechanical hardware used for research projects</p>
<p>Raju, K. Suresh Assistant Professor, Aerospace Engineering (316) 978-5939 <a href="mailto:raju@niar.wichita.edu">raju@niar.wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Solid mechanics, composites, damage tolerance</p>
<p>Robles, Errick Manager, ITAR &amp; Export-Controlled Testing, Mechanical Test Lab (316) 978-6717 <a href="mailto:errick.robles@wichita.edu">errick.robles@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Composites research and development testing and photogrammetry analysis using the ARAMIS full-field strain system</p>
<p>Salah, Lamia Program Manager, Mechanical Test Lab Senior Research Engineer, Composites Lab (316) 978-5775 <a href="mailto:lamia.salah@wichita.edu">lamia.salah@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Composites and fatigue and fracture research</p>
<p>Schultheis, Udo (Ph.D.) Research Scientist, Human Factors (316) 978-5776 <a href="mailto:udo.schultheis@wichita.edu">udo.schultheis@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Aviation psychology, human factors and cognitive psychology, pilot selection and training, FAA ATP and JAA ATPL with Hawker 800 XP type rating</p>
<p>Seneviratne, Waruna Senior Research Engineer, Mechanical Test Laboratory (316) 978-5221 <a href="mailto:waruna@niar.wichita.edu">waruna@niar.wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Structural and solid mechanics with emphasis on experimental work on durability and damage tolerance testing and analysis protocols for full-scale composite airframe structures.</p>
<p>Shiple, Nathan Assistant Director, CAD/CAM Lab (316) 978-7260 <a href="mailto:nathan@cadcamlab.org">nathan@cadcamlab.org</a></p>	<p>CATIA structural stress analysis</p>
<p>Smith, Bert L. (Ph.D.) Professor, Aerospace Engineering (316) 978-5938 <a href="mailto:bert.smith@wichita.edu">bert.smith@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Advanced composite materials, damage tolerance of metallic and composite aircraft structure; applied mechanics</p>
<p>Toledo, Fernando F. Manager, Virtual Reality Center (316) 978-8333 <a href="mailto:fernando.toledo@wichita.edu">fernando.toledo@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Virtual reality, real-time visualization and simulation of CAD/CAID/CAE/CAM databases</p>
<p>Tomblin, John S. (Ph.D.) Executive Director; Director, Composites Lab; Director, Mechanical Test Lab (316) 978-5234 <a href="mailto:john.tomblin@wichita.edu">john.tomblin@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Material qualification, advanced material insertion, composites and advanced materials research</p>
<p>Widener, Christian (Ph.D.) Research Scientist, Advanced Joining Lab (316) 978-5205 <a href="mailto:christian.widener@wichita.edu">christian.widener@wichita.edu</a></p>	<p>Friction stir welding/processing, heat-treatable aluminum alloys, corrosion, and materials characterization</p>

Yang, Charles (Ph.D.) Associate Professor, Aerospace Engineering (316) 978-6312 <a href="mailto:charles.yang@wichita.edu">charles.yang@wichita.edu</a>	Mechanics of composite materials, finite element analysis
Yeoh, Jason Manager, ASTM Standard Testing, Mechanical Test Lab (316) 978-6864 <a href="mailto:jason.yeoh@wichita.edu">jason.yeoh@wichita.edu</a>	ASTM static and fatigue testing, qualification of composite material systems, project coordination

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