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Verein Deutscher Ingenieure  
Hamburger Bezirksverein e.V.  
Arbeitskreis Luft- und Raumfahrt

Invitation to an RAeS lecture in cooperation with the DGLR and VDI

# Development of Landing Gear Concepts

("How do you catch 600 tonnes at 380 km/h?")

**Bob Thompson,**  
Landing Gear Architect,  
Airbus



Lecture  
followed by discussion

Entry free !  
No registration required !

**Date: Thursday, 28th February 2013, 18:00**  
**Location: HAW Hamburg**  
**Berliner Tor 5, (Neubau), Hörsaal 01.12**



The Landing Gear System is one of the most important systems on any aeroplane. With the consequences of failure being, at least, very expensive, a landing gear system **must be** extremely reliable and safe, but also at minimum cost to the operator, which demands light weight and minimal maintenance.

Landing Gears operate in a very harsh environment, with temperatures ranging from several hundred degrees at the brakes, to extremely cold ground soak conditions.

They also have to cope with

- very high speed airflows,
- rain, ice/ dust & debris on the runways, de-icing fluids etc...,
- very high vibration & g levels.

This lecture goes through the design processes involved in defining a new Landing Gear configuration, with the A380 development as an example.

*Bob Thompson started his career as an Apprentice with Hawker Siddeley Aviation at Hatfield in the late 1970s. He worked as a hydro-mechanical systems engineer on BAe146 flight control development, A300 high lift developments and also on A310 wing structural design.*

*Bob followed the move of Airbus in the UK from Hatfield to Filton, working on A320 high lift testing and leading Landing Gear activities on A330/340, A400M, A380, A350 and Nimrod.*

*He is currently working within the Future Programmes environment as the Landing Gear Architect.*

RAeS Richard Sanderson  
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