

Colin Smith – Group President, Rolls-Royce

Colin Smith was appointed Group President, Rolls-Royce, plc on 1st January 2016.



Colin became Director – Engineering & Technology in 2005, when he was also appointed a member of the Board of Rolls-Royce. Prior to this role, he was the Director of Research & Technology for the company, building on his previous experience as Director of Engineering & Technology for Civil Aerospace.

He has held a number of senior engineering positions, including Chief Engineer for the Trent 700, Head of Engineering for Compressors and Fans, and Chief Engineer for the Trent 500. He was also Chief Engineer of Small Engines in Bristol, having spent much of his early career on a number of helicopter engine projects, following his graduation in Mechanical Engineering from Southampton University. He joined the company as an undergraduate apprentice at Leavesden.

In June 2012 Colin was awarded a CBE for services to UK engineering. He is a Fellow of The Royal Society, the Royal Academy of Engineering, The Royal Aeronautical Society and The Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He was the recipient of a Royal Academy of Engineering Silver Medal in 2002, which recognises outstanding personal contribution to UK engineering.

Colin has been awarded Honorary Doctorates by the Universities of Derby, Loughborough, Nottingham, Oxford, Southampton and Strathclyde.

He is also Chairman of the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust, the organisation dedicated to promote and preserve the history and engineering excellence of Rolls-Royce.

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