



## **Robert Lekites**

Bob Lekites is Executive Vice President – Customers for Airbus Americas, and Head of Sales, where he oversees the Sales, Marketing, Contracts, Sales Finance and Customer Services departments. He reports directly to Airbus Americas CEO, Barry Eccleston. He is based at Airbus Americas headquarters in Herndon, Virginia.

Prior to joining Airbus, Lekites spent his entire professional career at UPS, including 15 years in the aviation division where he most recently served as President of UPS Airlines, the world's ninth largest airline, as well as heading up Worldport, the company's package processing facility and all-points international air hub. He led the Louisville, Kentucky company's airline and international operations for 14 years. His career with UPS spanned 37 years, beginning as a package driver in Massachusetts – his home state – in 1974. He proceeded to move up through the ranks in subsequent years, with positions in various departments, including: industrial engineering; sort operations; customer service; package, hub and feeder (operations); and district manager of South Carolina and Philadelphia, Pa.

Lekites attended Northern Essex Community College and Lowell Technological Institute in Massachusetts. He graduated from Columbia Business School's Executive Leadership Program in 1995.

In addition to his corporate responsibilities, Bob served on numerous committees while at UPS, including the Air Transport Association's Senior Advisory Committee, the National Defense Transportation Association's Military Airlift Executive Committee, the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board, and Greater Louisville Inc.'s Board of Directors and Executive Board – the latter of which he chaired in 2010. Since 2010, he has also served on the U.S. Department of Transportation's Future of Aviation Advisory Committee.

Among his professional accolades, Lekites was named 2006 Business Leader of the Year by Business First of Louisville for his role in positioning Louisville as an international logistics center. Always active in his community, He also served as 2000 General Chair for the Metro (Louisville) United Way, and served as a member of Leadership Louisville's board of directors and the University of Louisville's board of overseers. He currently serves on the Wings Club Board of Directors.

Bob and his wife, Edie reside in Virginia. They have four grown sons and five young grandsons.

\*\*\*