

Lichfield Science & Engineering Society



PATRON
Mr Ian Dudson CBE
HM Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire

PRESIDENT

Dr Zsuzsanna Nagy MD, MA, DPhil

8:00 pm on Thursday 14th January 2016 in the Studio Theatre of the Lichfield Garrick, Castle Dyke, Lichfield

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL

Dave Colquitt CEng., MIET Group Head of Infrastructure Services NATS

NATS is the UK's leading provider of air traffic control services, each year handling 2.2 million flights and 220 million passengers in UK airspace. In addition to providing services to 14 UK airports, and managing all upper airspace in the UK, NATS works in more than 30 countries around the world spanning Europe, the Middle East, Asia and North America. One of their consultancy projects was to reshape procedures at one of South Africa's main airports to ensure thousands of extra flights taking place because of the World Cup could be managed safely and efficiently.

Dave Colquitt graduated from Loughborough University of Technology in 1994, with a Bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, since when he has worked for NATS, enjoying many different engineering, strategic and business focussed roles, and working on many of the major engineering projects NATS has undertaken over the last 20 years. His current role of Group Head Infrastructure Services includes the design accountability for all NATS communications, navigation, surveillance and network assets in-service performance and future upgrades and replacements.

The talk will cover the history of ATC and NATS and its business today, the services it provides and the markets in which it operates, its operational services and the engineering needed to support those services. Dave will describe some of the technologies involved in ATC, the technological issues which occur and how they are overcome, then look into the future and the changes ahead for the technology, ATC and NATS.