Flight Test Activity at the Cranfield University National Flying Centre

Nicholas J Lawson

BEng(Hons) PhD FRAeS FHEA CEng MSFTE

University of Sydney, School of Aerospace, Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering, The University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW 2006, Australia

formerly with: School of Aerospace, Transport Systems and Manufacturing, Cranfield University, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0AL, UK

In this presentation, I will describe activities of the National Flying Laboratory Centre (NFLC) at Cranfield University. The Centre operates a Saab 340B turboprop aircraft to demonstrate flight test techniques to aerospace engineering students and carries out airborne research using it's fleet of aircraft. The NFLC was formed from the Cranfield College of Aeronautics and the Department of Flight, which was established in 1947. The following talk outlines the key features of the current Saab 340B facility and the previous Jetstream 31 facility. It also describes the range of laboratory demonstrations which are offered to students, including aerodynamics, stability, avionics and dynamic modes and recent research activity completed using the aircraft.