



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 5, 2026

Contact: Bailey Wood

Email: BaileyW@verticalavi.org

Phone: 571-234-5582

PRESS RELEASE

VAI Thanks FAA's Chris Rocheleau for His Service

The association recognizes the FAA deputy administrator's leadership and contributions to aviation safety and modernization.

Alexandria, Virginia, (Aug. 5, 2026) – Vertical Aviation International (VAI) President and CEO François Lassale commends FAA Deputy Administrator Chris Rocheleau's service and leadership as the FAA veteran prepares to depart the agency:

"On behalf of VAI and our members, I congratulate Chris Rocheleau and thank him for his dedicated service to the FAA. Chris provided steady leadership during one of the most transformational periods in recent aviation history while advancing safety, air traffic control modernization, and the integration of new technologies into the National Airspace System," Lassale said.

"Chris has been a respected partner to the vertical aviation community and a strong advocate for a safe, efficient, and modern aviation system. We appreciate his public service and look forward to continuing our work with him as he returns to the National Business Aviation Association."

####

Vertical Aviation International (VAI), formerly Helicopter Association International (HAI), is the world's leading membership association dedicated to the vertical aviation industry, which encompasses all aircraft capable of vertical or short takeoff and landing.

Throughout its 76 years of fueling industry growth through connection, advocacy, safety, education, and support for its members' success, VAI has leveraged the power of vertical flight to strengthen communities worldwide. The association welcomes all facets of the vertical aviation industry, including manufacturers, operators, suppliers and vendors, pilots and maintenance technicians, and other aviation professionals. For more information about VAI, please visit: <https://verticalavi.org>.

Vertical Aviation International

1920 Ballenger Ave., 4th Flr. Alexandria, VA 22314 / 703-683-4646 / info@verticalavi.org / verticalavi.org