



**Steve Townes, Chairman/CEO of ACL Airshop (and)
CEO & Founder, Ranger Aerospace
Founding Chairman of “SC Aerospace” 2015-2017**

Steve Townes is the CEO and founder of Ranger Aerospace and its aviation services affiliates. Ranger’s largest and latest enterprise is **ACL Airshop**, the worldwide Air Cargo products, services, and leasing company, for which Townes is Chairman & CEO. He is also Board member and founding Chairman of “SC Aerospace,” a statewide public/private partnership in one of the fastest-growing aerospace states in the US.

Townes is an engineering graduate of West Point, where he earned the Eisenhower Award upon graduation. He also holds an MBA from Long Island University and completed the advanced “PMD” post-MBA graduate residence program at Harvard Business School. He is a featured speaker at aerospace conventions and symposia and has testified on aviation matters before the U.S. House of Representatives, FAA, and NTSB. He was most recently the Keynote speaker at the large SC Aerospace & Manufacturing Expo in South Carolina USA.

He founded Ranger Aerospace in 1997 in Greenville SC. Ranger co-invests to acquire, lead and grow companies in the aviation and aerospace sectors. Under Townes’ leadership, Ranger Aerospace has employed as many as 4,250 people at 56 airports. Large-scale previous Ranger successes include “ASIG,” Skytanking GmbH, Keystone Helicopter, Composite Technology Inc., Ranger International Services Group; current holdings also include InTech Aerospace LLC. Since inception, Ranger’s team have been stewards for roughly \$500 Million in various buyouts, investments, divestitures, new facilities, and joint ventures. In the late 1990’s they even made two “hostile takeover” attempts of smaller publicly traded competitors, and did a large successful “junk bond” offering to fuel faster growth.

Ranger’s most recent growth platform is ACL Airshop, with air cargo support operations at more than half of the world’s Top 100 airports. The mantra is “GROW THE NETWORK” -- plans call for doubling the global strategic footprint and capabilities of this unique company “*again*” in the next few years. ACL Airshop is supplementing its network power with innovative new technologies, including proprietary Repair Station software, ULD Control logistics programs, Bluetooth tracking, and the award-winning “FindMyULD” App placing all the company’s ULD logistics management systems into the customer’s hand. Steve says, “*It’s so easy, even a CEO can use it.*”

Mr. Townes has incisive and informative commentaries (and perhaps some bold predictions) on the current state of play in the fast-moving Air Cargo Services & Logistics sectors ... ***in his trademark “high energy” style.***

March 2021

