

Massimo Tarantola
Chief Operating Officer

Massimo Tarantola was appointed Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Alenia North America in July 2008. In this corporate officer role he is responsible for managing the day-to-day activities of the company and for operations management. Massimo is responsible for the development, design, operation, and improvement of the systems that create and deliver the company's products/services for all major programs and industrial alliances in the U.S. and Canada. In addition to his duties of organizing and monitoring resources to ensure efficient and effective operations, he is also responsible for development and communication of the company's strategy and mission statement to the company staff. Massimo reports to the Chief Executive Officer.



Massimo is a member of the Board of Managers of Global Military Aircraft Systems (GMAS), Alenia North America's joint venture with L-3 Integrated Systems, which is responsible for system engineering integration, avionics upgrades, training and logistics support for the C-27J Joint Cargo Aircraft. Massimo is also a Board Member of Alenia North America—Canada, a wholly owned subsidiary of Alenia North America, responsible for marketing and industrial activities in Canada.

Before accepting this position, he held the role of Executive Vice President, Business Alliances in which he was responsible for managing the industrial partnering process from the identification of opportunities and needs for partnering within new business initiatives, through the evaluation of alternatives, and recommendation of potential partners based on their strengths and weaknesses to the analysis of the optimum business structure. His responsibilities also encompassed the definition and negotiation of the industrial arrangements, collaborations and joint ventures by Alenia North America with American partners to pursue and execute new military programs.

Prior to joining North America's Washington D.C. headquarters in 2005, Massimo worked for Alenia Aeronautica in several roles. Beginning in 1987, Massimo was assigned to the Italian-Brazilian AMX program, where he held various positions of increasing responsibility culminating in his appointment as AMX Program Director 1993-1994. From 1994-1995 Massimo was the Senior Vice President for Product Support for Alenia Aeronautica. From 1996 to 2005 Massimo served as the Senior Vice President for Support and Program Manager for EF program at Eurofighter-GmbH in Munich, Germany.

Massimo is a former Colonel in the Italian Air Force. In his years of service, Massimo held several command positions, including the maintenance squadron for the 3rd Wing (F-104 aircraft), engine specialist for NATO MRCA Management Agency, in London and Munich, and various assignments in Support Command in the Italian Ministry of Defense, Rome. During his last assignment in the Air Force, he was responsible for the introduction into service of new programs.

Massimo is a graduate of the Italian Air Force Academy of Pozzuoli, Naples. He holds a Doctorate degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Naples. He is married with two adult children.