



**BIOGRAPHY: RICHARD SMITH, MBE FRAeS**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION**

Paul Henry 'Richard' Smith has over 45 years in the aviation industry, with experience in both the private and public sectors of the industry; he is a venerable veteran who is well known through the Caribbean region and internationally. His career has been spent working with Civil Aviation Authority (CAACI) of the Cayman Islands with attachments and secondments to international training organizations and a stint with the national flag carrier - Cayman Airways, Ltd., as a pilot.

The following is a history of his training and qualifications to date:

- ➔ Joined the Cayman Islands Civil Aviation Department July 1976 as trainee Air Traffic Controller. Attended the ***Air Traffic Control Training Centre*** in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles and qualified as an Air Traffic Controller in 1977.
- ➔ Appointed as Operations Officer in February 1982.
- ➔ Attended ***FAA Academy***, Oklahoma, USA in February 1983 and received certification in Airport Systems and Airport Master Planning.
- ➔ Obtained FAA Private Pilot License, July 1983 from ***Sowell Aviation***, Panama City, Florida.
- ➔ Attended ***Cranfield College of Aeronautics*** in 1987 and received certification in Aircraft Accident Investigation Course.
- ➔ Obtained FAA Commercial Pilot License, July 1988 from ***Flight Safety International***, Vero Beach, Florida.
- ➔ Attended ***Transport Canada Training Institute*** in 1989 and received certification in Aviation Inspector and Enforcement.
- ➔ Attended the ***International Aviation Management Training Institute***, Montreal, Canada in 1990 and received certification in Advanced Airport Management.
- ➔ Qualified as First Officer on the B737-200 aircraft in 1993 and flew with Cayman Airways until 1996.
- ➔ Appointed Director of Civil Aviation in October 1995.

- ➔ February 2003 appointed to the Board of Directors of Air Safety Support International (subsidiary of the UK CAA).
- ➔ December 14, 2004 inducted to the Royal Aeronautical Society as 'Fellow' with the designation FRAeS.
- ➔ Jan 2005 he received the Queens Certificate and Badge of Honour for his tireless efforts during and after Hurricane Ivan.
- ➔ June 2008 he was named as a recipient of the Member of the British Empire (MBE) award by His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Stuart Jack at the Queen's Birthday celebrations.

He actively participates and is involved in board meetings. In addition, he was nominated to the Board of Directors of the Air Safety Support Inc. (ASSI) in February 2003 and served until 2009. ASSI is a subsidiary company created by the UK Civil Aviation Authority (UK CAA) to facilitate the UK Government's obligations to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regarding the safety oversight of civil aviation in the UK's Overseas Territories (OT's).

Mr. Smith is the country's foremost aviation official with authority delegated by His Excellency the Governor.

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