

## **Rick Curtis**

Rick is currently a meteorological consultant for Collins Aerospace assisting with the advancement of automated aircraft based real-time weather reporting, and other weather-related development efforts within Collins. He retired from Southwest Airlines in September of 2022 after for 25 years of service. Rick started the SWA in-house Meteorology Department in 2003 which focuses on strategic and tactical weather forecasting, and the integration of weather information into operational planning decisions. Rick helped Southwest become a world leader in the reporting of real-time Aircraft Based Observations of wind, temperature, water vapor and turbulence.

Rick graduated with a B.S. in Meteorology degree from Northern Vermont University (formally Lyndon State College) and is an FAA licensed Aircraft Dispatcher. His industry experience includes Account Management and Product Development at Sonalysts Inc. of Waterford, CT, Director of Weather Services at Surface Systems Inc. (SSI) of St. Louis, MO, and various technical and marketing positions at WSI Corporation of Andover, MA. Rick also served as the Chair of the Airlines for America Meteorology Committee, participated in IATA Industry Turbulence Aware Steering Committee, as well as several other industry efforts. He was a recipient of the 2011 AMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advance of Applied Meteorology, and in 2005 won the Southwest Airlines President's Award. Rick is a member of both the AMS and National Weather Association.