

Anton Woodward OBE CEng MInstMC FRSA

Suffolk, UK

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Chartered Engineer | Stage Automation Specialist | Managing Director

PROFILE

Chartered Engineer and internationally recognised authority in stage automation with 35+ years' experience designing and delivering advanced motion control systems for theatre, opera, live events, film and television worldwide.

Founder and Managing Director of AVW Controls Ltd. Awarded the OBE (2013) for services to Stage Automation. Combines multidisciplinary engineering expertise with commercial leadership and international project delivery.

PROFESSIONAL STATUS

- Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)
 - Chartered Engineer (Engineering Council UK, Reg. 513321)
 - Member, Institute of Measurement and Control
 - Fellow, Royal Society of Arts
 - Trustee-Director, Association of British Theatre Technicians
 - Liveryman, Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers
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CORE EXPERTISE

Stage & Motion Automation

- System architecture for large-scale automation and flying systems
- International installation and commissioning
- Theatre, opera, cruise, live events and broadcast applications

Engineering

- Motor control systems
- PLC/HMI programming
- Motion control software development
- Analogue/digital circuit design
- Functional Safety (EN61508 up to SIL3)
- Machinery Directive compliance

Leadership

- Company founder and Managing Director
- End-to-end project delivery
- Budget and resource management
- Manufacturing oversight
- Standards development and advisory roles

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Managing Director

AVW Controls Ltd | 1996 – Present

Founded and lead specialist stage automation engineering company serving UK and international markets.

Responsible for design, manufacture and commissioning of advanced motion control systems globally.

Designer of:

Impressario Motion Control System

ABTT Engineering Product of the Year (2002)

Pegasus Power Flying System

ABTT Engineering Product of the Year (2006)

QAxis Stage Automation Control System

Engineering Manager

Stage Drives & Controls Ltd | 1988 – 1996

Led design and commissioning of stage automation systems for entertainment industry clients.

Royal Air Force – Avionics Technician

1981 – 1988

RAF apprenticeship leading to HND Aerospace Studies (Avionics).

Serviced and repaired missile control systems on Phantom F4M/J aircraft. Exemplary service record.

EDUCATION

- HND Aerospace Studies (Avionics), RAF Cosford
 - Open University – Computing & Software Modules
 - CITB (PQP) HS&E Test for Managers and Professionals
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PUBLICATIONS & INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION

- Author, Stage Automation and Entertainment Electronics (ETP)
- Contributor to BS EN 17206 (Stage Machinery Safety Standard)
- Contributor to National Occupational Standard for a Scenic Automation apprenticeship
- Developed Stage Automation module for BA (Hons) Technical Theatre
- STEM Ambassador (Norfolk) and Big Bang national competition judge
- Civilian Instructor, RAF Air Cadets