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Dr Tester has worked extensively on a wide range of theoretical and experimental aeroacoustics problems associated with aero engine noise. He received post-graduate degrees in Gas Dynamics and Aeroacoustics from Southampton University. He worked for six-years at Lockheed-Georgia Research Laboratories, but most of his professional career has been spent at Rolls-Royce in the UK, working on aero engine noise and also on the project management of R&T programs, including a number of major European collaborative research projects. He took early retirement from Rolls-Royce in 2002 and re-joined the ISVR, Southampton University where he worked as Principal Research Fellow until 2020. He now works as an independent Aeroacoustics Consultant. He has published over 50 technical papers. His current research interests include application of advanced measurement techniques to fan and jet noise and sound radiation through exhaust nozzles including shielding and tone haystacking. In 2012 he co-chaired, for the second time, an Independent Expert Panel that advised CAEP on the noise of future aircraft, which recommended an increase in stringency of 7 EPNdB (cumulative) relative to the current Chapter 4 levels. This recommendation was adopted by the ICAO Council as the new Annex 16, Vol I, Chapter 14 noise standard for jet and propeller-driven aeroplanes.

He received the 2009 CEAS Aeroacoustics Award for 'his pioneering contributions to the aeroacoustics of turbofan engine noise.