INTERVIEWING ENRIQUE ROBLEDO

What did you study to become an aeronautical engineer?
Why?

I studied Aeronautical Engineering at UPM (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid). At that moment it was the only school in Spain offering that degree. I chose it because Aeronautical engineering covered a broad spectrum of scientific disciplines (mechanical, electrical and electronics engineering) and it seemed to me an opportunity to work internationally. Years later I also took and M.B.A. and later a degree in Organizational Psychology to complement my scientific background with People and business background

• Are you comfortable in his work? Is it hard?

I have had different roles in my career. At first very technical roles and year after year more managerial roles. All of them were interesting and rewarding. No work is hard if it is rewarding.

What do you like the most of your work?

In my present role I have to lead a group of 3000 people and satisfy very demanding customers in a very dynamic and complex operation. I find stimulating the idea of contributing to that people lives and having happy customers and engaged employees.

Are there any women in your work? Do they do the same work you do?

Around 50% of the workers are women. They do the same job and they have the same rights and obligations.

Have you ever thought about piloting a plane?

No. My motivation is intellectual, business and people oriented.

Which is your favourite book about science?

When I was 14 years old someone gave a present to me that was a scientific book, very famous at that time, named "Cosmos" by Carl Sagan. The book explored complex scientific subjects but with a very simple an plain language. I read the book several times and it opened my mind about life and science. I think that book influenced my decision to study a scientific discipline.

Do you admire any women scientist? Who? Why?

I think all women pioneers deserve admiration, because maybe nowadays it is more and more normal to see women in science but a hundred years ago it was very difficult for them to get into science. Marie Curie is the prototype of a woman devoted to science against all adversities.