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Dr. Vakhtang Putkaradze earned his PhD (1997) in theoretical physics at the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen, Denmark. He has held faculty positions in New Mexico, Colorado, with the latest academic position being as Centennial Professor of Mathematics and Chemical Engineering at the University of Alberta. His work to date encompasses the theory and application of geometric methods in mechanics, sensors and renewable energy. Dr. Putkaradze’s achievements have been recognized at the university, national and international level, earning him the UA Commercialization Award, JSPS Senior Award, Flaherty Foundation Award, and Humboldt Fellowship and CAIMS-Fields Canadian Research prize. He is the author and co-author of 2 awarded patents, 63 publications and several conference proceedings.

Since 2019, Dr. Putkaradze has held the position of Senior Director, Science and Technology for ATCO Ltd. At ATCO, Dr. Putkaradze leads science and technology for ATCO’s SpaceLab division. ATCO SpaceLab has the privilege of continuing ATCO’s legacy of forward looking, creative thinking, and enterprising development, and is designed to serve as a testing ground for next level technologies. Building internal capacity and establishing collaborative relationships with those advancing scientific and technological boundaries, in academia and industry, is an important component of its mission. ATCO SpaceLab is an essential part of ATCO’s Transformation mandate which is designed to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the enterprise’s historic success in our technologically dynamic times.

Headquartered in Calgary Canada, ATCO provides customers with innovative, sustainable solutions in the sectors that are fundamental to global growth and prosperity: housing, real estate, energy, water, transportation and agriculture