

Influential Women Highlights Heather Bullard: Aviation Supply Chain Leader With Over 30 Years Of Industry Experience

GREENSBORO, NC, UNITED STATES, August 24, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Combining Aerospace Expertise, Resilient Leadership, and a Commitment to Mentorship, Risk Management, and the Advancement of Women

Heather Bullard is an accomplished Supply Chain Manager with 31 years of experience in aviation and aerospace manufacturing, currently serving at JetZero in Greensboro, North Carolina. In her role, Heather supports advanced aerospace development programs by leading complex supply chain operations, strengthening supplier relationships, and promoting operational efficiency across highly technical production environments. Known for her analytical mindset, organizational strength, and ability to lead under pressure, Heather has built a reputation for delivering results in fast-paced, high-stakes settings.



Throughout her career, Heather has held progressive leadership roles across the aerospace industry, including more than a decade with Honda Aircraft Company in supply chain management, procurement, and contract administration. Her extensive experience has given her a comprehensive understanding of the factors that influence aerospace production, from procurement and supplier relationships to contract administration, continuity, risk management, and operational execution.

Heather's career has also been shaped by resilience and determination. As a first-generation college graduate, she earned her Bachelor of Business Administration from Friends University while simultaneously raising her children and managing a household. The experience strengthened her discipline, perseverance, and ability to manage competing priorities. Raised by

military parents, Heather also developed early values of confidence, courage, accountability, and bravery—qualities that have remained central throughout her professional journey.

Building Confidence in a Male-Dominated Industry

Heather attributes much of her success to the values instilled by her military parents, particularly bravery and confidence. Entering aviation and working alongside professionals in technical areas such as engineering, science, and mathematics required her to develop resilience and the confidence to contribute without being intimidated.

Supply chain management is highly demanding work, and Heather has experienced firsthand how supply chain teams can be held accountable when challenges arise, regardless of where the underlying issue originated. Working in that environment has taught her the importance of toughness, accountability, adaptability, and remaining focused under pressure.

Throughout her 31 years in aviation, Heather has regularly participated in six to seven meetings a day where there were typically only one or two women in attendance. She notes that this continues to be the dynamic in many professional settings today.

Heather has learned that success comes from being brave enough to walk into the room, speak out professionally, and sit in that space with confidence. Knowing who she is and understanding her value have enabled her to contribute meaningfully in environments where women are sometimes significantly underrepresented.

For Heather, confidence does not mean believing that failure will never happen. Instead, it means understanding that failure is part of life and refusing to allow it to define the future.

When someone fails, Heather believes there is a decision to make: either give up and take the easier path or push forward, learn from the experience, and figure out how to be successful the next time. This philosophy has helped Heather navigate challenges throughout her career while continuing to develop as a leader.

Mentorship as a Foundation for Professional Growth

The best career advice Heather has ever received was to have a mentor. She strongly believes mentorship has been extremely helpful, particularly in an industry where female participation remains lower in many technical and leadership environments.

For Heather, mentoring does not necessarily have to be one-to-one, nor does it need to involve someone of the same gender. What matters is creating relationships where individuals can learn, receive guidance, build confidence, and advocate for one another.

Heather believes strength comes in numbers. When women who have faced similar uphill challenges connect, especially in environments where they are in the minority, those relationships can create a sense of accomplishment and confidence.

Confidence, Heather emphasizes, is critical in understanding one's own knowledge and value, both professionally and personally. Mentorship also provides advocacy, which she considers an important part of professional development.

Heather currently has several mentees and also maintains a mentoring relationship of her own. She regularly checks in with her mentor to discuss career goals, professional challenges, and how to continue on a positive path.

When circumstances are not positive, those conversations provide an opportunity to redirect, reframe, reorganize, create some breathing room, and address challenges from a different perspective.

Through her own mentorship efforts, Heather is committed to helping others navigate their careers while demonstrating that professional growth does not stop once someone reaches a leadership position.

Encouraging Young Women to Find Their Voice

Heather's advice to young women entering aviation and aerospace is to learn the industry and develop an understanding of its technical side.

She encourages women to learn enough about aviation to speak the language, understand the general technical jargon, and understand how the various components of the industry work together. While some people may have a natural mind for technical subjects, Heather believes the key is simply not being afraid.

Her message is clear: be bold and brave. Sit in the space with confidence, know who you are, and know your value.

Heather believes these qualities can make a significant difference in whether someone is able to succeed in a demanding professional environment. She also strongly recommends finding a mentor who can offer perspective, encouragement, advocacy, and guidance along the way.

For Heather, mentorship is especially valuable in an industry where women may still find themselves underrepresented. When women who have experienced similar challenges connect, they can provide one another with confidence and a stronger sense of community.

Heather's commitment to mentoring multiple professionals while maintaining her own mentor relationship reflects her belief that successful careers are built not only through individual achievement but also through relationships and shared knowledge.

Risk Management and the Future of Supply Chain

One of the biggest challenges and opportunities in Heather's field today is effective risk

management.

Supply chain continues to be a challenging environment for companies and businesses both globally and domestically. The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated just how quickly supply networks can be disrupted and how important it is for organizations to prepare for extended periods of uncertainty.

Heather believes the aviation community learned some lessons the hard way during the pandemic. The experience showed that organizations need to plan not only for short-term disruptions, such as a part arriving late or being unexpectedly short, but also for longer periods of disruption that can significantly affect operations.

With 31 years of experience in aviation, Heather has seen firsthand how the pandemic tested supply chains and highlighted vulnerabilities. She believes organizations are now better prepared to anticipate potential disruptions and recognize the importance of planning for difficult periods before they occur.

For Heather, effective supply chain leadership increasingly requires strategic risk management, strong supplier relationships, contingency planning, and resilience. Organizations that prepare for potential disruptions are better positioned to maintain continuity and respond effectively when unexpected challenges arise.

Guided by Honesty, Gratitude, and Hard Work

The values most important to Heather in both her professional and personal life are honesty and gratitude. She describes both as particularly important within her family.

Heather also believes strongly in hard work and understands that failure is an unavoidable part of life. Rather than fearing failure, she believes people should focus on what they do after experiencing it.

There is a choice, Heather explains: someone can give up and do things the easy way, or they can push forward, learn from the experience, and determine how to become successful the next time.

Heather also finds fulfillment in being a positive influence on other people. She believes that making a meaningful difference in someone's life can sometimes be more important than networking for its own sake. In her view, networking naturally develops as a byproduct of communicating and building genuine relationships with others.

Her commitment to helping others extends into volunteer work. Heather has volunteered with a group home for young women who were single mothers, helping prepare them for adult life, raising children, and building careers.

She has also contributed to Dress for Success, supporting women through resume writing, interview preparation, and access to appropriate professional clothing. Additionally, Heather supports Freedom House, an organization serving young women and women dealing with addiction, including programs that assist with recovery, legal needs, and preparation for returning to the workforce.

These experiences reflect Heather's belief that professional success becomes more meaningful when it can be used to positively influence the lives of others.

Finding Balance Through Family and Creativity

Outside of her professional responsibilities, Heather places tremendous value on family. She is married with grown children and grandchildren and takes great joy in spending quality time with them.

Watching her children and grandchildren grow and become successful people is one of Heather's greatest sources of fulfillment. Her family provides a meaningful reminder of why resilience, hard work, and perseverance matter.

Heather also restores her energy through gardening, an activity she finds peaceful and grounding. She has taught herself how to paint and draw as well, describing these creative pursuits as therapeutic.

These activities provide balance alongside the demands of a career in aerospace supply chain management and allow Heather to recharge while continuing to pursue personal growth.

With more than three decades in aviation and aerospace, Heather has built a career defined by resilience, confidence, technical expertise, and leadership under pressure. Her journey as a first-generation college graduate, mother, supply chain professional, mentor, and advocate for women demonstrates the importance of perseverance and self-belief.

Today, Heather Bullard continues to lead complex supply chain operations, support advanced aerospace programs, mentor emerging professionals, and contribute to causes that strengthen women and communities. Through every aspect of her career and personal life, she remains guided by the principles that have shaped her journey: be brave, know your value, work hard, learn from failure, and use your experience to help others succeed.

Learn More about Heather Bullard:

Through her Influential Women profile: <https://influentialwomen.com/connect/Heather-Bullard>

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