

Backgrounder, David G Cooke, david@truenorthpower.com (519) 584-5020

David Cooke, comes from a varied aerospace, systems engineering and small business start-up background. As a senior military officer and pilot he acquired a diverse background in satellite tracking and software development through his service with the US Air Force Space Command in Colorado as Chief of Space Surveillance Division and NORAD Contact for Shuttle operations during 1977-1988. As **Co-founder and President**, SAT TRAK International, he designed, programmed and marketed the first commercially available software for tracking satellites from a personal computer, and sold to over 2000 users in 20 countries and territories around the world.

A Canadian, born in Sarnia, Ontario, he left active duty in 1988 to take on the role of Assistance Program Manager, Operations, Canadian Space Station Program with Spar Aerospace, in charge of Space Ops Ground Ops Training and Logistical support for the Canadian robotics on the station. An astronaut candidate himself, Mr. Cooke, was one of first 4 interviewed and one of 68 quarter finalist from over 4000 applicants the first Canadian Astronaut competition in 1983. As a result of his leadership and foresight in development of advanced satellite tracking capabilities, Mr. Cooke was the first non-American to be awarded the USAF Sr. Space Badge and in 1988 he was presented as an Officer the Order of Military Merit (O.M.M.) by the Governor General of Canada.

After leaving Spar in 1995 he served as **Director R&D** for software development and **Vice President** of four Internet start-up companies before starting his own Renewable Energy company **TRUE-NORTH Power Systems** in Lion's Head, Ontario in 2002. TRUE-NORTH Power Systems was the Canadian Distributor of LAKOTA wind turbines but in 2008 he began manufacturing wind and solar hybrid energy systems. In July 08 True North Power NG Inc. began manufacturing and distributing it's own WIND ARROW brand of small wind turbines throughout Canada, US, Europe, South Africa, Caribbean and the middle east. Mr. Cooke has personally installed over 150 turbines or wind and solar hybrid systems in Ontario, US, Caribbean, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. True North Power NG is also the World Training Centre for WIND ARROW dealers attracting participants from as far away as Korea, Philippines, Norway, Germany and South Africa.

In 2003, Mr. Cooke opened the **Ferndale Renewable Energy Evaluation, F.R.E.E. Wind Test Centre** at Ferndale Ontario, dedicated to evaluating renewable energy systems and components where they test turbines, towers, batteries, inverters and controllers. He also publishes the FREE Wind News a monthly email summary of news in the Small Wind industry and activities at the test centre. You can visit the True North Power NG website at www.truenorthpower.com and read copies of the FREE Wind News on the website under the FREE Wind News Link on the homepage.

Mr. Cooke holds a commercial pilot's license, Multi-engine and helicopter endorsements and enjoys occasional flying with friends for recreation whenever he can. Married with 2 grown children, he and his wife Vanda enjoy travel and cycling from their solar and wind powered summer home in Lion's Head. They currently reside in Kitchener, Ontario.