

Einladung zum Vortrag

Next Generation Flight Training – from Vision to Global Qualification

Fabi Riesen
Founder und CTO Loft Dynamics



Over the past years, Loft Dynamics has challenged conventional assumptions about simulator-based pilot training. In an industry historically dominated by large, fixed full-flight simulators, Loft developed a radically different approach: compact, highly immersive, VR-based Flight Simulation Training Devices (FSTDs) that achieve regulatory qualification while dramatically increasing accessibility.

This presentation outlines how Loft succeeded in bridging cutting-edge technology with the stringent certification requirements of aviation authorities. It describes the technological breakthroughs, regulatory milestones, and operational lessons learned in bringing a new category of simulator into global service. The talk further explores how distributed simulation networks and data-driven training architectures are shaping the next generation of pilot development.

Datum: 30. April 2026

Zeit: 18.00 Uhr

Ort: ETH Zürich Maschinenlabor ML H44

Wir freuen uns auf Ihre Teilnahme. Gäste sind herzlich willkommen.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen
Dr. Jürg Wildi, Präsident

About the Speaker

Fabian "Fabi" Riesen is the founder and CTO of Loft Dynamics, the maker of the first virtual reality (VR) pilot training devices with regulatory approval from the Federal Aviation Administration and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency. Before Loft Dynamics, Fabi spent over two decades as an engineering technical leader at Cisco Systems (NASDAQ: CSCO), earning the company's prestigious Pioneer Award for his innovations. During that time, Fabi constructed simulators as a hobby outside of work. With a background in electrical engineering and a lifelong passion for flying, Fabi recognized the need to enhance the safety, realism, and accessibility of pilot training globally and built a simulator to achieve that goal.

In 2014, Fabi combined VR and motion platforms to create a cutting-edge VR simulator from the ground up, in his living room. By 2016, Loft Dynamics (formerly VRM Switzerland) was born, debuting a qualified VR Robinson R22 FNPT II simulator before releasing its EASA-qualified FTD Level 3 VR simulator, the Airbus H125. Today, leading manufacturers, airlines, operators, schools, and organizations around the world use the company's VR solutions, including the Federal Aviation Administration, Los Angeles Police Department, Airbus Helicopters, Air Zermatt, Helitrans Norway, Heli Austria, and many others.

In addition to receiving his Electrical and Software Engineering and Transmission Technology degree from Zurich University, Fabi obtained an executive MBA in Business Administration from Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences.

Fabi enjoys spending time with his family and exploring the Swiss mountains in his spare time. He recently climbed the 48 summits of the Swiss Alps, all exceeding 4000 meters. Fabi also holds a private pilot license for fixed wing (PPL(A)) and is in the process of obtaining the helicopter equivalent (PPL(H)).

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