Professor Peter Middendorf studied Aerospace Engineering in Munich. His PhD thesis was focused on structural mechanics of composites. Professor Peter Middendorf had several positions at EADS Innovation Works within the domain Composite Technology and Lightweight Design and was Senior Expert and Head of Structure Integration and Mechanical Systems. After his time at EADS Innovation Works he was Director of Research and Innovation of the EADS helicopter division Eurocopter Germany. Since 2012 he is Director of the Institute of Aircraft Design and currently acting Vice-Rector of the University of Stuttgart. As one of the founding members he is also Chairman of the Research Director's Board of the Research Campus ARENA2036.