

James C. (Jim) Floyd was involved for more than half a century in aircraft designs, ranging from biplanes to supersonic transports and space vehicles. In his early days he worked with two of the great British aircraft designers, Sir Sydney Camm on the Hurricane and Roy Chadwick on the Anson, the famous Lancaster bomber, the York transport, the Lincoln and other designs, becoming Chief Project Engineer in 1944.

Floyd came to Canada in February 1946 to join the newly formed A.V.Roe Canada company (Avro) at Malton Ontario, initially as Chief Design Engineer in charge of the C 102 Jetliner project, then Chief Engineer in charge of all Avro projects, including the CF 100 fighter and the CF 105 Arrow project. He was appointed Vice-president Engineering in 1955.

After the cancellation of the Arrow project he established his own international aviation consulting company and made contributions to many state-of-the-art projects worldwide. He was consultant to the British Ministry of Technology on the Concorde project from 1965 to 1972.

In 1950 he became the first non-American recipient of the Wright Bros. Medal for his work on jet transport technology, specifically the design of the Avro Canada Jetliner, the world's first regional jet passenger aircraft. In 1957 he received the J.D.McCurdy Award for his work on the CF 100 and CF 105 (Arrow) fighter aircraft. For his work on supersonic transport design he was awarded the Royal Aeronautical Society's George Taylor Gold Medal in 1962.

Other awards include a Lifetime of Achievement Award from the Air Industries Association of Canada, 1988, and the Companionship of the Order of Flight from the City of Edmonton 1993. He holds Fellowships in the Royal Aeronautical Society, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute.

He was inducted into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 1993.