



Conference Programme

16 - 17 December 2025

Riyadh International Convention & Exhibition Center (RICEC)
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Presented by



Co-located with



GLOBAL AVIATION ISSUES CONFERENCE

DEC 16-17, 2025 ✈️ RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA



2025 SPEAKERS



Delip Prasad
Head of Market MENA,
Munich Airport
International
Munich Airport



Dr. Bader Al Aydi,
Chairman,
Aviation Department
Prince Sultan University



Eng. Daniyar Tule
Chief Flight Inspection
Engineer
Samana Special Mission



Heba Gouda
Vice President, Global
Operations
**American Associations
of Airport Executives**



Jeanne Olivier, A.A.E.
IACE's Airport
Management Advisor



Jihad Boueri
Vice President – Strategy
& Transformation -
Middle East & Africa –
SITA



Kevin Bumen, A.A.E.,
C.A.E. IAAE Chair, Chief
Financial & Commercial
Officer
**San Francisco
International Airport**



Khurram Qureshi, Project
Manager, Dubai Air
Navigation Services
(dans)
**Dubai International
Airport**



Lance Lyttle, IAP, CEO,
Aviation Authority,
**Orlando International
Airport, USA**



Maxim Romanenko, IAP,
Aviation Expert,
Consultant and Author,
Kazakhstan



Mohammad Nurunnabi
President - Center for
Sustainability and
Climate Aide to the



Susan Warner Dooley
Aviation Commercial Officer
Port Authority of NY & NJ

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MORE CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

<p>Abdelilah Aleidi Vice President of Global Sales flynas</p> 	<p>Aiman Arab Chairman Egyptian Aviation Holding Company, Aviation and Air Navigation ECAAN</p> 	<p>Ali Rashed, Chief, Airport Operations Bahrain Airport</p> 	<p>Captain Ahmed Al Zuhairi, Vice President, Safety Riyadh Air</p> 
<p>Chris Jack Program Director at Neom Airports, Charity Chair/Trustee, Business Coach, AECOM</p> 	<p>David Studden Global Sales & Partnership Manager Etihad Aviation</p> 	<p>Dr. Mashael Al Qahtani Nationalization Director, GACA</p> 	<p>Heba Al Kurdi Professor King Saud University</p> 
<p>Alan Lim Director Alton Aviation Consultancy, UAE</p> 	<p>Julius Norkunas CEO Aeroclass.org</p> 	<p>Khalid Al Harthi Advisor VP of Strategy GACA</p> 	<p>Majid Khan CEO Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia</p> 
<p>Mohamed Yahya Professor, Aviation Management at Prince Sultan University</p> 	<p>Mohammed Al Bayoud Expert of Advance Air Mobility Regulations GACA</p> 	<p>Mohsin Abdul Jawad Head of Brand & Communication Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia</p> 	<p>Oliver Weiss Chief Operating Officer Fraport - Saudi Arabia</p> 

Speaker photos coming soon

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AGENDA

Meeting #251111
(Subject to change)

Day One: Setting the Stage for Transformation

Tuesday, December 16

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

9:00 - 9:15 a.m.

Welcome and Overview

Heba Gouda
Vice President, Global Operations
American Associations of Airport Executives

Kevin Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E. IAAE Chair Chief Financial and Commercial
Officer | Finance & Commercial
San Francisco International Airport

Raed bin Hassan Al-Idrissi
CEO
MATARAT

9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Overview of Global Aviation Trends, Industry Outlook

9:15 - 9:35 a.m.

Keynote Speaker: (TBD)

Prince Sultan University
PSU Strategic Direction in Enabling the Saudi Aviation Strategy.

9:35 - 9:55 a.m.

Keynote Speaker

Aiman Arab
Chairman
Egyptian Holding Company, Aviation and Air Navigation ECAAN

Overview of the launch of Terminal 4 at Cairo International Airport as a benchmark airport terminal - Operational Technology vs Operational Systems

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Keynote Speaker

9:55 - 10:15 a.m.

Ali Rashed (Confirmed)
Chief, Airport Operations
Bahrain Airport

ORAT case study for Bahrain Airport

Session 1 - AI-and Automation in Smart Airports

Exploring the role of AI, automation, and digital transformation in airport operations. Industry leaders will discuss innovations driving smarter airports and the future of automated systems.

Moderator:

Maxim Romanenko, IAP **(Confirmed)**
Aviation Expert, Consultant and Author, Kazakhstan

Speakers:

10:15 - 11:15 a.m.

Jihad Boueri, Vice President – Strategy & Transformation - Middle East & Africa – SITA **(Confirmed)**

Oliver Weiss **(Confirmed)**
Chief Operating Officer
Fraport - Saudi Arabia

Lance Lyttle, IAP **(Confirmed)**
CEO, Aviation Authority
Orlando International Airport, USA

Khalid Hashem **(Confirmed)**
President Middle East & Africa Honeywell

Andrija Brstina **(Confirmed)**
Head of Process Excellence
Abu Dhabi Airports

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11:15 - 11:45 a.m.

Networking Break

(official opening of the Global Airports Forum)

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Session 2 - Attracting the Next Generation – AI and Workforce Innovation

This session will explore the challenges the aviation industry faces in attracting future leaders and younger generations to pursue careers in aviation. With aviation programs struggling to appeal to high school students, panelists will discuss strategies to make the industry more attractive. Topics will include the role of regulators, airlines, airports, and universities in promoting aviation careers, successful workforce development initiatives, and international best practices that can be adapted across regions. Additionally, the session will examine how AI and emerging technologies can support workforce innovation and skills development.

Moderator:

Dr. Bader Al Aydi **(Confirmed)**
Chairman, Aviation Department
Prince Sultan University

Speakers:

Maxim Romanenko, IAP **(Confirmed)**
Aviation Expert, Consultant and Author
Kazakhstan

Julius Norkunas **(Confirmed)**
CEO
Aeroclass.org

Dr. Mashael Al Qahtani **(Confirmed)**
Nationalization Director
GACA

David Studden **(Confirmed)**
Global Sales & Partnership Manager
Etihad Aviation

Majid Khan **(Confirmed)**
CEO
Air Connectivity program Saudi Arabia

11:45 - 12:45 p.m.

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12:45 - 1:45 p.m.

Session 3 - The Rise of Spaceports in Aviation – Bridging Aerospace and Commercial Airports

Exploring the integration of spaceports into commercial aviation, addressing regulatory, operational, and business opportunities for airports in the growing space industry.

Moderator

Jeanne Olivier, A.A.E (TBC) **(Confirmed)**

IACE's Airport Management Advisor

Speakers

Perry Millar, A.A.E.,

President and CEO, Capital Region Airport Commission (Richmond, Va., U.S.)

Chris Runde

Vice President at Introba **(TBC)**

Jeff Kloska, A.A.E

Director of Colorado Air and Space Port **(TBD)**

Don Zoufal, President/ Founder at CrowZnest Consulting

CrowZnest Consulting

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1:45 - 2:45 p.m.

Networking Lunch and Visit with GAF Exhibitors

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Session 4 - Airline Industry Trends and Regional Growth

Post-pandemic recovery, fleet modernization, air cargo expansion, ground handling innovations, and sustainability efforts. How airlines are adapting to the changing aviation landscape.

Moderator (Confirmed)

Kevin Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E. IAAE Chair (confirmed) Chief Financial & Commercial Officer | Finance & Commercial
San Francisco International Airport

Speakers

Julius Norkunas **(Confirmed)**
CEO, Aeroclass.org

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Mohamed Yahya **(Confirmed)**
Professor, Aviation Management at PSU

Hamdi Osman (Invited)
Founder and CEO, SolitAir Holding Ltd

Abdelilah Aleidi **(Confirmed)**
Vice President of Global Sales, Flynas

Alan Lim, Director at Alton Aviation Consultancy, UAE **(Confirmed)**

2:45 - 3:45 p.m.

Session 5 - Enhancing Passenger Experience and Operational Readiness

This session will focus on innovations and strategies to elevate the passenger experience, including biometric technology, contactless solutions, and future terminal redesigns. Additionally, it will address operational readiness, risk management, and contingency planning for smooth airport operations.

Moderator:

Lance Lyttle, IAP **(Confirmed)**
CEO, Aviation Authority
Orlando International Airport & Orlando Executive Airport , USA

Speakers:

Susan Warner Dooley, A.A.E., IAP **(Confirmed)**
Aviation Chief Commercial Officer
Port Authority of NY & NJ

Delip Prasad **(Confirmed)**
Head of Market MENA
Munich Airport International, Munich Airport

Chris Jack **(Confirmed)**
Program Director at Neom Airports, Charity Chair/Trustee, Business Coach.
AECOM

Ali Bora Isbulan, Deputy CEO at Plaza Premium Group **(Confirmed)**

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7 - 9 p.m.

Official Conference Dinner

Hosted by General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA)/MATARAT Holding

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Day Two: Shaping the Future: Innovation, Resilience, and Connectivity in Aviation

Wednesday, December 17

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

Session 6 - Advanced Air Mobility

This session will explore the evolution and future of Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), with a particular focus on how innovative technologies like electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) aircraft are reshaping aviation in line with the highest global standards and Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. The session will address challenges related to airspace integration, safety, regulatory frameworks, and infrastructure, highlighting how AAM can revolutionize urban mobility, alleviate congestion, and serve as a critical component in sustainable city planning. Through discussions on key initiatives within Saudi Arabia, such as the NEOM project and national airspace development, stakeholders will share insights into sector collaboration needed to unlock the full potential of AAM in both regional and global aviation.

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Moderator: Fahad iBne Masood, Strategic Aviation Leader, Airport Management Business & Economics, SULTANATE OF OMAN

Speakers

Khalid Al Harthi **(Confirmed)**
Advisor VP of Strategy, GACA

Khurram Qureshi **(Confirmed)**
Project Manager Dubai Air Navigation Services (dans), Dubai International Airport

Mohammed Al Bayoud **(Confirmed)**
Expert of Advance Air Mobility Regulations, GACA

Heba Al Kurdi **(Confirmed)**
Professor, King Saud University

Eng. Daniyar Tule **(Confirmed)**
Chief Flight Inspection Engineer, Samana Special Mission

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Session 7 - The Future of Aviation in a Sustainable World

Industry leaders discuss global decarbonization efforts and the role of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), green technologies, and innovations in reducing the aviation industry's carbon footprint.

Moderator

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Professor Dr. Mohammad Nurunnabi **(Confirmed)**
Founding Director - Center for Sustainability and Climate Aide to the President; Chair - Accounting, Prince Sultan University

Speaker

Emad Al Harbi
Mobility Decarbonizations Director, at AWD

Mohamed Abubaker Farea (to be invited)
Regional Director, Middle East Regional Office
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Networking Break with GAF Exhibitors

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Session 8 - The Power of Aviation Connectivity

Exploring how airports and regions leverage connectivity to drive development. The session will discuss the role of data, international and local airport business models, and the function of hubs in fostering growth.

Moderator (TBD)

Speakers

11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Kevin Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E. IAAE Chair **(Confirmed)**
Chief Financial & Commercial Officer | Finance & Commercial
San Francisco International Airport

Mohsin Abdul Jawad **(Confirmed)**
Head of Brand & Communication
Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia

Majid Khan **(Confirmed)**
CEO, Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia

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Speakers

11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Abuliah Aleidi **(Confirmed)**

Vice President, Global Sale, Flynas Airline

Joe Esposito (Invited)

Senior Vice President - Network Planning, Pricing and Revenue Management, Delta Air Lines

Session 9 - Optimizing Airspace Management: Balancing Growth, Innovation, and Operational Efficiency

Focus on addressing airspace congestion, integrating new technologies, and enhancing collaboration between stakeholders to ensure efficiency and safety in high-density regions.

Moderator: Fahad ibne Masood, Strategic Aviation Leader, Airport Management Business & Economics, SULTANATE OF OMAN

Speakers:

12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Ahmed Al Zuhairi **(Confirmed)**

Vice President, Safety
Riyadh Air

Ayman Arab (Invited)

The Chairman and CEO of the Egyptian Holding Company – Airports and ANS

Giulio de Carli (Invited)

President, Air Tech Italy

Air Traffic Control Association (TBD)

Conference Adjournment

1:30 - 5 p.m.

Networking Lunch and visit with Exhibitors