



OCTOBER 4-6, 2026 PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

HOTEL (TBD)

DRAFT AGENDA (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Delegate conference bags - Sponsored by San Francisco (Calif.) International Airport

8 a.m.-2 p.m. **Conference Registration**

9:30- 11 a.m. **IAAE Board Meeting** (closed)

12:30-3:30 p.m. **City Tour**
Sponsored by Rhode Island Airport Corporation, co-sponsored by Jacobs

5-6 p.m. **Welcome Reception**
Sponsored by Jacobs

6:30 -8:30 p.m. **Board Dinner** (closed)
Sponsored by Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5 — TRANSATLANTIC STRATEGIC RESET

8 a.m.-4 p.m. **Registration**

8-9a.m. **Networking Breakfast**
Sponsored by Northeast Chapter, AAAE

9-9:30 a.m. **Welcome Remarks and Conference Overview**

Heba Gouda
Vice President, Global Operations
American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE)

Jorge Hernández, CPA., IAAE Chair
President & Chief Executive Officer
Aerostar/Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport, Puerto Rico

Jiri Pos
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Prague Airport

David Jágr
Director General / Director
Civil Aviation Authority of the Czech Republic

- 9:30-9:45 a.m. **Keynote Address**
High-level strategic outlook on Europe–North America aviation, opportunities for hubs, carriers, and infrastructure investment over the next decade.
- 9:45-10:45 a.m. **SESSION 1 — Opening Leadership Dialogue & Vision 2035: Strategic Leadership for Airports**
Forward-looking session combining Europe’s transatlantic strategic importance with long-term airport planning. Topics include European hub development, insights from North American hubs, evolving airline partnerships, geopolitical and regulatory uncertainty, AI and digital transformation, and workforce planning. Provides actionable takeaways for CEOs and board members.
- 10:45-11:30 a.m. **Networking Break**
Sponsored by Orlando International Airport (GOAA)
- 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **SESSION 2 — Advanced Airport Transformation & Smart Infrastructure**
Explores emerging technologies beyond AI, including IoT, predictive maintenance, autonomous operations, and smart terminals. Demonstrates how airports in Europe and North America are transforming operations to improve efficiency and passenger experience.
- 12:30-2 p.m. **Networking Lunch**
Sponsored by Birmingham (Ala.) Airport Authority
- 2-3 p.m. **SESSION 3 — Hybrid Threats & Aviation Security: Protecting Airports in a New Risk Environment** - *This session will explore how airports in Europe and North America are adapting their security strategies to address evolving threats. Experts will discuss cyber–physical risk convergence, drone and UAS threats, supply chain vulnerabilities, insider risk management, and the role of international cooperation in protecting aviation infrastructure*
- 3-3:30 p.m. **Afternoon Networking Break**
- 3:30-4:30p.m. **SESSION 4 — Digital Borders & Passenger Identity in the Schengen Era**

Focuses on passenger identity and border control technology, comparing EU systems (EES, ETIAS, biometrics) with U.S. TSA/CBP programs. Highlights interoperability, data governance, and balancing passenger experience with regulatory requirements across continents.

7-9 p.m. **Gala Dinner**
Hosted by Prague Airport

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 — THE FUTURE OPERATING MODEL

8 a.m.-3 p.m. **Registration**

8:15-9 a.m. **Networking Breakfast**
Sponsored by Baker International

9-10a.m. **SESSION 5- Geopolitics, Airspace & Network Realignment**
Explores the impact of global geopolitics on airspace and network planning, including Ukraine war implications, Middle East route shifts, NATO corridor effects, transatlantic joint ventures, and risk diversification for European and North American hubs.

10 -10:30 a.m. **Morning Networking Break**
Sponsored by Morristown (N.J.) Airport

10:30a.m.-11:30 **SESSION 6- Artificial Intelligence Across the Airport Ecosystem - AI-Driven Operational Security & Optimization**
Explores AI applications in airports across Europe and North America, including predictive capacity management, security threat modeling, ATC optimization, and ethical/regulatory oversight. Provides guidance for CEOs on technology investment and operational transformation.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **SESSION 7 — Workforce, Talent & Operational Reliability**
Addresses labor shortages, workforce strategy, automation, union/regulatory differences, and executive succession planning. Compares approaches in Europe and North America to building resilient airport leadership pipelines.

12:30-2 p.m. **Networking Lunch**
Sponsored by Jacksonville (Fla.) Aviation Authority

2-2:45 p.m. **SESSION 8 — Europe & North America Aviation Core: Competition, Capacity & Connectivity-**
Comparative analysis of European hubs (Prague, Vienna, Warsaw, Budapest) and North American hubs (New York, Chicago, Atlanta). Covers runway expansion, slot strategy, low-cost vs legacy carriers, transatlantic route development, and cargo positioning. Provides insights for network strategy and competitive positioning

2:45-3:15 p.m. **Afternoon Networking Break**

3:15-4:15 p.m. **SESSION 9 — Climate Mandates & Energy Security: EU–U.S. Divergence**
Examines sustainability regulations and energy security strategies across Europe and North America, including EU “Fit for 55,” U.S. Inflation Reduction Act funding, SAF mandates, ETS vs CORSIA, and airport electrification & hydrogen readiness.

4:15-5:15 p.m. **Closing Networking & Social Gathering**
Opportunity for final networking, reflection on conference insights, and discussion of Europe–North America strategic priorities

5:15 p.m. **Conference Adjournment**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7 — PRAGUE AIRPORT STRATEGIC TOUR

10 a.m.-12 p.m. **Prague Airport Strategic Tour**
Detailed briefing on runway development, terminal expansion, and infrastructure upgrades, with insights relevant for both European and North American operational strategies.