



**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**  
*Discover Prague's historic landmarks and vibrant culture on this guided city tour.*  
*Sponsored by Rhode Island Airport Corporation, co-sponsored by Jacobs*

5-6 p.m. **Welcome Reception**  
Join us to mix, mingle and make lasting connections at our evening of networking  
*Sponsored by Jacobs*

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

## **MONDAY, OCTOBER 5**

**Theme:** *Where aviation stands today + immediate strategic pressures*

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

8:30-9:30a.m **Networking Breakfast**  
*Sponsored by Northeast Chapter, AAAE*

9:30:10 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

Zdeněk Jelínek **(TBI)**  
Director of the Civil Aviation Department  
Ministry of Transport , Czech Republic

Nicholas Merrick **(TBI)**  
U.S Ambassador to the Czech Republic.

10-10:10 a.m.

**Keynote Address**

**The Transatlantic Aviation Outlook: Growth, Risk, and Strategic Opportunity**

*A high-level strategic outlook on the future of transatlantic aviation, examining how geopolitical dynamics, economic uncertainty, and evolving airline strategies are reshaping connectivity between Europe and North America. The keynote will explore the implications for hub competitiveness, infrastructure investment, and long-term growth.*

**Speaker:**

Mr. Zdeněk Jelínek **(TBC)**  
Director of the Civil Aviation Department  
Ministry of Transport

10:10-10:55 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.*

**Moderator:**

**TBD**

**Speakers:**

Jiří Pos  
Chairman of the Board, Area of Corporate Management  
Prague Airport

Julian Jäger **(TBI)**  
Executive to the Board & CEO

Vienna Airport

10:55-11:30 a.m. **Networking Break**  
*Sponsored by Orlando International Airport (GOAA)*

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **SESSION 2 — 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*

**Moderator:** Jeanne Olivier, A.A.E., ACE, IACE  
Past Chair, AAAE

**Speakers:** Philip van Noort **(TBI)**  
Director Security  
Schiphol

ICAO **(TBD)**

12:30-1:15 p.m. **SESSION 3 — Passenger Experience & Borders: AI, Digital & Technology-Driven Seamless Travel**- *Digital identity, biometrics, and AI-powered border management systems are revolutionizing the end-to-end passenger experience. This session explores how airports in Europe and North America are leveraging AI and advanced analytics to optimize passenger flow, automate identity verification, and enhance operational decision-making—delivering secure, efficient, and seamless journeys. Panelists will share real-world lessons from leading AI-enabled deployments, highlighting measurable improvements in efficiency, passenger satisfaction, and security. This session also provides an opportunity for technology partners and solution providers to showcase innovations shaping the future of airport operations.*

**Moderator:** **TBD**

**Speakers:** Marcel Stroop **(TBI)**  
Director of Go-To-Market & Partnership Aviation Solution  
Royal Schiphol Group

Ilias Maragkakis **(TBI)**  
Associate Partner and Head of Solution Group Infrastructure and Operations  
Lufthansa Consulting

Ralph Cutié **(TBI)**  
Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Miami International Airport / Miami-Dade Aviation

Jim Moses **(TBI)**  
American Airline Executive  
Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW)

1:15-2:30p.m.

**Networking Lunch**

*Sponsored by Birmingham (Ala.) Airport Authority*

2:30-3:15 p.m.

**SESSION 4 — 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.*

**Moderator:**

**TBD**

**Speakers:**

Annette Mann **(TBI)**  
CEO  
Austrian Airlines, Vienna

Jiri Marek **(TBI)**  
CEO  
Air Serbia

Grzegorz Bykowski **(TBI)**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Poznań Airport

IATA **(TBD)**

3:15-3:45 p.m.

**Afternoon Networking Break**

3:45-4:30 p.m.

**SESSION 5 — Winning Transatlantic Growth: The New Playbook for Air**

**Service Development** - *This session explores how airports in North America and Europe are adapting their air service development strategies in a more constrained and competitive transatlantic market. Discussion will focus on the role of data-driven route analysis, closer alignment with airline network planning, and collaboration with regional partners to support sustainable route growth. How AI is*

*reshaping route planning and demand forecasting. Including how AI and advanced analytics are reshaping demand forecasting, route planning, and airline-airport collaboration*

**Moderator:** **TBD**

**Speakers:** Kevin R. Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E.  
Chief Commercial Officer | Commercial  
San Francisco International Airport

cz Jiří Marek **(TBI)**  
Executive, Leading commercial and Network Strategy  
Smartwings Airline  
Prague, Czech Republic

Ian Malin **(TBI)**  
Chief Commercial Officer  
WIZZ Air, Budapest, Hungary

Andrew Nocella **(TBI)**  
Chief Commercial Officer  
United Airlines

7-9 p.m. **Official Conference Gala Dinner**  
*An Evening of Celebration, Inspiration, Networking, and Connections*  
***Hosted by Prague Airport***

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 — THE FUTURE OPERATING MODEL**

**Theme:** *How airports will operate tomorrow*

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

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

9-10a.m. **SESSION 6—The Intelligent Airport Ecosystem: AI, Automation and Smart Infrastructure- / AI-Driven Airport Operations: From Data to Decisions** - *The session will explore AI-driven operational optimization, predictive capacity management, Internet of Things (IoT)-enabled terminals, automation, predictive maintenance, and other emerging technologies, showing how real-time data from connected devices enables smarter, faster decision-making across airport operations. Strategic considerations will include digital transformation, investment*

*priorities, public-private partnerships, scaling innovation, and lessons drawn from real-world implementations, highlighting how airports can improve efficiency, infrastructure resilience, and passenger experience while building intelligent, future-ready operations.*

**Moderator:** **TBD**

**Speakers:** Martin Kučera  
Board member, Aviation Operations and Safety  
Prague Airport

Brian Cobb **(TBI)**  
Chief Innovation Officer  
Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG)

Marcin Marczyk **(TBI)**  
Delivery Director  
Adepto

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

10:20-11:10 a.m. **SESSION 7- Advanced Air Mobility & Vertiports: Defining the Airport Role-**  
*Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) is moving from concept to early deployment, raising critical questions for airports. This session explores how eVTOL aircraft, vertiports, and new airspace management systems may integrate into the existing aviation ecosystem. Panelists will examine infrastructure requirements, regulatory frameworks in Europe and North America, and the commercial realities of scaling AAM—while assessing whether it will meaningfully impact capacity, connectivity, and the passenger journey.*

**Moderator:** **TBD**

**Speakers:** Windy O'Connor **(TBI)**  
Executive Director of FAA AAM Integration  
Federal Aviation Administration

Bryan Bernhard **(TBI)**  
Head of International Infrastructure.  
Archer Aviation

Adrienne Schweer **(TBI)**  
Government Affairs Lead

11:10 a.m.-12 p.m. **SESSION 8 — Workforce 2035, Talent & Leadership & Operational Reliability** - *Labor shortages, evolving skill needs, and leadership transitions are reshaping the airport workforce. This session examines how airports are building resilient teams, adapting to automation, and developing the next generation of leaders. The impact of AI and automation on workforce transformation, decision-making, and leadership roles. Panelists will discuss talent development, organizational transformation, and strategies to attract, retain, and empower the next generation of aviation professionals.*

**Moderator:** **TBD**

**Speakers:** Igor Štimac, PhD, IAP, EMBA, FRAeS  
VP of Infrastructure, Technology, and Operations for Concession Supervision,  
Business Consulting, and Education  
Zagreb Airport

Bader Al Aydi  
Chairman, Aviation Department  
Prince Sultan University (PSU)

Ronald F. Mathieu, C.M. **(TBC)**  
President & CEO  
Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport

Andrea Caporale **(TBI)**  
Director, People, Performance & Development  
San Francisco International Airport

Nicolas Cazalis **(TBI)**  
Deputy Director General  
French National Civil Aviation School (ENAC) (number 1 in Europe)

12-1:30 p.m. **Networking Lunch**  
*Sponsored by Jacksonville (Fla.) Aviation Authority*

1:30-2:15 p.m. **SESSION 9— Financing the Future: Airport Investment, Capital Strategy & Infrastructure Delivery-** *As airports face growing demand alongside significant infrastructure constraints, the ability to finance and deliver expansion has become a*

*defining competitive advantage. This session examines how airports are accessing capital, structuring investment, and delivering large-scale infrastructure programs in an increasingly complex financial environment. Panelists will explore evolving funding models, including public-private partnerships, privatization trends, and institutional investment, as well as the role of capital markets in supporting long-term growth. The discussion will focus on how airports can align financial strategy with capacity development to remain competitive in a capital-intensive industry.*

**Moderator:** Kevin R. Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E.  
Chief Commercial Officer | Commercial  
San Francisco International Airport

**Speakers:** Steve Morries **(TBI)**  
Senior Vice President Aviation  
Hill International

Mark B. Florian **(TBI)**  
Managing Director, & Head of Global Infrastructure Funds  
BlackRock

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

2:45-3:30 p.m. **SESSION 10 —Sustainability Pathways – From Commitments to Implementation** - *A practical discussion on how airports are translating sustainability commitments into measurable action. Topics include net-zero roadmaps, airport-led decarbonization initiatives, and collaboration with airlines, regulators, and industry partners.*

**Moderator:** **TBD**

**Speakers:** Soňa Hykešová  
Director of Environment,  
Sustainability, and ESG  
Prague Airport

Marija Pujo Tadić **(TBI)**  
President, International Institute for Climate Action, ESG  
Croatia

Jonathon Counsell **(TBI)**  
Group Head of Sustainability  
International Airlines Group (IAG)

Juliette Beaulaton **(TBI)**

Chief Sustainability Officer  
Groupe ADP

FAA sustainability or environment office (**TBD**)

3:30 -4:30 p.m.      **Closing Networking & Social Gathering**  
*Opportunity for final networking, reflection on conference insights, and discussion of Europe–North America strategic priorities*

4:30 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.*