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# GLOBAL AVIATION ISSUES CONFERENCE

## Conference Programme

16 - 17 December 2025

Riyadh International Convention & Exhibition Center (RICEC)

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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# GLOBAL AIRPORTS FORUM— GLOBAL AVIATION ISSUES CONFERENCE



NICHÉ  
IDEAS



Dec 16-17, 2025 ✈️ Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



## AGENDA

(Subject to change)

### Day 1: Setting the Stage for Transformation

#### Tuesday, December 16

9 a.m.-10:15 a.m.      Networking Breakfast

10:15 a.m.-11 a.m.      **Welcome and Overview**

Introduction: Osama Abdulrahman Al Ansari (Master of Ceremonies)

#### **Welcome Address**

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

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

Raed bin Hassan Al-Idrissi  
CEO,  
MATARAT Holding

H.E. Mr. Omar al Hosari  
President  
General Authority of Civil Aviation Syria

#### **Presentation of Awards by CEO Matarat**

#### **Group Photo**

**11-11:20 a.m.      Overview of Global Aviation Trends, Industry Outlook**

10 minutes      **Keynote Speaker**

Aiman Arab  
Chairman  
Egyptian Holding Company Aviation and Air Navigation (EHCAAN) Overview  
of Egyptian Airports Development Program

10 minutes      **Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Bader Al Aydi  
Chairman, Aviation Department  
Prince Sultan University  
PSU Strategic Direction in Enabling the Saudi Aviation Strategy

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## 11:20 am-12:20 p.m. 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.

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10 minutes

### Introduction Presentation (10 minutes)

Ashish Gupta  
Chief Marketing Office - Kloudspot  
Shaheen AI

### Moderator:

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

### Speakers:

Ashish Gupta  
Chief Marketing Office - Kloudspot  
AI Shaheen

Abdul Razzak Mikati  
Managing Director  
Dubai Technology Partners LLC (DTP)

Andrija Brstina  
Head of Process Excellence  
Abu Dhabi Airports

Nabil Cheqroun  
VP-GM, Honeywell Building Automation  
Middle East, Turkiye, and Africa  
Honeywell

Evgeny Reklings  
Global Industry Manager – Airports  
SICK Sensor Intelligence

12:20-12:30pm

### Networking Break

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12:30-1:30pm

## **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:**

Bader Al Aydi  
Chairman, Aviation Department  
Prince Sultan University

### **Speakers:**

Julius Norkunas  
CEO, Aeroclass.org

Khalid Al Shammari  
Training Director  
Matarat

Maxim Romanenko,  
ACI & ICAO IAP of the Year 2024  
Aviation Management Executive

Aleksy Popek  
Director of Engineering, Dimark

1:30- 2:30 p.m.

**Session 3: Launchpads of the Future - Advancing Spaceports and Security Innovation** - addressing Emerging Safety Technologies and Risk Management and Strategic Approaches to Aviation Security - such as aviation cybersecurity, screening innovations, regulatory frameworks and international regulatory coordination

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### **Moderator:**

Jeanne Olivier, A.A.E., IACE  
Airport Management Advisor & Past Chair, AAAE



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## Speakers:

Aksam Aboasali  
Global Aviation Subject Matter Expert  
Genetec

David A. Buczek  
Senior Representative, AEU  
Federal Aviation Administration (Middle East and North Africa)

Adnan Al Ghamdi  
Advisor to the VP – Security  
GACA

Mikołaj Lis  
Deputy Director R&D  
DIMARK MANUFACTURE S.A.

Georges Touma  
Business Development Snr Manager  
SITA

2:30-3:30 p.m.

**Networking Lunch and Visit with Global Airports Forum Exhibitors**

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3:30-4:30 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.

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Berger

InterVISTAS

3:30-3:40 p.m.

## Keynote Speaker (10 minutes)

Solomon Wong  
CEO  
InterVISTAS Consulting, Colorado

## Moderator:

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

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## Speakers:

Julius Norkunas  
CEO, Aeroclass.org

Hamdi Osman  
Founder and CEO  
SolitAir Holding Ltd.

Abdelilah Aleidi  
Vice President of Global Sales, Flynas

David Fiore, JD, C.M.  
Airport Affairs, Operations & Planning  
FedEx Express

Usman Tahir  
Principal  
Roland Berger Middle East, Dubai

4:30-5:30m.

## 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.

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## Moderator:

Chris Rous  
Head of Middle East & Africa, Airports and Border Authorities  
Amadeus

## Speakers:

Iyad Hindiyeh  
Chief Digital Transformation Officer  
San Francisco International Airport (SFO)

Ali Bora Isbulan  
Deputy CEO, Plaza Premium Group

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Natalie Salinas  
Founder & CEO, Nth Consulting Group

Amr Akaybi  
Regional General Manager of Projects, Honeywell

Hesham A. Saeed  
Vice President of Operations  
Ports Projects Management and Development (PPMDC)

Nagy Abu Zeid  
Vice President Aviation Sector - MENA Region  
Hill International

7-9 p.m.

## **VIP Conference Dinner**

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

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

**Wednesday, December, 17**

8:30-9 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

9-10 a.m.

**Session 6: Advanced Air Mobility** - This session will examine how Advanced Air Mobility, including eVTOL technologies, is reshaping aviation in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 through innovation, regulation, and sustainable urban mobility initiative.

### **Moderator:**

Mohammed Al Bayoud  
Expert of Advance Air Mobility Regulations  
GACA

### **Speakers:**

Steven Derengowski CM, IACE  
Director, Innovation  
InterVISTAS Consulting, Denver. Co

Eng. Daniyar Tule  
Chief Flight Inspection Engineer  
Samana Special Mission

Mohammed Rabiah  
Director  
Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF), Aviation

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10-11 a.m.

## **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:**

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

### **Speakers:**

Alshaima Alshayeb  
Corporate Sustainability Manager, Matarat Holding

M. P. Rajasekharan  
Director, TecBharat Aviation Private Limited / Mar Projects

Abdul Rahman Al Jandali  
General Manager, Elite Services

11-11:30 a.m.

## **Networking Break with GAF Exhibitors**

11:30 a.m.-  
12:30 p.m.

## **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:**

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

### **Speakers:**

Kuba Olejniczak  
Manager - Route Network, Poznan Airport

Raffi Kasparian  
Managing Director, Alton Aviation Consultancy (Dubai)

Khaled Magbool Alharthi  
Advisor Vice President of Strategy, GACA

Majid Al Harbi  
Acting Vice President  
Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia



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NICHÉ  
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12:30-1:30 p.m.

## **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:**

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

### **Speakers:**

Dr. Ahmed Al Zuhairi  
Vice President, Safety  
Riyadh Air

Joseph Alesia  
Executive Director, Head of Advanced Air Mobility  
NEOM

Ronald F. Mathieu, C.M.  
President & CEO  
Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport

Marzouq Al Ghamdi  
Senior Instructor of ATM, Air Traffic Control  
SACA

1:30 p.m.

Conference Adjournment

1:30-5 p.m.

Networking Lunch and visit with Exhibitors

# GLOBAL AVIATION ISSUES CONFERENCE

Join us at the annual **Global Aviation Issues Conference, December 16-17, 2025, in Riyadh, KSA**, where we will delve into the future of aviation and tackle crucial topics ranging from emerging technologies and air cargo to security and workforce issues.

- Engage with experts and thought leaders who are at the forefront of innovation and change in the aviation sector.
- Explore the pivotal role of international cooperation in promoting industry growth.
- Delve into the importance of air cargo in powering global trade and supply chain management.
- Learn how digital transformation, AI, and big data are reshaping aircraft maintenance, operations, and passenger experiences.
- Gain insights into the evolving landscape of aviation security.
- Discuss strategies for building a skilled aviation workforce and promoting diversity within the industry.
- Explore sustainability initiatives aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of aviation; and much more!

**For Delegate Registration please visit:**

[www.globalairportsforum.com/global-aviation-issues-conference/](http://www.globalairportsforum.com/global-aviation-issues-conference/)

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