

ENHANCING OUTCOMES

CONFERENCE AGENDA DAY ONE – 25 MARCH 2026

0730 – 0830 **Registration & Exhibition**

SESSION: ITALY – ENHANCING OUTCOMES

0830 – 0840 **Moderator's Opening Remarks** – *John Longhurst*, Executive Chair, Tangent Link

0840 – 0855 **Welcome Address** – *Eros Mannino*, General Chief, Italian National Fire & Rescue Service (C.N.V.V.F.), Italy

0855 – 0910 **Keynote Address** – *Luigi D'Angelo*, Director of Operations, Italian Civil Protection Department, Italy

0910 – 0930 **Multi-Domain Aerial Firefighting: Leonardo's Advanced Fleet, Satellite System & Digital Capabilities** – *Luigi Lupoli*, CBD, VP Civil Solutions, Leonardo / *Stefano Porreca*, Head of Sales Engineering, Leonardo Aeronautics / *Carlo Sacco*, Head of Platforms Value Proposition, Leonardo Helicopters, Italy

0930 – 0955 **The Italian Aerial Firefighting Fleet Ambition vs Reality within the European Fire Management System** – *Matteo Monterosso*, CNVVF, Head of the Air Fleet, National Firefighters Corps, Italy

0955 – 1015 **Night Firefighting Operations & Technology in Large Air Tankers** – *Wayne Coulson*, CEO, Coulson Aviation, Canada

1015 – 1100 **Refreshment Break & Networking**

SESSION: ITALY – ENHANCING OUTCOMES 2

1100 – 1125 **Aerial Coordination During Wildfires** – *Col. AM Dimitri Pasqualetti*, Coordinator of the Combined Air Operations Center, Italian Civil Protection Department, Italy

1125 – 1145 **Up In Flames – Insights from Our Deep Dive Report into Aerial Firefighting in Europe** – *Ruben Garcia Medina*, Managing Director Iberia, Avincis Group, Italy

1145 – 1210 **Advanced Technologies Improving Italian Fire Brigade Fire Outcomes** – *Onofrio Lorusso*, CNVVF, Engineer – Air Rescue Office, Italian Fire Department, Italy

1210 – 1230 **De Havilland: Global Leaders in Aerial Firefighting Aircraft – Today & Tomorrow** – *Angela Gimenez Roig*, Fleet Manager, Europe & Mediterranean – Aerial Firefighter, De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd, Canada

1230 – 1400 **Lunch Break & Networking**

SESSION: EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES

Panel: The Balkan Challenge

Moderator: *Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer*, Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Germany
Panellist: *Prof. Nikola Nikolov, Ph.D*, Director, Regional Fire Monitoring Center, Republic North Macedonia
Robert Malezanski, Head of Aerial Firefighting Unit, Protection & Rescue Directorate, Republic of North Macedonia
Lieutenant Colonel Bedri Kaloshi, Chief of Flight Safety Office, Albanian Air Force, Albania
Milan Kocić, Head of Emergency Operational Center, Department for Fire & Rescue Units, Sector for Emergency Management, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Serbia

1430 – 1450 **Using Modular Systems with Multi-Role Aircraft: A Scalable Approach to Affordability & Rapid Surge Capacity** – *Bradford T. Beck*, President & COO, United Aeronautical Corp., USA

1450 – 1515 **France - New Doctrine for the Use of Aircraft** – *Inspector General François Pradon*, Special Advisor to Julien Maron (DG of Securite Civile), Special Advisor – Wildfire Firefighting Doctrine, French Securite Civile, France

1515 – 1550 **Refreshment Break & Networking**

SESSION: NEW TECHNOLOGIES ENHANCING OUTCOMES

Panel: Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Innovation, Expansion, Integration, Coordination

Moderator: *Gideon Ewers*, Editor, RotorHub International, UK
Panellists: *Brian Renner*, Deputy Chief of Operations, CAL FIRE, USA
Christopher Ryder, a/Assistant Commissioner, Director Aviation, NSW Rural Fire Service, Australia
Prof. Vaios Lappas, Dept Head, Aerospace Science & Technology, University of Athens, Greece
Elena Carrera Toucedo, Deputy Director for Air Operations & Airworthiness, Spanish Aviation Safety and Security Agency (AESA), Spain

Panel: Data & its Effective Implementation for the Aerial Mission

Moderator: *Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell*, Former U.S. Fire Administrator, USA
Panellists: *Chief Jake Sjolund*, Deputy Director, Fire Protection Programs, CAL FIRE, USA
Todd O'Hara, Chief Commercial Officer, TracPlus Global Ltd, New Zealand
Christopher Ryder, a/Assistant Commissioner, Director Aviation, NSW Rural Fire Service, Australia
Alison Harrod, Sales & Growth Manager, Overwatch Imaging, USA

Panel: Enhancing Drop Efficiency & Outcomes via Sensors

Moderator: *Philippe Telle*, CEO, CAURUS Technologies GmbH, Germany
Panellists: *Marco António Barão Lopes Pires*, Assistant Commander from the Civil Protection Special Force - Portuguese National Authority for Emergency & Civil Protection, Portugal
Prof. Ronan Paugam, Lecturer/Researcher, UPC - Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Spain
Martin Hofmann, Founder, HoZe Solutions GmbH, Germany

1740 **Moderator's Closing Remarks**

1745 **Drinks Reception** sponsored by Coulson Aviation – exhibition hall

ENHANCING OUTCOMES

CONFERENCE AGENDA DAY TWO – 26 MARCH 2026

0730 – 0830 **Registration & Exhibition**

SESSION: GLOBAL KEYNOTES

0830 – 0835	Moderator's Opening Remarks – <i>John Longhurst</i> , Executive Chair, Tangent Link
0835 – 0900	Next Steps for Improving EU Aerial Fire Outcomes - <i>Claire Kowalewski</i> , AFF Preparedness & Response Officer, European Commission, Belgium
0900 – 0920	Babies & Bathwater; What Awaits America in a Brave New World - <i>Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell</i> , Former U.S. Fire Administrator, USA
0920 – 0940	The Role of European Air-Crane & SIMA Over the Years in S64 Fire-Fighting Operations – <i>Michele Ruvidotti</i> , Captain & Safety Manager, European Air Crane, Italy
0940 – 0950	Approaches of UNFF to Integrated Fire Management & Advances - <i>Ismail Belen</i> , Chief of the Bureau, United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
0950 – 1005	Türkiye's Aerial Forest Firefighting Operations – <i>Kenan Akduman</i> , Deputy Director General, General Directorate of Forestry, Türkiye
1005 – 1015	Enhancing Capacity for Integrated Wildfire Management Training: FAO–Türkiye Cooperation - <i>Dr Hülya Kiliç Hernandez</i> , Forest Engineer, General Directorate of Forestry, Türkiye

1015 – 1100 **Refreshment Break & Networking**

SESSION: GLOBAL & REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

1100 – 1120	FAO's Integrated Fire Management Approach & the Global Fire Management Hub - <i>Dr Lara Steil</i> , Forestry Officer - Integrated Fire Management, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – FAO, Italy
1120 – 1140	International Interoperability – <i>Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer</i> , Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Germany
1140 – 1200	An Interoperable & Global System for Wildfire Management – <i>Olivier Chalvet</i> , Senior New Business Manager, Airbus Defense and Space & <i>Dominik Chemnitz</i> , Manager for Operational Marketing, Airbus Helicopters, France
1200 - 1210	Title to be confirmed – <i>Amparo Sánchez Pombo</i> , A400M Firefighting Campaign Manager, Airbus Defence and Space, Spain & <i>Fabrice Chassange</i> , Valabre Secoas, France
1210 – 1240	Panel: Optimising Aerial & Ground Fire Operations for Improved Outcomes – CTIF Moderator: <i>Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer</i> , Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Germany Panellists: <i>Milan Dubravac</i> , President, CTIF, Slovenia <i>Fire Colonel Zisoula Ntasiou</i> , Vice President, CTIF, Greece <i>Lieutenant Colonel Jean-Frederic Biscay</i> , Deputy Director - CEREN, Valabre & CTIF Forest Fire Commission, France

1240 – 1410 **Lunch Break & Networking**

SESSION: USA, CANADA & AUSTRALIA - SENIOR GLOBAL LEADER INSIGHTS ON ENHANCING OUTCOMES

1410 – 1440	Fireside Discussion: USA – A Brave New World for the Aerial Fire Mission? Moderator: <i>Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell</i> , Former U.S. Fire Administrator, USA Panellists: <i>Chief Joe Tyler</i> , Director & Fire Chief, CAL FIRE, USA <i>Anthony Marrone</i> , Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Department, USA
1440 – 1520	Panel: Canada – Case Studies in Integrating & Optimising New Aerial Capabilities Moderator: <i>Gideon Ewers</i> , Editor, RotorHub International, UK Panellists: <i>Kim Fiddler</i> , Aviation Manager, CIFFC (Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre), Canada <i>Luc Dugas</i> , Senior Director, Strategic and Air Operation, SOPFEU, Canada <i>Alex Deslauriers</i> , Founder / CEO, FireSwarm Solutions Inc., Canada <i>Razim Refai</i> , Manager – Wildfire Operations, FPInnovations, Canada
1520 – 1550	Panel: Australia – Frontline Challenges & Institutional Change Supporting the Aerial Fire Mission Moderator: <i>Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell</i> , Former U.S. Fire Administrator, USA Panellist: <i>Josephine Stirling</i> , Director, National Aerial Firefighting Centre, AFAC, Australia <i>Christopher Ryder</i> , a/Assistant Commissioner, Director Aviation, NSW Rural Fire Service, Australia <i>Brett Loughlin AFSM</i> , Chief Officer, South Australia County Fire Service, Australia <i>Alina Hamblyn</i> , Manager Aviation Services, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), Australia
1550	Moderator's Closing Remarks & End of Formal Conference

1730 Buses depart from hotel to Event Dinner (Palazzo Brancaccio - Viale del Monte Oppio, 7)

1845 **Event Dinner** sponsored by Diamond Partner - *Leonardo S.p.A.* (invited guests only)

2215 – 2245 Buses return to hotel from Event Dinner