

ATHENS EUROPEAN
AIRSHOW
COUNCIL
2026
CONVENTION 25-27 FEBRUARY



#EAC26

PROGRAMME

AEROPACT
aerocreativ
Innovating with partners

2026



Maj. Maciej "Slab" Krakowian

Remembering Major Maciej Krakowian, better known by his callsign 'SLAB'. An active participant in the Fast Jet Safety Workshop during recent EAC Conventions and well known across the European Airshow Circuit. Blue Skies our friend.



CONTENTS

#EAC26

ATHENS

EUROPEAN
AIRSHOW
COUNCIL
2026



CONVENTION 25-27 FEBRUARY

Contents

Welcome	1
Timeline	2
AEROPACT	3
Partners	5
Convention Information	6
The Airshow Dinner	7
EAC Awards	8
Presenters	9
EAC 2026	13

Images used in this Programme are credited to :

- Paul Johnson / Flightline UK
- Charles Skiera / R5 Air Displays Ltd
- Kevin Wills
- Claire Hartley Photography

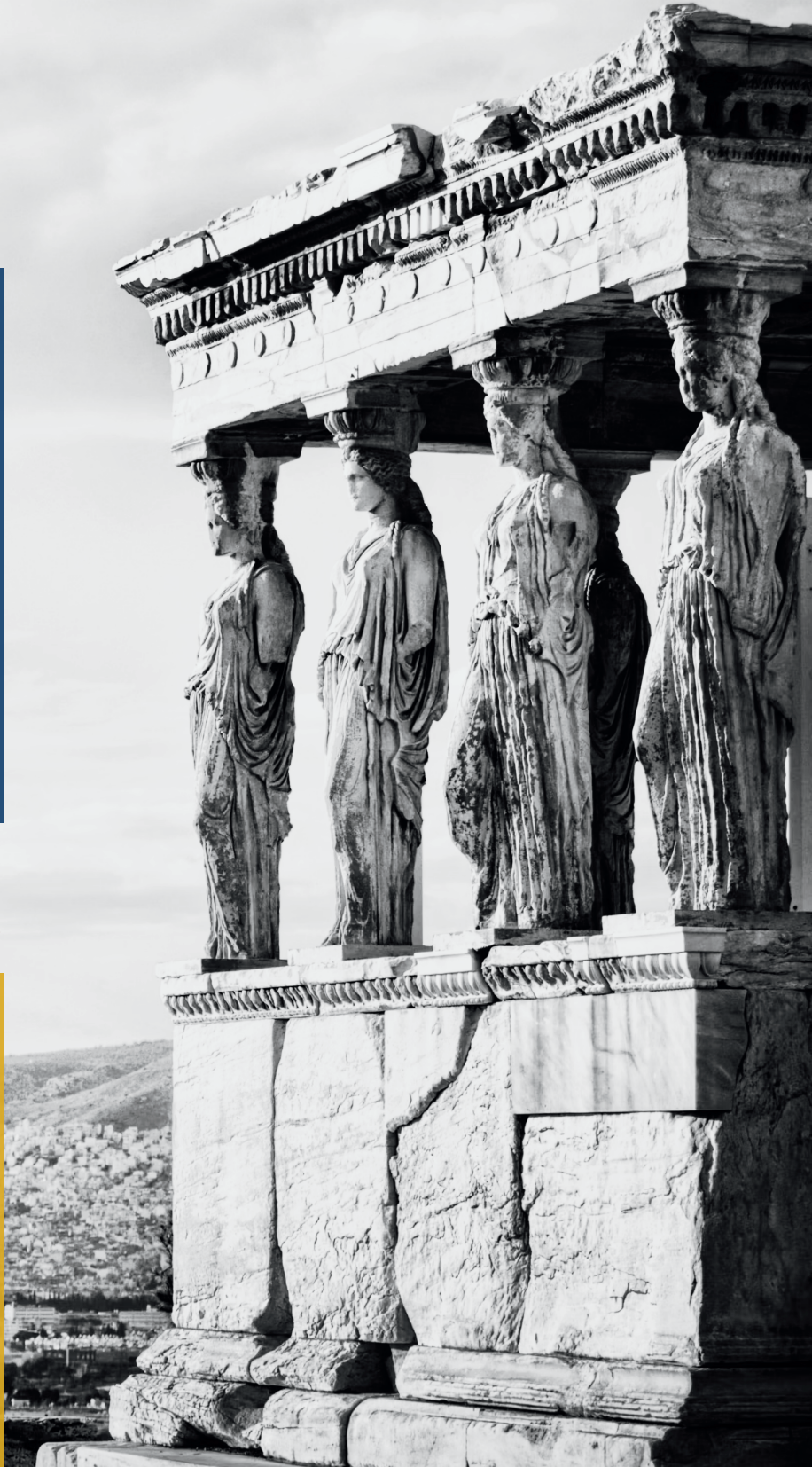
AEROPACT



#EAC26



Please share your photos and activities with us on our social media streams during the Convention using the hashtag below, you'll find us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter under European Airshow Council.



WELCOME TO EAG26



Charles Skiera - EAC Executive

Welcome to the 2026 European Airshow Council Convention in the heart of Athens, a city where the sky has inspired legends for millennia. Just as the mythical Icarus and Daedalus once dreamed of flight above these very shores, we gather here to advance the future of aviation in the shadow of the Parthenon. Athens, one of the world's oldest cities with a recorded history spanning over 3,400 years, serves as the ultimate symbol of endurance and innovation. Between our professional sessions, we encourage you to explore this historic hub—from the ancient heights of the Acropolis to the vibrant, modern creative edge of its neighborhoods—where the same spirit of discovery that built Western civilization now fuels our industry's progress.

This year's convention marks a significant milestone in the EAC's own history, which began in 2000 with a small group of visionary organisers and pilots determined to harmonise airshow safety across the continent. Over the last quarter-century, the EAC has evolved from an informal gathering into Europe's premier platform for collaboration, innovation, and safety excellence, now welcoming delegates from over 25 nations in 2026 from Europe and further afield.

As we celebrate this legacy of partnership, our program is designed to equip you with the technical insights and strategic trends, best practice and of course a place to gather and network. Together, within this unique blend of ancient heritage and forward-thinking expertise, we will continue to set the global standards that allow the airshow community to soar to new heights.

We hope you enjoy all that the Convention and Athens has to offer, if you are making a short break of it, I am sure you will enjoy your time in this historic and welcoming host city. If there is anything we can do for you during your visit, please feel free to ask one of the EAC team, who will be happy to help or point you in the direction of someone who can.

Charles Skiera
EAC Executive

TIMELINE

#EAC26



Thursday 26th February

- 0900 Convention Opening and Welcome - EAC Executive
- 0920 Chairman's Opening Address - Dr Manolis Karachalios
- 0930 2025 Safety Review - Frederic Akary
- 1000 UK DA system - Paul Szluha
- 1015 Introduction to the 2026 European Military Demo Pilots.
- 1030 *Coffee Break & Networking*
- 1100 Safety & Risk Analysis- Rich Pillans
- 1130 Human Factors - Lars Iwerson
- 1200 Commentary, Never Stop Learning- Joe McGrath
- 1230 *Lunch & Networking*
- 1345 Culture - Marcus Jannitto
- 1430 Youth and Airshows - Luke Carrico & Adam Landau
- 1500 Airshows, Shaping My Career - Amelia Richardson
- 1530 *Coffee Break & Networking*
- 1600 Aeropact & Phoenix Paramotor Team
- 1630 RAFAT a Sustainable Future- Adam Collins
- 1700 Airshows, Team Germany - Alex 'NOBLE' Stegmair
- 1730 Airshow Dinner Arrangements
- 1930 *EAC Airshow Dinner Reception*

Friday 27th February

- 0900 *Day 2 Opening*
- 0905 USAFE Bidding Processes for 2026 - Lydia Bradley
- 0925 Europe / North America Airshow Leadership and Safety - Marcus & Manolis
- 1000 RIAT a Greener Approach - Peter Reoch
- 1030 Air Racing and Airshows - Daniel Genevey
- 1100 *Coffee Break and Networking*
- 1130 AeroCreativ, New Horizons - Led by Rob Barsby
- 1200 Zeus Demo Team - Georgios Samalis
- 1215 Debriefs from the Workshops -
- 1230 EAC Updates and Plans for 2026
- 1235 Chairman's Closing Address
- 1245 Convention 2026 Closes

Timing may change on the day, all changes will be briefed throughout the convention!



AEROPACT

THE SKY IS NOT THE LIMIT

At **Aeropact**, we turn every event into a world-class aerial experience. From air shows to exclusive galas. Our aerobatic teams, pilots, helicopters, airplanes, skydivers, and motoparagliders deliver precision performances enhanced with drones, lasers, and pyrotechnics – captivating audiences, day and night.

WHAT WE DO

- AIR SHOWS
- FAIRS
- CONFERENCES
- TRAINING SESSIONS

Every project is carefully crafted and shaped by your vision. Spectacular, thrilling, and absolutely unforgettable.

CONTACT US

✉ contact@aeropact.pl

📷 [aeropact_official](#)

🌐 [aeropact.show](#)

“INNOVATE YOUR SPEND TO ELEVATE YOUR REACH”

Built on collaboration and trust, we partner with top industry experts to deliver safe, record-breaking airborne displays that set new global standards. Guided by our motto, “Innovate your spend to elevate your reach,” we leverage our history of world firsts and Guinness World Records to craft dynamic, unforgettable events. By uniting with industry leaders like Aerosparx, Salou, and TSA, we proudly showcase exactly what is possible at the EAC when you assemble the right team.

aeroCREATIV
Innovating with partners

www.aerocreativ.com

#AviationPioneers #RecordBreakers



Building on the soaring success of 2025—which featured the French Rafale, HAF Zeus Team, and legendary warbirds like the Spitfire—Athens Flying Week returns to Tanagra Air Base on September 5-6, 2026. As South Eastern Europe’s premier aviation event, the upcoming edition promises an even bolder roster of high-adrenaline fast-jet demos, including the Greek debut of the Finnish F/A-18 Hornet, alongside massive static displays and family-friendly excitement. Don’t miss this must-see spectacle of “flying magic”.

WWW.ATHENSFLYINGWEEK.GR



“PROVIDING FLYING DISPLAY MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS
AROUND THE WORLD, FOR EVENTS LARGE AND SMALL”

WWW.R5AIRDISPLAYS.CO.UK

PARTNERS

#EAC26



With thanks to all our #EAC26 Partners for their support with this years Convention



AEROPACT
PLATINUM PARTNER



AEROCREATIV
GOLD PARTNER




HAMPSHIRE AIR FESTIVAL
BRONZE PARTNER




R5 AIR DISPLAYS LTD
Supporting Partner



ATHENS FLYING WEEK
Supporting Partner



PLANES TV
Supporting Partner



DRONE V
FJSW Partner



PODIMATAS GROUP
Audio Visual Partner



ROYAL OLYMPIC HOTEL
Venue Partner



ISA
Staff Partner

We have a range of partner opportunities to suit all budgets, if you would like to join our esteemed partners for the 2027 Convention please speak to the EAC Executive or Chairman for more information.

Convention Presentations

We would like to thank our presenters for giving their time and efforts to join us here for #EAC26. We will make all the presentations available online following the convention through the EAC website, which you will receive free membership of upon registering after the convention. To register you simply need to visit www.europeanairshow.org and visit the membership section. A free option will appear for 2026 Convention Delegates. You will then have full access to all EAC resources including the EAC Airshow Guide and previous years presentations and guides.

Polite Requests



The EAC Programme is tight on timings, just like an airshow programme. We politely request that to keep us on time and out of courtesy for our speakers that you take your seats a couple of minutes before the planned start time. Thank You!



Please ensure your mobile phones are switched to silent or in flight mode as not to disturb others during the convention. Please do take your calls, but outside of the Convention Hall.



During the Presentations, for the benefit of the speaker and other delegates please don't hold conversations in the Convention Hall. It is very distracting and you will be asked to move outside.

#EAC26 SURVEY

Your thoughts, feedback and comments are key to us to help shape the future of our conventions and the wider EAC work. We take your thoughts seriously and review the information each year, using it to plan and design the next convention from content to venues, activities to dining. Please take time to scan the QR code opposite and complete the post convention survey, it will take less than 10 minutes and will be open until the 15th March 2026. After the convention a direct link will also be circulated for those who wish to complete on laptops or computers. The key bit is getting as many responses as possible to ensure the Convention is fit for your needs in the future.



SCAN HERE

EAC Code of Ethics

As a member of EAC it is incumbent upon all to ensure we have an ethical approach to our ways of working.

- ▶▶ To dedicate our efforts to achieving excellence in all aspects of the air show industry based on the recognition that air shows provide a significant form of global public entertainment;
- ▶▶ To observe the highest standards of safety for public and participants alike;
- ▶▶ To enforce all professional rules of conduct;
- ▶▶ To apply all applicable laws and regulations;
- ▶▶ To conduct all activities with the highest commitment to honesty and objectivity;
- ▶▶ To provide clear and accurate information to all;
- ▶▶ To promote the continuous improvement of professional air show standards through education and training;
- ▶▶ To make all efforts to ensure the airshow industry is ecologically sustainable and promote the values and best practice in sustainability



Dinner

#EAC26

Evening Format

The airshow dinner is our chance to sit, break bread with friends and colleagues in a formally informal environment. The dinner will also allow us to present our Annual awards recognising those within our industry who deserve special praise. It is also a chance for the Gala Prize draw, featuring a number of great prizes for the season ahead or to share around your table!

Dress Code:

Whatever you wear to an Airshow! Or simply whatever you feel comfortable in, formal or casual, it's your choice!

Timings:

1930 Drinks Reception 

2000 Sit Down for Dinner 

Presentation of Awards 

Gala Prize Draw 

2300 Dinner Ends - To the Bar! 

0100 Bar Closes 

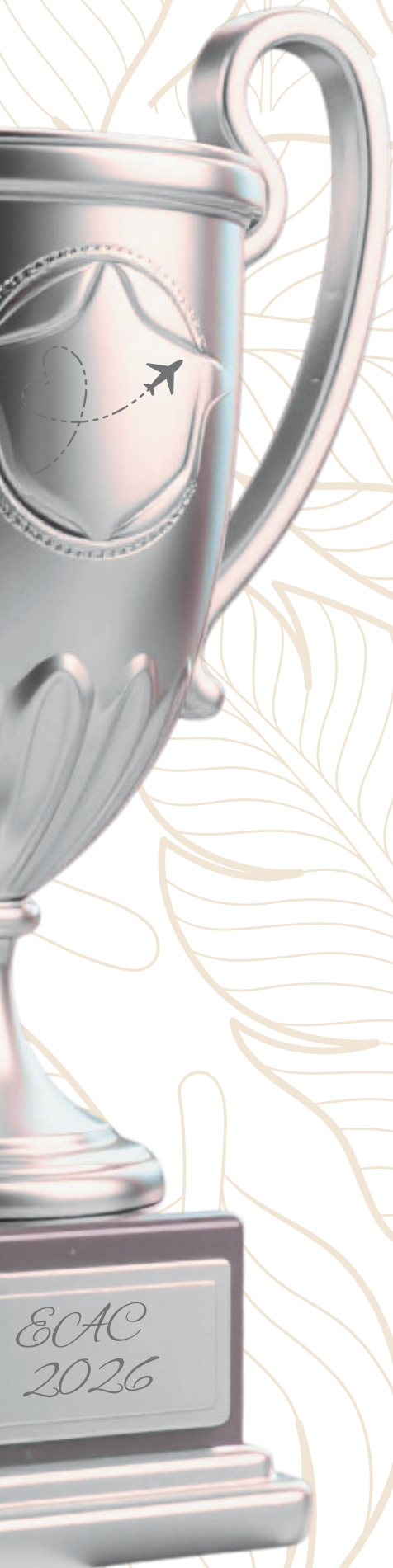
Table plans will be located within EAC Reception to enable you to reserve seats for the dinner to be located with your friends, colleagues and if you're feeling brave, those you don't know! Please ensure you reserve your seat by 1700hrs when the table plans will be finalised by the EAC reception team.



Thank You!

Our Thanks to all those who have donated prizes for the Prize Draw and to those who take part. All money raised go directly into supporting the Convention and the EAC. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Awards



The Chairmans Award

The Chairman's award can be awarded to anyone, or any organisation they feel has made a significant contribution to the airshow world whether a one off event or special recognition.

Your paragraph text



Paul Bowen Trophy

Commemorating one of the founding fathers of the then International Air Tattoo, the award recognises special and significant contributions to the Airshow world by individuals and organisations alike.



Jock Maitland Sword

Jock Maitland was a hugely enthusiastic pilot, organiser and developer of airshows. The Sword recognises the long term contributions of those within the airshow community who deserve special recognitions for their actions and achievements.



The Ann Award

Created to commemorate a special ladies love of aviation, The Ann Award was introduced to recognise dedication in innovation in airshows, whether in the air or on the ground.



Media & Marketing

Once our secret panel have collated their scores we will be pleased to announce who will be recognised in our annual Media and Marketing Competition!



Presenters



Adam Collins - EAC Board Member

Adam has recently relinquished command of the Royal Air Force Aerobatics Team, The Red Arrows, having been both Red 10 and more recently the Officer Commanding. Adam is a former Tornado GR1 and GR4 pilot and also flew the mighty F-111 with the RAAF whilst on exchange. Adam is leaving the RAF to pursue a career in the civil airline world, but will be keeping his hand in with airshows. During his time with RAFAT, Adam has been key in changing and developing new engagement activities and supporting many initiatives, including the first full display using Sustainable Aviation Fuel and Sustainable smoke oil and Dye.



Alex Stegmair - German Air Force

Captain Alex 'Noble' Stegmair is an accomplished pilot for the German Air Force (Luftwaffe), best known for his dynamic role as the Eurofighter EF2000 Typhoon Solo Display Pilot from the 2021 through 2025 seasons. 'Noble' is a key part of the wider "Display Team Germany" initiative of the Luftwaffe. This program utilises high-energy aerial demonstrations to support recruitment, showcase the Air Force's operational capabilities, and underline the advanced European engineering of the aircraft. As the solo display pilot, Captain 'Noble' showcased the extraordinary agility and power of the twin-engine Eurofighter Typhoon.



Paul Szluha - UK Civil Aviation Authority

Paul Szluha is a highly experienced commercial pilot, Display Authorisation (DA) holder, and engineer who serves as a Flight Standards Officer (FSO) within the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), specifically within the General Aviation (GA) and Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) Unit. Paul has been an integral part of the CAA's Air Display Team, focusing on safety and regulatory oversight. He has been involved with the GA Unit for seven years, contributing his extensive, practical aviation experience to the regulatory framework. In his spare time Paul flies his own DH Tiger Moth, which he restored and also keeps his hand in the airshow world, as a co-pilot on the B-17 'Sally B'.



Dr. Manolis Karachalios - European Airshow Council

Dr. Manolis Karachalios is a distinguished aviation expert and a pivotal figure in the European airshow community, currently serving as Chairman of the European Airshow Council (EAC) board. With a background deeply rooted in both the technical and operational aspects of aviation, he has been instrumental in bridging the study around airshow safety between national regulatory frameworks and the practical needs of aerial displays. A regular contributor to industry symposia, Dr. Karachalios is widely respected for his strategic vision and his commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability and growth of flight displays across the continent.



Amelia Richardson - Social Media Influencer

Amelia Richardson, widely known online as "Amelia The Glider Pilot," is a dynamic and inspiring young aviator dedicated to sharing her passion for flight and encouraging more young people, particularly girls, to enter the aviation sector. At just 17 years old, she has already achieved remarkable milestones in the world of gliding. Amelia's mission is centred on sharing the world of aviation with a wider audience. She actively uses her social media presence (under the handle @AmeliaGliderPilot) to document her journey and inspire others. Airshows have played a pivotal role in sparking Amelia's interest in aviation.

Presenters



Adam Landau- Airshow Commentator and Producer

Adam Landau is an international airshow commentator, presenter, and video production specialist. Known for his modern, theatrical approach to airshow commentary, he is a regular contributor and host with PlanesTV and a core member of the This is Flight team, focusing on video and reporting. Adam took the microphone for the first time in 2024 and has quickly become a lead commentator at airshows across the US and UK, with guest appearances in Europe, including Jersey and Belgium. He holds a BA in Journalism, graduating in 2020. This background underpins his skills in storytelling and production, which he successfully applies to capturing and presenting airshow narratives.



Luke Carrico- Commentator

Luke Carrico is a highly sought-after professional air show announcer, commentator, and independent consultant known for his enthusiastic delivery and ability to connect spectators directly to the action overhead. He has dedicated his life to the art form of air show commentary since 2008, turning professional in 2015. Luke's signature approach focuses on showmanship and a professional, modern presentation that elevates aerial events globally. His services extend beyond announcing to include curated soundtracks, full production coordination (mixing voice, music, guests, and sponsor mentions), and voiceover talent for promotional materials.



Marcus Jannitto- United States Air Force (Retd)

Marcus Jannitto is passionate about making people think differently about how they lead, and the essential role air shows play both in inspiring people of all ages with the magic of flight and developing the next generation of aviators. He served on the ICAS Board of Directors as Vice Chair, and facilitated two ICAS Academies at the Rhode Island Open House and Air Show, where he worked as a director for 25 years. Before retiring after a 38-year AF career he served in various posts within the United States Air Force, accumulating over 5200 hours on the venerable C-130 Hercules, including operation combat tours.



Rich Pillans- Farnborough International Airshow

Richard "Rich" Pillans serves as the Chief Test Pilot for Boeing in the UK. He leads the company's Test & Evaluation (T&E) capability team, based at Boscombe Down, Wiltshire, which he helped establish in 2014 as Boeing's first permanent, full-capability T&E team outside of the USA. Prior to his role at Boeing, Pillans had a varied career in the British Army, serving as a helicopter pilot and Flight Commander. He was a test pilot on the Rotary Wing Test and Evaluation Squadron, where he led testing on multiple helicopter types, including Apache, Lynx, Chinook, Dauphin, and Puma. He is a graduate of the Empire Test Pilot School (ETPS).



Joe McGrath - Airshow Commentator

Originally from County Offaly, Ireland, McGrath transformed a childhood obsession with aircraft into a global career, initially breaking into broadcasting as an airborne traffic reporter over London. His background in mechanical engineering allows him to bring technical depth to his commentary, while his infectious enthusiasm and storytelling ability make complex aerial displays accessible to diverse audiences. Today, he continues to travel the globe, lending his voice to major airshows across the UK, the Middle East, and beyond.



Rob Barsby - AeroCreativ

Rob's aviation journey began at age 17, quickly advancing from a student pilot to becoming the Chief Flying Instructor (CFI) at one of the UK's largest gliding clubs. Beyond the cockpit, he serves as the creative force behind Aerosparx, leveraging his parallel career in marketing and business innovation to integrate new technologies—such as live 360-degree aerial streaming—into air displays. He is also deeply committed to aviation outreach, having founded the "Heights of Possibility" initiative to encourage youth from diverse backgrounds to pursue careers in aerospace. Rob will be joined by Guy Westgate, Daniel Gonzalez and David Walton as part of the AeroCreativ team



Lt Col Lars Iwerson- EF 2000 Typhoon Demo Team

"Elvis" has a wide range of experience. Prior to his military flying career he started as a maintenance mechanic on various systems and already flew gliders at the age of 14. But gliders were not enough. After his flying training at the ENJJPT program, he took the chance and stayed as an instructor, teaching the young future combat warriors how to fly the T-6 Texan II. Upgrading to the Eurofighter Typhoon after a nearly 5-year US-tour as an instructor he became the head of the Flight Safety branch at the TAW 74 in 2017. During that time his commitment for flight safety and human factors grew constantly until he reached the ultimate goal to become a Human Factor / CRM Trainer-Examiner and assessor, training pilots as well as the technicians at the Fighter wing.



Daniel Genevey - Aerobatic and Air Race Pilot

Daniel Genevey is a highly accomplished aviator whose career spans the high-stakes worlds of competitive air racing and elite aerobatic displays. Known for his technical precision and dynamic flying style, he has built a reputation as a crowd favourite and a respected professional within the international aviation community. Born in France and growing up on the island of Guadeloupe in the Caribbean, Daniel spends a lot of his time in Hungary, where he conducts most of his air racing and aerobatic training. By day Daniel is an experienced commercial pilot, flying the Boeing 737 as a Captain with a commercial airline. Daniel also shares his vast experience with new pilots as a Flying Instructor.



Georgios Samalis - Zeus F-16 Demo Team

Major Georgios Samalis is a distinguished fighter pilot with the Hellenic Air Force, widely recognized for his role as a demo pilot for the "Zeus" F-16 Demo Team. With thousands of flight hours in the cockpit, Major Samalis serves as a premier ambassador for Greek aviation, showcasing the power and agility of the F-16C Block 52+ at major airshows across Europe and beyond. His displays are masterclasses in precision and high-G maneuvering, designed to demonstrate the tactical capabilities of the aircraft and the elite training of Hellenic aviators. Beyond his technical mastery, he is known for his commitment to inspiring the next generation of pilots, embodying the Zeus team's motto of "Duty, Honor, and Courage" every time he takes to the skies.



Peter Reoch - Royal International Air Tattoo

Peter Reoch is a well known aviation operations manager, best known for his pivotal role within the Air Operations team at the Royal International Air Tattoo (RIAT). Instrumental in the complex planning and execution of the world's largest military airshow, Peter expertly balances operational safety with a thrilling spectator experience. A respected voice across the airshow community, he is dedicated to fostering international collaboration and preserving aviation heritage, making him a vital contributor to the future of the industry and organizations like the British Air Display Association.

Presenters

Thank You!

The Board of the European Airshow Council would like to say Thank you for attending and supporting the 2026 EAC Convention. Without you and all your efforts in the Airshow Industry the EAC and our annual meeting would not exist. Thank you also to our volunteer team of EAC volunteers largely drawn from the Aeroclub Sanicole and Athens Flying Week, helping to ensure the event runs smoothly. Finally, Thank you to our 2026 Partners, without their support this event would simply not take place!

AEROPACT

aerocreativ
innovating with partners

HAMPSHIRE AIR FESTIVAL

AIR DISPLAYS LTD

Planes TV

DRONEV

PODIMATAS GROUP



#Athens

Where Next?

#EAC27

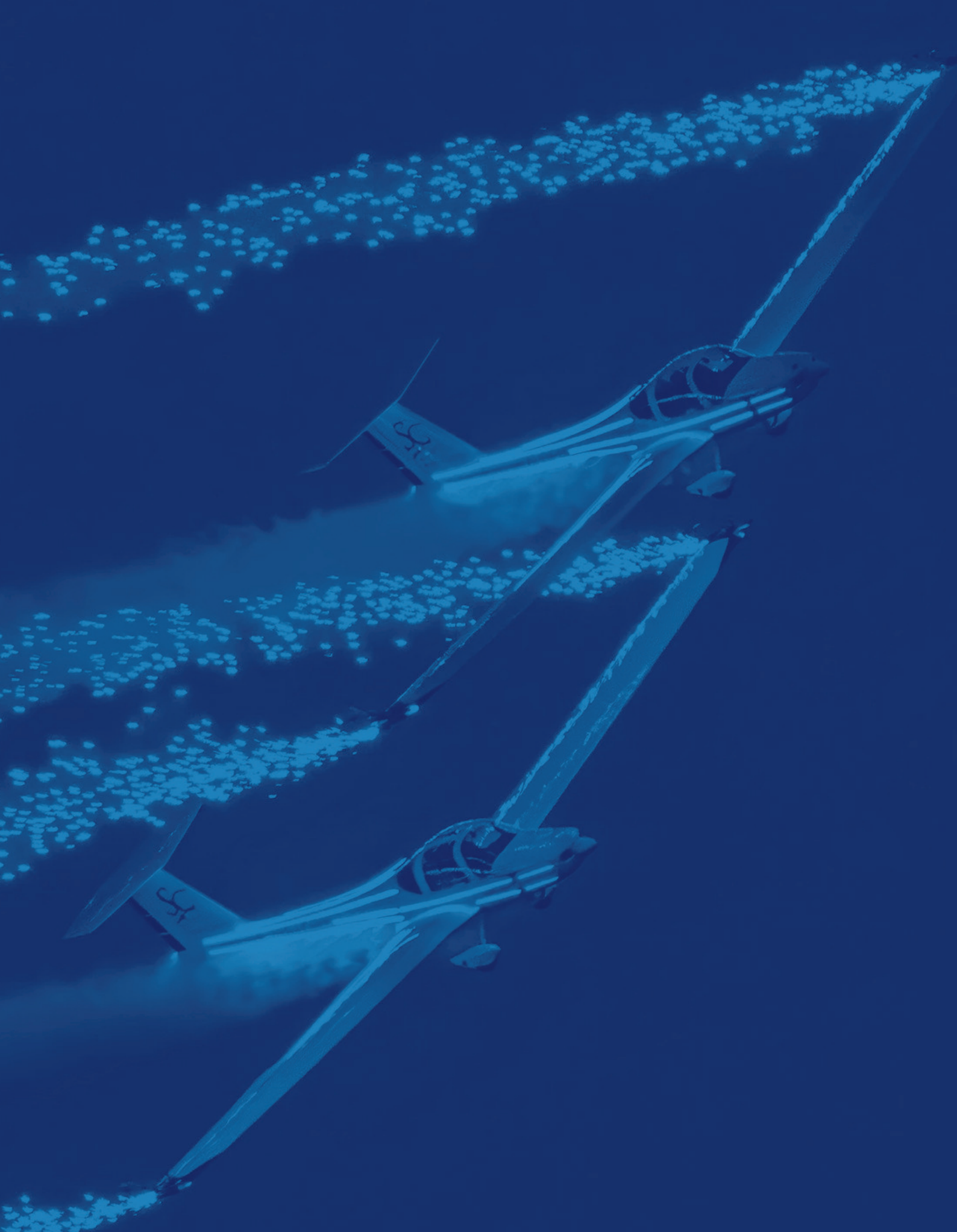
The 2027 Convention will take place over the **24th -26th February 2027**. Details of the host city and hotel will be announce as soon we can confirm the full details! We hope to see you at the soon to be announced location, dont forget to put a marker in the diary. Delegate spaces will become available in September 2026!



EAC Membership



As a Full Delegate you automatically receive 12 months membership of the European Airshow Council and grants you full access to the EAC website, newsletters and resources. To access the website, simply visit www.european-airshow.org and follow the membership links to register on the website and get 12 months free access.



www.european-airshow.com