

WEDNESDAY AT-A-GLANCE

09.15
Conference Programme Begins
Conference Theatre

10.00
Exhibition Hall Opens

13.00
The Digital Tower Revolution: Leaders in the Industry
Nokia ATM Theatre

14.15
Securing Airport Operations: Enabling UTM
Tower Theatre

15.15
CORUS: A Concept of Operations for a Harmonised Approach to Integrate Drones
FABEC OPS Theatre

16.15
The FAA Federal Contract Tower Program
Frequentis Aviation Arena

16.45
SESAR Session: Data Link Services, from ELSA to Recovery Plan
Nokia ATM Theatre

EXHIBITION HALL HOURS

Hall 10 at IFEMA,
Feria de Madrid
(North Entrance)

Wednesday, 7 March
10.00 – 18.00

Thursday, 8 March
10.00 – 14.00

CONFERENCE HOURS

Wednesday, 7 March
09.15 – 12.30

Wednesday, 7 March | IFEMA, Feria de Madrid

World ATM NOW

Madrid, Spain | #WorldATM



With Flying Ubers Only Five Years Away, Autonomous Operations are a Key Challenge

Disruptors and regulators shared the World ATM Congress stage Tuesday morning, discussing their different perspectives on the growth and challenges of drones and other autonomous operations on air traffic management.

Moderator Nancy Graham, Graham Aerospace International, jokingly referred to the two panelists from the unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) industry as disruptors, but the focus of the session was on transforming traditional air navigation service provider (ANSP) operations to accommodate the millions of semi-autonomous craft that are already in the worldwide airspace, or soon will be.

One of those entrants is Uber Elevate. Dr. Tom Prevot, Director of Engineering for Uber Elevate's Airspace Systems, showed a video of the US urban transport service, which is expected to be operational by 2023 in Dallas



Teri L. Bristol, COO, FAA Air Traffic Organization, gives her thoughts during session two of the Conference Programme.

and Los Angeles. The goal is to eventually operate globally, he said.

Uber Elevate's vertical takeoff and

landing aircraft look like large drones that can seat four people and a pilot.

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ICAO, EUROCONTROL Leaders Predict the Future

Air transport is a key catalyst of worldwide socioeconomic development, but according to the keynote speakers during Tuesday morning's conference programme, the next 20 years will present unprecedented challenges.

Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu, President of the ICAO council, said his organisation is just a few years away from a second revolution in airspace design and management. The first revolution was at the end of the second World War, when the Chicago Convention that established ICAO was ratified. The second revolution will focus on accommodating more technologically advanced, efficient aircraft and drones.

"ICAO needs to anticipate, enable, and guide this evolution," Aliu said. "It's an incredible force for peace, economic growth, and stability in the world."

Much of ICAO's current focus is on effective air-traffic flow management (ATFM), including aviation system block

upgrades, performance-based navigation, system-wide aviation management, and other aspects of 21st century air traffic management. "Every member state should be preparing themselves to adjust to this new environment," Aliu

said.

However, he noted, competition for airspace is accelerating, and artificial intelligence requires new professional skills and cybersecurity plans.

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Dancers and guitarists entertain the crowd during the opening reception.

Free WiFi in Exhibition Hall courtesy of World ATM Congress! Network is WATMC2018.



Gender Equality at Full Throttle

The role of women in aviation and the need for greater gender equality was the theme of a 6 March session in the Nokia ATM Theatre. Organised by SESAR members and partners in close collaboration with the European Commission, the session highlighted the status of gender parity in the industry and what stakeholders are doing to strike the right balance.

Aviation – with a 40 percent female workforce – has been more successful than other transport modes in achieving gender equality. Despite equality being embedded into corporate human resources policies everywhere, it's still statistically rare for female executives to ascend to transport's truly senior roles, both in the boardrooms and on the flight decks.

To level the playing field, the European Commission recently launched 'Women in Transport – Platform for Change' to promote gender equality within the transportation sector. "If we want our society to flourish, we need to engage all of its talents, all of its human resources, at all levels. By engaging women and men, together, towards gender equality we will make it happen,"

"If we want our society to flourish, we need to engage all of its talents, all of its human resources, at all levels."
— *Violeta Bulc*

said European Commissioner for Transport Violeta Bulc in a video message.

Presenting the platform, Deputy Director General, DG MOVE Matthew Baldwin called on more aviation stakeholders to propose specific actions that favour employing women in the transport sector. Both SESAR Joint Undertaking and Deployment Manager are signatories of the platform's declaration.

National stakeholders are also taking action, as illustrated by Ana Gomez Pineda, head of the Economic and Air Navigation Department, Agencia de Seguridad Aerea (AESA), who presented the Spanish "Ellas Vuelan Alto/Women Fly High," motto, which urges women to "stop dreaming, start doing." Among its objectives, the network aims to recognize women that are already role models in the industry.

Gender balance enables more creativity and efficiency in the workplace,



noted Florian Guillermet, Executive Director of the SESAR JU. He acknowledged more needs to be done to ensure parity in SESAR JU management and governance structure.

A lively panel discussion followed with women from the industry sharing their personal stories as well their companies' initiatives to encourage gender equality. They shared some takeaways:

Alison Roberts, NATS SESAR Contribution Manager and Programme Committee Observer on the Scientific Committee, SESAR JU: "Women need to have the self-confidence to go for it, and at the same time, organisations must provide an environment that encourages women to reach their full potential."

Belen Garcia Molano, Chief of

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