



ENHANCING OUTCOMES

CONFERENCE AGENDA DAY ONE – 25 MARCH 2026

0730 – 0830 **Registration & Exhibition**

SESSION: ITALY – ENHANCING OUTCOMES

0830 – 0840	Moderator's Opening Remarks – <i>John Longhurst</i> , Executive Chair, Tangent Link
0840 – 0855	Welcome Address – <i>TBD</i> , representative of the Italian Ministry of the Interior / Fire Department, Italy
0855 – 0910	Keynote Address – <i>Luigi D'Angelo</i> , Director of Operations, Italian Civil Protection Department, Italy
0910 – 0930	Multi-Domain Aerial Firefighting: Leonardo's Advanced Fleet, Satellite System & Digital Capabilities – <i>Luigi Lupoli</i> , CBD, VP Civil Solutions, Leonardo / <i>Stefano Porreca</i> , Head of Sales Engineer, Leonardo Aeronautics / <i>Carlo Sacco</i> , Head of Platforms Value Proposition, Leonardo Helicopters, Italy
0930 – 0955	The Italian Aerial Firefighting Fleet Ambition vs Reality within the European Fire Management System – <i>Matteo Monterosso</i> , CNVVF, Head of the Air Fleet, National Firefighters Corps, Italy
0955 – 1015	Night Firefighting Operations & Technology in Large Air Tanker – <i>Wayne Coulson</i> , CEO, Coulson Aviation, Canada
1015 – 1050	Refreshment Break & Networking

SESSION: ITALY – ENHANCING OUTCOMES 2

1050 - 1115	Aerial Coordination During Wildfires & Airborne Command & Control - Col. AM Dimitri Pasqualetti, Coordinator of the Combined Air Operations Center, Italian Civil Protection Department, Italy
1115 - 1135	Up In Flames – Insights from Our Deep Dive Report into Aerial Firefighting in Europe – <i>Ruben Garcia Medina</i> , Managing Director Iberia, Avincis, Italy
1135 - 1205	Panel 1: Advanced Technologies Improving Italian Aerial Fire Outcomes Panellists: <i>Onofrio Lorusso</i> , CNVVF, Engineer – Air Rescue Office, Italian Fire Department, Italy
1205 – 1225	Sponsor Presentation - <i>DeHavilland Aircraft of Canada Limited</i> , Canada
1225 - 1400	Lunch Break & Networking

SESSION: EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES

1400 – 1430	Panel 2: The Balkan Challenge Moderator: <i>Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer</i> , Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Germany Panellist: <i>Prof. Nikola Nikolov, Ph.D</i> , Director, Regional Fire Monitoring Center (RFMC), Republic of North Macedonia
1430 - 1450	Sponsor Presentation – <i>Bradford T. Beck</i> , President/COO, MAFFS, USA
1450 - 1515	France - New Doctrine for the Use of Aircraft – <i>Inspector General François Pradon</i> , Special Advisor to Julien Maron (DG of Security Civile), Special Advisor – Wildfire Firefighting Doctrine, French Securitie Civile, France
1515 - 1550	Refreshment Break & Networking

SESSION: NEW TECHNOLOGIES ENHANCING OUTCOMES

1550 – 1625	Panel 3: Enhancing Drop Ethnicity & Outcomes via Sensors Moderator: <i>Philippe Telle</i> , CEO, CAURUS Technologies GmbH, Germany Panellists: <i>Marco António Barão Lopes Pires</i> , Assistant Commander from the Civil Protection Special Force - Portuguese National Authority for Emergency & Civil Protection, Portugal <i>Prof. Ronan Paugam</i> , Lecturer/Researcher, UPC - Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Spain <i>Martin Hofmann</i> , Founder, HoZe Solutions GmbH, Germany
1625 – 1700	Panel 4: Data & its Effective Implementation for the Aerial Mission Moderator: <i>Gideon Ewers</i> , Editor, RotorHub International, UK Panellists: <i>Chief Jake Sjolund</i> , Deputy Director, Fire Protection Programs, CAL FIRE, USA <i>TracPlus</i> , New Zealand <i>Ben Millington</i> , Deputy Commissioner - Operational Co-ordination Directorate, NSW Rural Fire Service, Australia
1700 - 1735	Panel 5: Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) – Innovation, Expansion, Integration, Coordination Moderator: <i>Gideon Ewers</i> , Editor, RotorHub International, UK Panellists: <i>Brian Renner</i> , Deputy Chief of Operations, Tactical Air Operations Unit, CAL FIRE, USA <i>Justin Baxter</i> , National UAS Operations, USDA Forest Service, USA <i>Prof. Vaios Lappas</i> , Dept Head, Aerospace Science & Technology, University of Athens, Greece
1735	Moderator's Closing Remarks

Drinks Reception sponsored by *Coulson Aviation* – exhibition hall



ENHANCING OUTCOMES

CONFERENCE AGENDA DAY TWO – 26 MARCH 2026

0800 – 0900 **Registration & Exhibition**

OPENING SESSION: GLOBAL KEYNOTES

0900 – 0905 **Moderator's Opening Remarks** – *John Longhurst*, Executive Chair, Tangent Link

0905 – 0930 **Next Steps for Improving EU Aerial Fire Outcomes** - *Claire Kowalewski*, AFF Preparedness & Response Officer, European Commission, Belgium

0930 - 1000 *Brian Fennessy*, Director, United States Wildland Fire Service (USWFS), USA

1000 - 1025 **Approaches of UNFF to Integrated Fire Management & Advances in Türkiye** - *Ismail Belen*, Chief Inspector, General Directorate of Forestry, Türkiye

1025 - 1045 **The Role of European Air-Crane & SIMA Over the Years in S64 Fire-Fighting Operations** – *Michele Ruvidotti*, Captain & Safety Manager, European Air Crane, Italy

1045 - 1130 **Refreshment Break & Networking**

SESSION: GLOBAL & REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

1130 – 1150 **The Global Fire Management Hub** - *Dr Lara Steil*, Forestry Officer - Integrated Fire Management, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – FAO, Italy

1150 – 1210 **International Interoperability** – *Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer*, Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Germany

1210 – 1230 **Interoperability & Connectivity at the Core of the Wildfire Management Ecosystem** – *Olivier Chalvet*, Senior New Business Manager, Airbus Defense and Space & *Dominik Chemnitz*, Manager for Operational Marketing, Airbus Helicopters, France

1230 - 1300 **Panel 6: Optimising Aerial & Ground Fire Operations for Improved Outcomes**

Moderator: *Prof. Dr. Johann Goldammer*, Director, Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC), Germany
Panellists: CTIF

1300 - 1400 **Lunch Break & Networking**

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

1400 - 1430 **Fireside Discussion: USA – A Brave New World for the Aerial Fire Mission?**

Panellists: *Chief Joe Tyler*, Director, CAL FIRE, USA
Anthony Marrone, Fire Chief, County of Los Angeles Fire Department, USA

1430 - 1505 **Panel 8: Canada – Case Studies in Integrating & Optimising New Aerial Capabilities**

Panellists: *Kelsey Winter*, Executive Director, CIFFC (Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre), Canada
Luc Dugas, Senior Director, Strategic and Air Operation, SOPFEU, Canada
Alex Deslauriers, Founder / CEO, FireSwarm Solutions Inc., Canada

1505 - 1540 **Panel 9: Australia – Frontline Challenges & Institutional Change Supporting the Aerial Fire Mission**

Panellist: *Chris Hardman*, Chief Fire Officer, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Australia
Josephine Stirling, Director, National Aerial Firefighting Centre, AFAC, Australia
Ben Millington, Deputy Commissioner - Operational Co-ordination Directorate, NSW Rural Fire Service, Australia

1540 **Moderator's Closing Remarks & End of Formal Conference**

Free Time for follow up meetings, networking & pre-dinner break

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

1930 **Event Dinner sponsored by Diamond Partner - Leonardo S.p.A. (invited guests only)**

Xx Buses return to hotel to Event Dinner