

27-29 May 2026

Aeropuerto de la Axarquía

Málaga, Spain



27 May 2026

Training Day for Law Enforcement Personnel only

Fay Hotel Victoria Beach

Sponsored by

TACTICAL FLYING



- 08:30 - 12:30 Tactical Training for Crews
Harald Brink, Tactics Instructor - TFO Instructor, Tactical Flying
Kevin Saxton, Snr Application Engineer, Application Engineering,
Teledyne FLIR Defence
- 12:30 - 13:30 Lunch
- 13:30 - 16:30 Advanced Tactical Training for Crews

Harald Brink (PR Central Europe) has been with the Dutch Police Air Support Unit at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol-East since 2009, following a policing career that began in the early 1990s.

The unit operates from two additional bases at Rotterdam The Hague Airport and Volkel Air Force Base, with a fleet of six EC135 P2+ and two AW139 helicopters, covering the Netherlands and parts of the North Sea for Coast Guard patrols.

Harald started in patrol in The Hague before moving to the National Police. Since joining the Air Support Unit, he has become a TFO instructor and examiner for both helicopter types. He first attended PAVCon in 2013 and has been an ALEA member since 2014. He actively promotes collaboration and knowledge-sharing between Air Support Units across Europe and beyond.

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28 May 2026

Police Aviation Conference Programme

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09:00 - 09:10

Welcome & opening speech

09:10 - 09:20

The 20-year history of PAVCon and PAN

Bryn Elliott - Life President (Retired) served with the Metropolitan Police, London (1965-1996), completing over 30 years of service. He later founded *Police Aviation News (PAN)*, a free monthly e-magazine covering all aspects of emergency services aviation.

In 2006, at the invitation of Alexander Shephard, he contributed to the development of a series of Police Aviation Conferences held in the UK and the Netherlands (2006-2008), which formed the foundation of today's PAVCon.

Bryn has now retired from active involvement and has handed over day-to-day responsibilities to the PAVCon team.

09:20- 09:40

Police Nacional Malaga

Subinspector Daniel Gómez Garcia, Responsable de operaciones de UAS y Operadores de EOS de Andalucía Oriental.

09:40 – 10:00

Luis Francisco Miranda Rodriguez, Air Unit Head, Malaga Civil Guard

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10:00 - 10:20 **The Evolution of the Airborne ISR Sensor Operator, “Single-Op vs. Multi-Job”**

Georg DeCock, Director of SCARpods & ISR Sensors, Airborne Technologies

The first airborne ISR operator, Antoine Morlot, contributed to the French Army’s victory at the Battle of Fleurus on 26 June 1794, using a hand-stabilised telescope from a tethered balloon to direct artillery fire against Austrian and Dutch forces. Since then, the Airborne Sensor Operator (ASO) role has evolved significantly, with increasing demands driven by multi-mission aircraft and advanced sensor systems. This presentation reviews that evolution, the growing complexity of modern ISR operations, the challenge of managing large data volumes and the impact of emerging technologies, including AI.

George has extensive experience in LoS/BLoS communications, EW, radar, EO/IR and ISR systems. As SCAR-pod and Sensors/Mission Specialist at Airborne Technologies, he focuses on advanced ISR solutions that enhance capability and reduce operator workload. An advocate of R-COTS approaches, he supports small, multi-role aircraft with integrated sensor suites. In this session, he will outline his perspectives on the evolving role of the Airborne Sensor Operator.

10:20 - 10:45 **Refreshment Break, Networking & Exhibition**

10:45 - 11:45 **The Importance of Aerial Support in Wildfire Management**

Javier Lozano, former Canadair 415, 215T, TRI TRE 43rd Firefighting Group, Spanish Air Force and Rotor Wing Captain. The hero of Valencia.

11:45 - 12:15 **Highlighting Counter UAV Operation in Combination with Manned Air Support and the use of TAK**

Heiko Cruse Haiko, Warrant Officer, The Royal Marechaussee has served for several years as a TFO with both the Coast Guard and the National Police. Following that assignment, he was tasked with establishing a drone support unit within the BSB. For the past two years, he has been involved in Project “Charley”, which aims to integrate ground-based sensor data with manned aerial support to enhance operational effectiveness.

12:15 - 13:30 **Lunch, Networking & Exhibition**

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13:30 - 14:30 **FRONTEX Aerial support to Law Enforcement Operations**

This presentation will outline the Frontex aerial surveillance model, including the use of both manned and unmanned platforms and their integration into border management and law enforcement activities. It will address coordination with national authorities, information sharing and the contribution of aerial assets to maritime safety and search and rescue operations.

Drawing on operational experience, the session will highlight key lessons learned and future perspectives, including enhanced interoperability with civil and law enforcement aviation partners.

Giovanni Ligas currently serves at Frontex in Warsaw within the Operations Centre, Service Management Sector, as a Frontex Surveillance Aircraft (FSA) Expert and Flight Safety Officer.

He contributes to the coordination, management and operational use of manned and unmanned aerial surveillance assets in support of EU external border management.

Seconded from the Italian Coast Guard, he brings over 25 years of experience as an instructor helicopter pilot, primarily on the Leonardo AW139, with more than 3,500 flight hours across rotary- and fixed-wing aircraft. He holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and has held several senior roles, including Head of a 24/7 Operations Centre, Head of Training and Head of Safety Management.

14:30 - 15:00 **Refreshment Break, Networking & Exhibition**

15:00 - 16:00 **Policing from above: How NPAS delivers strategic value and future capability**

Chief Superintendent Fiona Gaffney joined NPAS on 7 July 2025, transferring from her role as Deputy Head of the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Organised Crime Unit. She brings extensive operational experience, strategic leadership and a strong commitment to public service, alongside significant experience working with national stakeholders - key to leading a complex police aviation operation as NPAS continues to evolve and modernise.

Fiona began her policing career in 1995 with the Royal Military Police, serving in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo. She has since held a range of roles across multiple forces and specialist areas, including detective work, serious and organised crime and regional leadership.

16:00 - 17:00 **IIMC Avoidance and Survival**

Glenn Daley (Airborne Safety Expert) served with the New York City Police Department from 1981 to 2004, completing a distinguished 23-year career across a range of operational assignments, including the Emergency Service Unit, where he acted as liaison to military special operations units and as a counter-terrorism instructor.

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He holds a Master of Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, specialising in Aviation/Aerospace Safety Systems and Operations. In 1993, he joined the NYPD Aviation Unit as a Sergeant, serving as a Pilot and Operations Supervisor. Promoted to Lieutenant in 2000, he continued as a Search and Rescue (SAR) Pilot, Instructor Pilot and Platoon Commander until his retirement.

From 2000 to 2008, he served as Northeast Director for the Airborne Law Enforcement Association, covering the northeastern United States and Europe and contributing to the early development of what is now PAVCon.

Captain Daley currently serves as a pilot in the New York City metropolitan area and provides aviation operations and safety consultancy to law enforcement agencies worldwide.

18:30 Drinks Reception at the Alma Playa Beach Club

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19:30 Dinner at the Alma Playa Beach Club

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Day 3: 29 May 2026
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09:00 - 10:00 **The difference between LIDAR and photogrammetric for police purpose**

Dr.-Ing. Uwe Bacher is Technical Director Reality Capture - Sensor to Solution at Hexagon's Safety, Infrastructure & Geospatial (SIG) Division. He brings over 30 years of experience in photogrammetry, remote sensing, image analysis and geoinformatics, with a focus on end-to-end Sensor-to-Solution workflows from airborne data acquisition to actionable outputs. He holds a diploma in Geodesy from the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and a PhD in automated image analysis from the Bundeswehr University Munich. His career includes

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senior roles in international organisations such as COWI A/S and Hexagon, as well as entrepreneurial work through his own engineering practice.

Dr. Bacher also lectures in Airborne LiDAR at the Technische Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt and is an active member of professional associations including EAASI and DGPF. He is a regular speaker at international conferences on airborne sensor integration, digital twins and geospatial data strategies.

10:00 - 10:30 **Refreshment Break, Networking & Exhibition**

10:30 - 11:30 **ATLAS Maritime: Working together to protect you.**

Kapt. Gerwin Krijgsman, The Netherlands

11:30 - 12:15 **Basque Police ASU 40th Anniversary and 30 years EC-135 Operators**

Joseba Mendizabal (PR Mediterranean Europe) began his career in 1993-1994 with the Spanish Foreign Legion Special Operations Battalion, earning the Legion's Green Beret. He later attended the Basque Country Police Academy (1995-1996) and served in multiple precincts on patrol duties and within a VIP Protection Unit.

Between 2001 and 2003, he undertook flight training, gaining a CPL(H) and joining the Basque Country Police Helicopter Unit. Since 2003, he has flown AS350 B2, EC135 and SA365 helicopters on police and search and rescue missions, accumulating over 3,000 flight hours. He is currently a Pilot-in-Command for both police and SAR operations.

Joseba holds an ATPL(H) and is an EC135 T3H Type Rating Instructor and simulator instructor. He serves as Flight Lieutenant, Chief of Training and Deputy Operations Manager within the unit. He has completed ICAO SMS training, was a Board Member of the Spanish Commercial Pilots Guild (2014-2019) and has also worked internationally as a SAR training instructor and translator with the Argentine Federal Police.

12:15 - 12:30 Closing remarks

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch, Networking & Exhibition

14:00 Close of Exhibition & Departure

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