



Abu Dhabi
Air Expo

AVIATION - AEROSPACE EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE

1-2-3 NOVEMBER 2022

AL BATEEN EXECUTIVE AIRPORT, ABU DHABI, UAE

THE AVIATION THINK TANK CONFERENCE



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STRATEGIC CONFERENCE PARTNER

بنك أبوظبي التجاري
ADCB



13:00-13:05 : WELCOME SPEECH

Speaker

**Ms. Mervat Sultan**
WAI-ME President

Master of Ceremony

**Mrs. Muna Sulaiman****13:10-13:15 : KEYNOTE SPEECH**

Speaker

**Mr. Yousif Al Hamadi**
President Emirates Aviation Association**13:15-13:25 : APPRECIATION AWARDS CEREMONY**

Speaker : WAI-ME

13:25-13:35 : KEYNOTE SPEAKER – ETIHAD AIRWAYS

Speaker

**Dr. Nadia Al Bastaki**
Chief Human Resources and
Organizational Development (HROD),
& Asset Management Officer
Etihad Airways

13:35-13:40 : WAI VIDEO

Speaker : WAI-ME

13:40-13:55 : STORYTELLER

Speaker



Captain Ghadha Alrousi
First Officer
Air Arabia

CONFERENCE TOPICS - WOMEN IN AVIATION

PANEL 01

The aim of Panel 01 is to highlight the role and prosperity of women in the aviation industry. As well, it will emphasize the importance of empowering women, allowing them to provide value to the aviation industry through their knowledge and experience.

13:55-14:25 : PANEL 01, THE FUTURE OF AVIATION AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

- Role and prosperity of women in the aviation industry.
- Importance of empowering women and adding value in aviation.

Speaker



Mrs. Roula Droubi
Regional Director
Boeing Company

Speaker



Mrs. Magdalena Lewicka
Global Design Manager - Airports
Honeywell

Speaker



Ms. Huda Al Shamsi
Vice President, Marketing,
Branding & Communications
Abu Dhabi Airports

Moderator



Mrs. Nadia Gharaybeh
Marketing Manager
DC Aviation Al-Futtaim

14:25-14:30 : VIDEO

Etihad Airways

14:30-14:45 : STORYTELLER

Speaker



Dr. Eng. Suaad Al Shamsi
Technical Advisor
Etihad Airways

PANEL 02

The aim of Panel 02 : As the aviation market continues to grow, sustainability commitments and efforts are going to be necessary to meet industry and global climate goals. The goal of this panel is to provide insight into where we are at in reaching our industry target.

14:45-15:15 : PANEL 02, SUSTAINIBILITY IN AVIATION

- Importance of sustainability commitments to meet industry and global climate goals.
- How is the industry performing versus the targets?

Speaker



Ms. Huda Al Shamsi
Vice President, Marketing,
Branding & Communications
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



Mrs. Malak Trabelsi Loeb
Managing Director
Vernewell Management

Moderator



Dr. Tiffany Claire Delpont
CEO
Envirotech International

15:15-15:30 : STORYTELLER

Speaker



Mrs. Dina Beljafrah
Vice President
Women in Aviation

PANEL 03

The aim of Panel 03 : In our industry, the question arises whether our educational institutions keep their curriculums up to date with the latest technologies and innovations. Describe the challenges and difficulties they face to keep pace with the rapid developments in the aviation industry.

15:35-16:05 : PANEL 03, READINESS OF EDUCATION SYSTEM ALIGNED WITH TECHNOLOGY GROWTH

- How updated is aviation educational system in line with the latest technologies and innovations.
- Challenges and opportunities to keep pace with the rapid developments in the aviation industry.

Speaker



Dr. Asma Alnusairi
CEO
2071 For Management
Consultancies and Training

Speaker



Mrs. Lilith Tshughryan
Founder and Managing Director
Akademikka Training Institute

Moderator



Dr. Gerasimos Kontos
Associate Professor
Abu Dhabi University

16:05-16:10 : CLOSING

BIOGRAPHIES

WELCOME SPEECH



Ms. Mervat Sultan
WAI-ME President

A pioneer in the aviation industry, Mervat Sultan is the President and Co-Founder of Women in Aviation-Middle East (WAI-ME), a nonprofit association dedicated to the encouragement and advancement of women in all aviation career fields and interests.

Driven by a mission to assist women in their aims to achieve prosperous careers in aviation, Mervat is best known for paving the way for women in the industry to be recognized and continue to inspire others to walk on the same path.

She also gets involved in various outreach projects that promote the value of education and provide help where it's needed in various parts of the Middle East.

Mervat started her career more than 20 years ago as the Finance Manager at Ramjet Aviation Support, where she helped a wide spectrum of aircraft operators including private, government, and national carriers with their charters and pre-flight support services.

She then moved on to co-found Flock.aero in the UK, the fastest growing online marketing platform for the flight support industry.

MASTER OF CEREMONY



Mrs. Muna Sulaiman

Mrs Muna has the following accomplishments :

- Social Media Influencer- Ras Al Khaimah
- HSE Admin Officer at RAKEZ
- Entrepreneur- Blink
- Ambassador of Emirates Football Club - Ras Al Khaimah
- Board Member at Ladies in Business Magazine

KEY NOTE SPEAKER



Mr. Yousif Al Hamadi
President Emirates Aviation
Association

Mr Al Hamadi has the following accomplishments:

- General Manager – Munawala Ground Services LLC.
- Vice-President Emirates Aerosports Federation
- President GCC Aerosport Commission
- President – Aircraft Owner's Pilot Association UAE
- Adviser to the African Aerosport Federation

KEY NOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Nadia Al Bastaki
Chief Human Resources
and Organizational
Development (HROD),
& Asset Management Officer
Etihad Airways

Dr. Nadia Bastaki currently serves as the Chief HROD & Asset Management Officer at Etihad Airways, having been appointed as the first-ever female chief at the airline.

In this role, Dr. Bastaki is responsible for Etihad's People and Wellbeing Strategy, inclusive of employee engagement, employee experience, diversity and inclusion, while leading all core HR functions.

Dr. Bastaki has close to 20 years of experience as a medical practitioner and other senior executive roles.

Dr. Bastaki holds a master's degree in Occupational Medicine from Manchester University and a diploma in Aviation Medicine from King's College London. Dr. Bastaki is the first female UAE National to specialize in Aviation Medicine.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mrs. Roula Droubi
Regional Director
Boeing Company

Mrs. Roula Droubi joined Boeing in March 2016 as Director of Government, Industry and Community Engagement and is responsible for the company's strategy development and managing government relations, industry and community engagements.

Before joining Boeing in March 2016, Roula was the Business Operations manager at Oshkosh Corporation in Dubai and Oshkosh Defense in Abu Dhabi offices.

Roula has 22 years of experience working with multinational organizations, helping them establish operations in the Middle East. She lived 10 years in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. During this time, she was the Public Relations and Marketing manager for Saks Fifth Avenue and played an integral role to open its first department store outside the United States. She also started the British Council Women's Center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, promoting British education to Saudi women and children.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mrs. Magdalena Lewicka
Global Design
Manager - Airports
Honeywell

Mrs. Magdalena Lewicka is a Global Design Manager in Honeywell Airport Business. Magdalena specializes in Visual and Navigational Aids and is responsible for advisory solutions and design validation for the aeronautical ground lighting system.

She is a seasoned specialist in Aeronautical Lighting designs with over 10 years of experience in the Aviation Sector. During Magdalena's time in Industry, she has worked with many world's largest airports like Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Doha, Taoyuan, Kuala Lumpur, Changi and many more, advising on their Airfield lighting Solution and Visual Aids Design.

Magdalena's goal is to improve the sustainability of aeronautical lighting and airside systems and support innovations in the Industry. She believes diversity is not only a requirement from society but also an opportunity of having a variety of individuals represented and drive real progress.

SPEAKER



Ms. Huda Al Shamsi
Vice President, Marketing,
Branding & Communications
Abu Dhabi Airports

Ms. Huda Al Shamsi joined Abu Dhabi Airports as Vice President of Corporate Marketing, Brand and Communications in early 2019. She is widely recognised across the industry as a leader who is passionate about bringing brands to life through unique experiences and strategic communication, inspiring measurable change and transformation in organisations.

At Abu Dhabi Airports, she is responsible for the overall brand management of the group's five airports, commercial offering, hospitality, freezone and cargo. She is also responsible for the positioning of the state-of-the-art Midfield Terminal Complex which will play a fundamental role in supporting Abu Dhabi's vision to promote connectivity, travel and tourism. Committed to providing travellers with an integrated and seamless airport experience, Huda has played an important role in shaping the passenger journey through an immersive and engaging environment. Huda brings almost two decades of diversified experience in brand development and awareness, corporate strategy and cultural transformation. She was previously Director of Marketing at KBBO Group, a private investment firm based in Abu Dhabi, where she was instrumental in building brand equity for the Group and its subsidiaries across diverse sectors.

During her time with the Department of Culture and Tourism, she led the Marketing and Communications function, handling special projects such as the Abu Dhabi Film Festival and the Emirati channel, Baynounah TV. She continues to champion the promotion of Abu Dhabi as a touristic and cultural hub, supporting the Committee for Cultural Programs & Heritage Festivals, further demonstrating her passion for cultural advocacy. Huda is also a member of the Advisory Committee of Al Forsan International Sports Resort, playing an active role in the positioning of a world class recreational facility.

With great interest in teaching, she also lectured at Abu Dhabi University and coordinated an undergraduate business exchange program in the United States in cooperation with the UAE Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Huda holds a Bachelor of Arts in Management and Marketing and a Master's in Business Administration from Abu Dhabi University. She is also a member of the International Honorary Academic Society, Beta Gamma Sigma.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mrs. Nadia Gharaybeh
Marketing Manager
DC Aviation Al-Futtaim

Mrs. Nadia Gharaybeh, Marketing Manager at DC Aviation Al-Futtaim has over 8 years of experience in the business aviation industry as a Marketing Manager.

Before that, Mrs. Gharaybeh worked as an Investment Promotion specialist at the Jordan Investment Board for 4 years, her main duties were attracting Foreign Direct Investments (FDI's) to Jordan in several value adding sectors.

Mrs. Gharaybeh has an MBA in Marketing from California State University Sacramento (CSUS), and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Yarmouk University in Jordan

STORY TELLER



Dr. Engg. Suaad Al Shamsi
Technical Advisor
Etihad Airways

Dr. Engg. Suaad graduated from Coventry University with MBA in aviation management as well as she is holding degree in Aerospace Engineering from Hertfordshire University along with Bachelor's degree in aviation management from Coventry University in UK, she started her PhD study last year.

She embarked on this journey in the aviation industry when she joined many leading companies involved in aviation as a part of her training in aircraft engineering field such as Messier Bugatti, Honeywell, Kunz, Airbus and Boeing. She joined Emirates airlines as first aircraft engineer in UAE and continue her growth in the aviation and now she is working as senior manager and technical advisor for one of the biggest aviation project in UAE [midfield terminal project] with Etihad airways.

She is one alumni members of the emirates association in the UK, one of members of IEEE, as well as one of the founders of woman in aviation organization Middle East chapter. Also she is the chief executive officer of L2L [learn to live] consultation company. Awarded many award and appreciate during her young journey as she been involved and privileged of her involvement in Dubai Recruitment exhibition, rewarded Najm Gold award from Emirates group as a role of Emarati lady engineer, beside her awarded of fast track award from Emirates airline, Emaratia shield privilege in Abu Dhabi and creative women in aviation engineering by shiekha fatima bint khalid alqasimi.

She has been outstanding representing United Arab Emirates Female image in Shanghai Expo 2010 and presenting as a jury member in star of Science program.

Her name included in creative women in UAE Wikipedia by her highness sheikha shamsa wife of Sheikh Khalifa. She been speaker in many forums and conferences in UAE, gulf countries and worldwide such as woman in aviation conference in dubai world trade centre 2019, powerful woman in Egypt opera in 2019, woman in aviation industry forum in Bahrain in 2018, aviation gathering forum in Bahrain in 2018, top of her game in emirate tower, powerful woman engineer in new York city in 2018.. etc.

Besides the love of aviation, she loved reading and seeking knowledge and through her love she released Novel books one in 2016, second one in 2017 and two in 2018.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mrs. Malak Trabelsi Loeb
Managing Director
Vernewell Management

Mrs. Malak Trabelsi Loeb is the Founder and Managing Director of Vernewell Management Consultancies, a Dubai-based, International Space and Deep Tech-focused Management, Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence Research and Consultancies Firm; the CEO of Trabelsi Loeb Legal Consultancies; and the founder of Medusa Cyber Security. Mrs. Loeb is an International Business Law, Space law, Tech law, and national security law practitioner. She focuses on solving complex legal matters, including international transactions, due diligence, international contracts, and cross-border economic activities with implications on national security, regulatory compliance, alternative dispute resolution, corporate governance, international investments, space insurance, and NewSpace legal challenges faced by NewSpace actors.

PANEL MODERATOR



Dr. Tiffany Claire Delpont
CEO
Envirotech International

Dr. Delpont is a Marine Conservation Specialist, acknowledged at EXPO2020 Dubai and Asian Business Leadership Forum for her dedication to the environment in the United Arab Emirates.

On behalf of Emirates Marine Environmental Group, Dr. Delpont is engaged in the management of large-scale mangrove, coral and marine reptile conservation initiatives in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Sharjah.

Dr. Delpont currently sits as Global Ambassador for the regions One Billion Tree-Planting Initiative and One Million Oyster Project.

She also co-founded The Possibilities Project: Eco-Edition, a National Youth Engagement Initiative supporting inclusion in STEM education in the United Arab Emirates.

STORY TELLER



Mrs. Dina Beljafrah
Vice President
Women in Aviation

Elected as a Board Member and Vice President at Women in Aviation Middle East Chapter.

Managing Director/Partner UAE at Accenture.

Mubadala investment Company, Vice President – CEO Office.

Al Hail Orix Finance PSC, Board Member, and elected as Vice President.

WTO, UAE Representative at the World Trade Organization-Business Attaché-Ministry Of Economy-International Humanitarian City, Dubai – COO

Nakheel Development Company, General Manager – Jumeirah Golf Estates (\$5 Billion).

Education:

- BA in Environmental Science, USA.
- BA in French, Sorbonne University.
- MS in Environmental Studies, USA.
- Dubai World Leadership Program

Awards:

- Honored by HH Sheikha Fatima for Businesswomen development over the past 10 years.
- Women Empowerment award, Nov 2017
- Received the “Emirates Business Women Award”, May 2007

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Dr. Asmaa Alnusairi
CEO
2071 For Management
Consultancies and Training

Dr. Nusairi is a leading expert on the knowledge economy in the UAE. She is known as a leading voice in what is needed to empower people, companies, and governments to make the transition to Industry 4.0. With a prestigious career spanning for more than a decade in the fields of aviation (Emirates Airlines) to government (Knowledge and Human Development Authority). She is a globally known speaker on Knowledge Economy topics, a skilled researcher, and a published author. Asmaa looks at the world and not only sees it for what it is but for what it could be. She sees her life as a series of lessons, the most important of which is that «you only live once, but if you live it with passion, once is more than enough.” This has inspired her work to start 2071 - a consulting company focused on building capacity for transformation. She is regularly featured speaker on what is needed to transition the UAE from a resource economy to a knowledge economy and has participated as a lead assessor in multiple Government Excellence programs at both the Federal and Emirate level.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mrs. Lilit Tshughuryan
Founder and
Managing Director
Akademikka
Training Institute

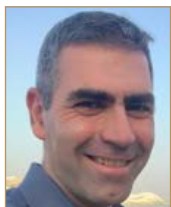
Mrs. Lilit is the founder and managing director of Akademikka Training Institute in Dubai, expert of international business management, educationist, speaker, trainer, author of bestseller professional training courses in aviation business.

A career woman and achiever in her own rights, who started entrepreneurial career in 2009 at the age of 24.

Even after 12 year of entrepreneurial career, Woman entrepreneur who took challenges of the COVID-19 outbreak and turned the pandemic to her advantage in the UAE market.

She invested big money into the education sector in Dubai as she saw potential there. As a woman, it was a challenge in itself, but COVID-19 has taught her that there is no time to waste. If you want something, go for it. There is no time to brood and sit back at home, worrying about your future. Instead, spring to action and create something positive around you and make something good happen. Lilit, with 15+ years of expertise in business management, marketing, sales and professional training is also an award-winning career-woman.

PANEL MODERATOR



Dr. Gerasimos Kontos
Associate Professor
Abu Dhabi University

Dr. Gerasimos leverages hands-on expertise and broad cross-functional knowledge across the air transportation industry, including airlines, airport service providers and training organizations.

Flagship projects include the strategic planning and execution of a merger and acquisition in the ground handling industry as well as the digital transformation of aircraft turnaround operations for a major European airline

His Academic Career is co-evolving with his professional expertise, through incorporation of engaged leadership, blended learning approach and project-based orientation for supporting young researchers and industry experts to unfold and co-create their personal learning journeys through simulated but realistic decision making scenarios Gerasimos recently joined ADU as an Associate Professor of Aviation.

As a technology savvy himself, he incorporates a range of interactive media in his courses to enhance student apprehension and learning journey. From the very beginning he is proud for his students' efforts to conquer the rapidly evolving aviation economy of the Middle East region.

For supporting their relentless and meticulous efforts, he is responsible for organizing a series of fieldtrips in several Middle East aviation related organizations and acts as principal supervisor for their internships in these organizations

10-10:15 : UNITED NATIONS PRESENTATION BY CHIEF AVIATION TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS SECTION

Speaker



Joscha Kremers
Chief Aviation Transportation
& Logistics Section,
United Nations

PANEL 01

The aim of Panel 01 : The aviation industry is very dynamic and by the nature of the international business it operates, any international development can impact and reshape the industry. This panel discusses the future developments in business aviation across airlines and airports and opportunities across Abu Dhabi to connect to the world and beyond.

10:15-11:00 : FUTURE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENTS IN AVIATION

- The Future of Aviation Developments – airlines, airports and the future of business aviation
- Connecting Abu Dhabi to the world & beyond

Speaker



**Mr. Mohammed
Husain Ahmed**
Chief Executive Officer
Royal Jet

Speaker



Joscha Kremers
Chief Aviation Transportation
& Logistics Section,
United Nations

Speaker



Mr. Francois Bourienne
Chief Commercial Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



**Mr. Ibrahim
Al Mannaee**
Chief Executive Officer
NEXT50

Moderator



Mr. Badr Al Olama
Executive Director
Mubadala

PANEL 02

The aim of Panel 02 : Substantiality and green aviation are a key strategic priorities for the aviation business globally and this panel aims at discussing new aviation fuels and developments which support better flights and sustainability and the emerging role of drones to support green sustainability in the aviation business.

SUPPORTED BY



11:00-11:45 : MAKING AVIATION GREEN

- Sustainability in the aviation ecosystem
- Green Aviation - Better flight efficiency and fuel reduction
- New sustainable fuels and developments
- How drones can support sustainability?

Speaker



Mr. Frank McCrorie
Chief Operating Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



**Ms. Mariam
Al Qubaisi**
Head of Sustainability
Etihad Airways

Speaker



Mr. Kuljit S. Ghata-Aura
President, Middle East,
Turkey & Africa
Boeing International
Corporation

Speaker



Mr. Jason Sutcliffe
Regional Marketing
Director - EMEA
Rolls-Royce

Speaker



Mohamed Showky
Founder & CEO
GIS Drones

Moderator



**Professor Richard
Curran**
Head of Aviation
Management
University of London

PANEL 03

The aim of Panel 03 : The pandemic impacted every business around the world and in particular, the aviation industry which was hard hit with travel totally paralyzed. On the other hand, air cargo witnessed a phenomenal rise due to distribution of the vaccines and other relief efforts for the pandemic. This panel aims to discuss the post pandemic recovery for aviation and outlines how well the airports and airlines were prepared and more importantly, how can they adapt to the changing needs of the travelers in the future.

11:45-12:30 : EVOLVING ROLE OF AVIATION POST PANDEMIC

- Post Pandemic Recovery for Airlines
- How well prepared were Airlines & Airport services post pandemic?
- Revenge Travel and Impacts on Airlines and Airports
- Changing needs of customers and future of travel?
- Opportunities & Challenges for Airlines

Speaker



Mr. Mark Souter
SVP Aviation Development
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



Mr. Amer Khan
Vice President
Middle East, Africa,
& The Sub-Continent
Etihad Airways

Speaker



Mr. Raghu Seelamonthula
Director
Honeywell

Speaker



Mr. Sanjeev Gadhia
Chief Executive Officer
Astral Aviation

Moderator



Mr. Sunil Malhotra
Managing Partner
Bchain Consultants

12:30-13:30 : PRESS CONFERENCE - WORLD PREMIER

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JEKTA

Abu Dhabi Air Expo

1-2-3
NOVEMBER
2022

STAND

A-420

**PHA-ZE 100
PROJECT
PRESENTATION**

NOVEMBER 2 h 12.30

MAIN CONFERENCE HALL

ABU DHABI AIR EXPO
AL BATEEN EXECUTIVE AIRPORT,
ABU DHABI, UAE



PHA-ZE 100
ELECTRIC
AMPHIBIOUS
AIRCRAFT

JEKTA

Jekta Switzerland SA
Aeropole, 132
1530 Payerne, Switzerland
INFO@JEKTA.SWISS
WWW.JEKTA.SWISS

Passenger
Hydro
Aircraft
Zero
Emission

swiss
aeropole

INNOVAUDE

PANEL 04

The aim of Panel 04 : To discuss the importance of air cargo for future growth and the rising role of air freighters in the global economy. Post pandemic, how supply chain challenges are being addressed? and how is the role played by different air cargo stakeholders in the aviation ecosystem is changing?

SUPPORTED BY



13:30-14:15 : GROWTH & FUTURE OF AIR CARGO

- Importance of cargo for economic growth
- Air cargo as a key financial contributor to passenger airlines
- Passenger aircrafts to Freighter conversions
- Role of dedicated freighters in the overall ecosystem
- Importance of the role to be played by different stakeholders in air cargo development: airport, airlines, freight forwarders, Government etc.

Speaker



Mr. Steven Polmans
VP Business Development Free Trade Zone & Government Affairs
Abu Dhabi Airports
Chairman - TIACA

Speaker



Mr. Bachi Spiga
Head Of Operations
DHL Express Middle East and North Africa

Speaker



Mr. Martin Drew
SVP Sales and Cargo
Etihad Airways Group

Speaker



Mr. Jaideep Mirchandani
Chairman & CEO
Skyone Aviation

Speaker



Mr. Raju Ramineni
Airfreight Director
Kerry Logistics

Moderator



Mr. Glyn Hughes
Director General
TIACA

PANEL 05

The aim of Panel 05 : Aviation training and development plays a crucial role to ensure that aviation teams are future ready with the changing skills and technologies which will impact the aviation business going forward. How is technology impacting aviation training and development and what needs to be done to stay prepared for the future?

14:15-15:00 : CHANGING ROLE & IMPORTANCE OF AVIATION TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

- Impact of industry 4.0 emerging technologies on aviation training and curriculum
- Future of Aviation Training & the Metaverse
- Future impacts of technology in aviation education
- Opportunities and challenges in aviation and training

Speaker



Dr. Mark Pierotti
Commercial Director
Abu Dhabi Aviation

Speaker



Mr. Maximilian Buerger
Director
AFM.aero & Aviationfly.com

Speaker



Captain Nadhem Al-Hamad
CEO
T3 Training

Moderator



Mr. David Studden
Senior Manager
Business Development & Marketing
GCAS

PANEL 06

The aim of Panel 06 : Maintenance, repairs and overhauls play a crucial role in the aviation business and this panel will aim to discuss regional trends across MRO's and the increasing role of OEM's (Original Equipment Manufacturers) in MRO. It will also outline opportunities for MRO in Abu Dhabi along with how to cope with challenges?

SUPPORTED BY



15:00-15:45 : MRO'S AND THE FUTURE OF MAINTENANCE

- Regional trends in MRO's
- OEM's and their increasing role in MRO's
- MRO Opportunities in Abu Dhabi
- Opportunities & Challenges for MRO's

Speaker



Mr. Kashish Kohli
Group Chief Financial Officer
SANAD

Speaker



Mr. Francois Bourienne
Chief Commercial Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



Mr. David Doherty
Head of Sales
Etihad Airways Engineering

Moderator



Mr. Raffi Kasparian
Managing Director
Alton Aviation Consultancy

Moderator



Mr. Adam Cowburn
Managing Director
Alton Aviation Consultancy

PANEL 07

The aim of Panel 07 : Aviation traffic management, safety and security is a core support function in aviation and the panel aims are discussing key trends, opportunities and challenges faced by the business. Airport cyber security, digital traffic controls and other key developments will be discussed against the backdrop of rising costs for aviation security.

SUPPORTED BY



15:45-16:30 : AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT & AIRPORT SECURITY

- Key Trends & Challenges
- Airport Cyber Security Services
- Abu Dhabi Airport – case study
- Rising costs for aviation safety
- Digital Traffic Control

Speaker



Mr. Frank McCrorie
Chief Operations Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



Mr. Ahmed Juma Al Shamsi
Acting Chief Strategy Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



Ahmed Al Shehhi
Acting Senior Manager
Airspace
UAE GCAA

Speaker



Mr. Mark Green
Head ANS Projects
GANS

Moderator



Nasser Juma
Vice President,
Air Navigation Services
Abu Dhabi Airports

16:30-16:45 : GANS PRESENTATION

BIOGRAPHIES

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Joscha Kremers
Chief Aviation Transportation
& Logistics Section,
United Nations

Mr. Joscha Kremers is Chief of the Aviation Transportation & Logistics Section at the United Nations Procurement Division in New York (UNHQ), overseeing the UN Secretariat's acquisition of air, sea and land transportation requirements, including the procurement of Vehicles.

After working in various administrative functions, particularly logistics in the private sector in Germany, he joined the United Nations in 2006.

Mr. Kremers has worked in several areas of Procurement, including Engineering, Field Supply items, Logistics and Aviation, providing the worldwide peacekeeping operations, with essential infrastructure.

His Section has been driving the reform in the area of long term air charter, attracting more air operators to UN business opportunities. A posting at the Regional Procurement Office in Uganda complement his UN experience.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



**Mr. Mohammed
Husain Ahmed**
Chief Executive Officer
Royal Jet

Mr. Mohammed is a committed leader with strong, proven management and organizational skills fostered in a military environment but honed and refined by exposure to civilian contracts, Company's and clients.

Accomplished and energetic with a solid history of achievement in aviation. Adept at producing quality results in high-pressure environments with an eye for detail and deadlines.

A confident and assertive leader, trainer, coach and mentor with the ability to deliver operational excellence and high standards of performance against operational and organizational goals and targets.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Francois Bourienne
Chief Commercial Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Francois Bourienne is Chief Commercial Officer at Abu Dhabi Airports. Francois oversees all commercial activities across the airports group, ensuring that stakeholders and customers using Abu Dhabi Airports benefit from the company's vast array of sophisticated commercial offerings.

Bringing an intricate understanding of managing commercial operations for an airports group, Francois leads the growth of Abu Dhabi Airports' wider commercial activities. Francois joins Abu Dhabi Airports from Glasgow Airport and AGS Airports, where he held the role of Chief Commercial Officer, alongside serving as a Member of the Executive Committee of AGS Airports.

During his time with the airports operator, Francois successfully grew traffic and revenue for both Glasgow and AGS Airports, alongside successfully attracting new airlines, new retailers and new retail concepts to the airports. In parallel, Francois was also the Chair of the UK Travel Retail Forum.

With a career spanning over 20 years, Francois was previously at The Nuance Group, a worldwide leader in travel retail. He began his career working in business consultancy with ORMIS, Accenture, and Bain & Company.

He holds a Master's in Business Administration with the worldwide business school, INSEAD, alongside a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Business Law from EM Lyon.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



**Mr. Ibrahim
Al Mannaee**
CEO
NEXT50

Mr. Ibrahim Al Mannaee brings over 15 years of experience across multiple industries supporting the growth and development of government and state-owned enterprises in the UAE. In his current role, he is responsible for setting the company's strategy, aligning the organization, overseeing day-to-day business, and ensuring value creation for shareholders.

Previously, Ibrahim was the Managing Director of the Chairman's Office in Etihad Aviation Group, responsible for ensuring implementation of the Board of Directors' vision, providing independent advice on topics of strategic importance and enhancing corporate governance.

Prior to that, Ibrahim was a Director in the Office of Strategic Affairs at the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Court, Managing Director and Founding Member of the Al Bayt Mitwahid Association, and held various positions at Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange. Ibrahim is currently a board member at Al Qattara Investments.

Ibrahim holds a Master in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School and a Bachelor of Economics from the American University of Sharjah. He holds a Certificate in Real Estate Finance and Development from the MIT Center for Real Estate.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Badr Al Olama
Executive Director
Mubadala

Mr. Badr Al-Olama is the Executive Director of the UAE Clusters unit within Mubadala's UAE Investments platform which has been formed to accelerate the UAE's economic transformation by investing in national champions, fostering vibrant industrial and commercial clusters, and partnering with world-class global organizations.

In addition to his responsibilities in overseeing a diverse portfolio of businesses in multiple sectors spanning across technology, aerospace, and healthcare, Badr is leading a dynamic team that are incubating new sectors and startups to further diversify the UAE's economy, and is also heading the Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summit (GMIS) – a pioneering collaborative platform that has been jointly established by the United Arab Emirates and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Badr is the Chairman of Strata Manufacturing (Strata), the Sanad Group (Sanad), and Emirates Post Group, and also serves as a Board Director at Al Yah Satellite Communications Company (Yahsat), Mubadala Health, Shuaa Capital, Oumolat Security Printing, TASIAP GmbH – a joint venture with Daimler AG, as well as a number of automotive and energy joint ventures in Algeria.

Through GMIS, Badr also oversees the Mohammed bin Rashid Initiative for Global Prosperity – an open innovation platform that aims to accelerate solutions that solve real world challenges that are linked to the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

Nominated as a 'Young Global Leader for the Middle East and North Africa Region' by the World Economic Forum in 2016, Badr began his career as a lawyer and holds a degree in Shari'a and Law from the UAE University (2002) as well as an LL.M from Harvard Law School (2005).

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Frank McCrorie
COO
Abu Dhabi Airports

Frank McCrorie is the Chief Operations Officer at Abu Dhabi Airports. As an experienced and resourceful aviation professional, with an extensive track-record of successful project delivery across a diverse range of markets, he oversees all of Abu Dhabi Airports' ongoing operational areas, working to ensure the delivery of a smooth and seamless airport experience for all passengers, partners, and staff at Abu Dhabi Airports.

Frank is accountable for every aspect of Abu Dhabi Airport's round-the-clock operations across the group's five airports in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. Using his comprehensive knowledge of airport operations, he consistently seeks to enhance the experience of passengers using Abu Dhabi Airport's infrastructure, alongside ensuring efficient and regular service provision for airline partners operating at Abu Dhabi Airport's facilities. Having overseen the delivery of a range of capital projects, Frank brings sweeping insight into the wider development of Abu Dhabi's key aviation infrastructure.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Ms. Mariam Al Qubaisi
Head of Sustainability
Etihad Airways

Ms. Mariam is the Head of Sustainability at Etihad Aviation Group. Before that, she worked as an instructor in the department of Interdisciplinary Studies at Zayed University where she taught Environmental and Natural Sciences. Mariam holds an MPhil in Engineering for Sustainable Development from the University of Cambridge. Her research interests include water resource management, environmental policy, and innovation and technology management.

Mariam co-founded the Arab Innovation Network (AIN) in 2011, a youth initiative focused on inspiring innovative solutions to environmental and health challenges in the Arab region. As a member of AIN, she was actively involved with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in the Middle East.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Jason Sutcliffe
Regional Marketing
Director - EMEA
Rolls-Royce

Member of the Rolls-Royce regional leadership team, directing all customer marketing activity including product and services in the Europe, Middle East, Africa and Central Asia region, playing a customer relationship role in both the Prospecting, Target and Sales phases, 2012 – 2017 the role was in Derby, England. Managed the flow of product and services data to potential customers, including RFP responses and acting as the focal point for the product, services and marketing issues. Led the charge in Africa to generate a pull for Rolls-Royce products and services playing a key role in increasing RR powered aircraft market share from 21% to 56% over 6 years. Utilised value analysis of the product/service packages in the specific customer's operation to demonstrate differential advantage over the competition. In most cases provided over \$40m of value to offset against competition claims in campaigns worth over \$1b to Rolls-Royce. Understood the product & services position against competitors in specific campaigns and devised tactical plans to disrupt the competition. Manage relationships with Airbus, Boeing and Embraer, Bombardier and Lessors in region, gaining their trust so that information is shared, including Marketing and Selling together.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mohamed Showky
Founder & CEO
GIS Drones

In September 2020, Mohammed founded GeoDrones Aerial Services, a Dubai based Commercial Drone Services & Solutions Provider, commissioned with a mission to provide superior quality Drone Services to customers across the United Arab Emirates & the Gulf region. In less than 1 year, he has successfully managed to create corporate collaborations with Abu Dhabi and Dubai governments and delivered multiple major projects to high profile companies in topology surveying, bathymetric and solar panels inspection. He wants position GeoDrones to be the Industry Leader in Commercial Drone Services across United Arab Emirates and the GCC region, and is always in the duel to preserve, uphold and be conversant with the advancements in Drones.

PANEL MODERATOR



Professor Richard Curran
Head of Aviation Management
University of London

Professor Curran, City's Head of Aviation Management, has led on a long-term relationship with Dassault Systèmes as part of the University's drive towards Accelerated Sustainable Aviation (ASA), a truly unique collaboration that is now already bearing fruit.

City's Aviation Management collaboration has three goals:

Accelerating sustainable aviation and minimizing all environmental and climate effects;

Exploiting simulation and virtual/augmented/haptic reality technologies to empower research and pioneering steps forward;

Educating and developing our students, industry, academia, and all stakeholders as the future saviors of a sustainable, safe and sensible world.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Mark Souter
SVP Aviation Development
Abu Dhabi Airports

Mark has worked in aviation for over 20 years.

He is the SVP Aviation Development for ADAC.

He started his career at British Airways where he undertook several roles in Commercial Planning, Revenue Management and Corporate Sales. After 10 years he then left to join London Stansted Airport in its newly-created role of "Head of Airline Relations" and as part of the then BAA-controlled airport group. Mark joined Manchester Airports Group (MAG) when it acquired London Stansted in 2013. Following a short stint at Etihad Airways in Global Sales, Mark then re-joined MAG in 2015 where he focusses on long haul route development for London Stansted with emphasis on the Americas and Asian markets.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Amer Khan
Vice President
Middle East, Africa,
& The Sub-Continent
Etihad Airways

Mr. Amer Khan is the Vice President - Middle East, Africa, & The Subcontinent responsible for managing Etihad Airways' commercial operations across 16 countries from the airline's base in Abu Dhabi. With more than 14 years' experience in the travel industry, he joined Etihad Airways in 2009 as country manager in Pakistan, and moved onto the role of area general manager for Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Khan began his career with South African Airways in the UK before moving onto American Airlines where he served as the regional manager for the Middle East and Pakistan based in the UK and UAE.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Raghu Seelamonthula
Director
Honeywell

Raghu Seelamonthula is Director of Strategy & Growth for Airside & Towers Systems at Honeywell Airports Business. He is responsible for driving Strategy, Growth & Innovation to deliver critical outcomes for Airport Operators and Air Navigation Service Providers.

He has been in the industry for more than 25 years and is a global advocate and subject matter expert for airport integration technology and the benefits it can provide to airports, airlines, air navigation service providers, communities, and the flying public. He has played various roles as Technology Strategist, Solutions Leader and Strategy & Product Leader for Airside & Towers Systems for past 15 years.

He is currently involved in various Airside & Towers Systems projects across Asia Pacific, Middle East, and Europe and actively involved in Honeywell contributions to SESAR-JU programs. He believes that INNOVATION is SEEING what everyone else has seen, THINKING what no one has thought, and DOING what no one else has dared!

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Sanjeev Gadhia
Founder &
Chief Executive Officer
Astral Aviation Ltd

Sanjeev S Gadhia is the Founder and CEO of Astral Aviation Ltd which is a dedicated all-cargo airline based in Nairobi, Kenya and operates a fleet of seven cargo aircrafts into Europe and within Africa. Operating one of the most successful airlines in Africa for 16 years, Sanjeev is responsible for the overall management, network planning and fleet acquisition for Astral Aviation, along with its Pan African expansion strategy, which entails two new cargo hubs in West and Southern Africa, including diversification into Logistics, Airport Infrastructure, Executive Jets and Unmanned Cargo Aircrafts. Sanjeev is rated as a "New Generation Leader for Africa" by the prestigious African Leadership Network, while Astral has been rated as the best all-cargo carrier in Africa in 2011, 2013 and 2015. In September 2016, Sanjeev was appointed Vice Chairman of AFRAA's Cargo Committee based on his extensive experience in the air cargo sector in Africa. A banker by profession, Sanjeev has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Schiller International University in London, in addition to being a member of EO (Entrepreneurs Organization). Sanjeev is a Kenyan citizen and is married with 2 children.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Sunil Malhotra
Managing Partner
Bchain Consultants

Sunil Malhotra is the Managing Partner of Bchain Consultants. He is an entrepreneur, investor and management consultant with over 32 years of rich experience across M&A, corporate finance, technology, manufacturing, F&B, retail, loyalty, aviation and transportation industries. Sunil has deep functional knowledge of corporate finance, technology, supply chain and operations and extensive expertise across the value chain bring global experience, having led engagements for Governments and Private sector across Europe, North America, Asia, Middle East and Africa. Prior to joining Bchain, he has led the MENA advisory practice for a leading Big 4 (PwC & EY) directing large scale organization transformation projects comprising performance improvement, investments & deals, risk and governance services, business and operational strategies, process design and improvement, project management and business transformation implementation initiatives. Sunil holds a Master of Business Administration, from The School of Management, Bradford University, United Kingdom, specializing in strategic management. He also holds a Bachelor of Commerce, with finance and economics. He holds a Diploma in Airline Management from International Air Transport Association, (IATA) and a Diploma in Hotel Management from The Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition. Sunil also holds a Diploma in Business Management from The National Executive Board of Supervisory Management (NEBSM), United Kingdom and a Certificate in Complete Direct Marketing from The Institute of Direct Marketing, Teddington, United Kingdom. Sunil is a PMP and holds a Certificate in Project Management (PMP) from International Institute of Learning (IIL), United States. In his spare time, Sunil loves travelling, reading business articles and writing.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Steven Polmans
VP Business Development
Free Trade Zone &
Government Affairs
Abu Dhabi Airports
Chairman - TIACA

Steven Polmans started his career after graduating in 1995 in aviation joining a European handling company and he since spent most of his career in the industry. After having held several operational and management position at different airports in handling, he joined Brussels Airport in 2010 as Cargo Marketing Manager and was appointed Head of Cargo and Logistics in 2012. In this position, he was responsible for developing and implementing the overall cargo strategy of the airport.

Steven was also the founding father and first chairman of Air Cargo Belgium, a newly established air cargo organisation at BRUcargo, grouping all stakeholders. On April 1st 2019, Steven was promoted to Director Cargo & Logistics, adding all responsibilities for cargo real estate development and portfolio management to its existing role.

Steven joined the board of TIACA, The International Air Cargo Association, in August 2016, and became Vice Chairman in October 2017. As of July 2019, Steven took over the role of Chairman at TIACA, a position he still holds today.

In January 2021, Steven moved on and joined Nallian as their Chief Customer Officer, a data sharing company building amongst others the innovative BRUcloud platform. In February 2022, Steven became VP at Abu Dhabi Airport Company to realise the cargo ambitions and growth set by the airport.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Bachi Spiga
Head Of Operations
DHL Express Middle
East and North Africa

Bachi Spiga is the Head of Operations, DHL Express Middle East and North Africa. He oversees the Operational Performance and infrastructure in the region across 19 markets, including MENA Aviation, Middle East Road Network and the 2 regional Distribution Centres of Dubai And Bahrain

Having joined DHL Express more than 30 years ago, Bachi is a veteran of the industry and has worked in Italy, UK, as well as many assignments in other parts of Europe.

During his time Bachi has overseen the expansion of the air and road networks as well as the rapid expansion of our footprint in the Middle east over the last 22 years, along with market leading performance and service enhancements, the Regional Hubs in Dubai and Bahrain (DHL regional head office), commercial air partnerships and customer Services at various times during his tenure.

Prior to this, he was the Country Services Manager for DHL International UAE for 3 years. He was also involved in other various managerial roles including Customer Service Manager for the Middle East, General Manager in East Midlands UK and Hub and gateway Manager in Italy.

Bachi is dual British and Italian national and is married with 3 children. In his leisure time, he enjoys playing football and Skiing.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Martin Drew
SVP Sales and Cargo
Etihad Airways
Group

Martin was appointed as Senior Vice President – Sales & Cargo, Etihad Aviation Group in November 2020. As a member of the Etihad Aviation Group Executive Management team, Martin oversees Passenger Sales, Etihad Cargo and Etihad Secure Logistics, in addition to several business development opportunities at the Abu Dhabi hub.

With more than 20 years of experience in the aviation industry, Martin has served in various leadership roles across the cargo and aviation industry at international carriers including Etihad, DAS Air Cargo, ANA Aviation Services and Lufthansa Cargo. Before stepping into the role of Senior Vice President for Sales & Cargo at Etihad Aviation Group, Martin headed Etihad Airways' global sales organisation across 17 countries in Europe and the Americas, including Passenger Sales, Marketing and Alliances, with a revenue budget of USD1.65bn. During this time, he significantly improved the quality of business by reducing dependence on low yielding through higher premium revenues, increased corporate traffic and improved the channel mix.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Jaideep Mirchandani
Chairman & CEO
Skyone Aviation

Jaideep Mirchandani is the Group Chairman of Skyone FZE, a leading aviation holding entity with interests in several aviation firms globally managing a fleet strength of over 50 airplanes and helicopters of various modifications. Jaideep holds a Mechanical Engineering degree and brings in deep aviation management and leadership experience in operating a highly diverse and profitable aviation entity. Skyone Group has a portfolio of diverse aviation assets both rotor and fixed wing. It operates Bell412, Mi172 helicopters in India and Indonesia and Boeing 747's and IL76's in Middle East, Europe and China and Bombardier aircraft in India. It also operates a fleet of Mi-8 helicopters. Skyone has a specialized charter business for passengers going for Hajj and Umrah. It specializes in wet leasing with several leading passengers and global cargo airlines from China, Africa and Middle East, making it one of the leading privately-owned aviation companies in the Gulf.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Raju Ramineni
Regional Airfreight Director
Kerry Logistics
Middle East LLC

Raju has over 17 years of experience in the shipping and freight forwarding in Airfreight industry. Through this experience I have built strong relationships with all the carriers which enable me to manage the procurement of freight for Kerry Logistics Middle East UAE and the regional. In addition to this I also provide strong operational leadership to the Airfreight teams in the Middle East region.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Glyn Hughes
Director General
TIACA

Glyn has been involved in Air Cargo for nearly 40 years having started his career with British Caledonian in the UK. He joined IATA in 1991 and become IATA's Global Head of Cargo in June 2014, where he had overall responsibility to deliver the agenda agreed by the Cargo Committee to support the Air Cargo industry. In February 2021, Glyn joined TIACA as its first Director general where he will work with the Board to deliver the organization's vision for a safe, profitable and united air cargo industry that embraces modern technologies and practices to sustainably and fairly serve trade and social development worldwide. Priority areas include safety, security, digitalization and innovation. He is dedicated to developing collaborative relationships and is a firm believer in supporting the next generation of industry leaders and innovators. Glyn spends a large amount of time on outreach programs with training and other educational establishments.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Andrew Murphy
CIO
Abu Dhabi Airports

Andrew Murphy was appointed as the Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Abu Dhabi Airports in 2022. With two decades of aviation technology experience, Murphy has a proven record in delivering large scale digital transformation projects and has held leadership roles spanning 8 airports in four countries. In his role, Murphy ensures Abu Dhabi Airports continues to leverage digitalisation opportunities and enable development and growth plans through improving the digital infrastructure across the organisation. Prior to joining Abu Dhabi Airports, Murphy led the IT function at Dublin Airport in Ireland and was responsible for developing the IT strategy and subsequent delivery of a new state-of-the-art new terminal, T2. He also served on the ACI World Airport IT Standing Committee (WAITSC) for 3 years, leading the adoption of new Airport IT Strategy frameworks for ACI worldwide. With more than 8 years' experience in the Middle East, developing and successfully opening new airports in 3 GCC countries, Murphy led the digital transformation strategy for Oman Airports and later for Oman Aviation Group, as Director of Aviation Solutions across the group (Oman Airports, Oman Air & TRANSOM). Murphy holds a Master of Science in Management Practice from the Irish Management Institute (IMI).

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Dr. Mark Pierotti
Commercial Director
Abu Dhabi Aviation

Dr. Mark J Pierotti has been in the aviation industry for 32 years. He holds a PhD in Aircraft Engineering & Operations, a Master's Degree in Aviation Management & a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He also has an aircraft maintenance license & pilot's license. Having held positions up to a CEO & COO including AOC Accountable Manager with detailed knowledge of fixed & rotary wing operations. Dr. Pierotti started his career with British Airways, then moving onto Emirates Airlines, The Presidential Flight of Abu Dhabi, AJA Private Jets & is now a Director with Abu Dhabi Aviation (ADA). Dr. Pierotti was previously the MD & Accountable Manager of Avisa Gulf an international aviation consulting firm, CAMO & training organization that conducted aviation business plan development, CAMO, aircraft assessments, aircraft sales & procurement, airline restructuring, aviation training as well as many other consulting projects. Dr. Pierotti remains today, as well as being a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, a Professor in Aviation Operations Management & Aircraft Engineering at universities in the UK & UAE.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Maximilian Buerger
Director
**AFM.aero &
Aviationfly.com**

Managing Director of Market Intelligence Platform and Advisory Company AFM.aero, Technology Platform Aviationfly.com and one of the largest Instagram Aviation pages 'InstagramAviation' in the world. Can be reached via LinkedIn message or email - max@afm.aero Did you know that globally there is approximately 2.5 Million Individuals for every Pilot Training Organization? And that 70% of the global Pilot Training Infrastructure (Flight Schools) are in developed countries while 87% of the global population is in developing countries? (Data sourced from AFM.aero) We have built platforms with the aim to digitally connect the global pilot training stakeholders similar to how the aviation industry has connected the world!

PANELIST / SPEAKER



**Captain
Nadhem Al-Hamad**
CEO
T3 Training

Nadhem is an airline captain by profession with over twenty years of management experience in the aviation industry.

In addition to managing T3 Aviation Academy, Nadhem also holds examiner and training positions for Airbus A320. From directing Air Arabia Maroc's operations to heading Air Arabia Jordan as CEO, Nadhem played a vital role in setting-up multiple airline bases in Nepal, Morocco and Jordan.

Nadhem believes in building cohesive organizational culture through talent development and coaching in.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. David Studden
Senior Manager
Business Development
& Marketing
GCAS

If you were to ask David what a key passion for him is, his answer would be Aviation. Even after 22+ years of experience in the industry, there is still so much to learn, so many people to connect with, that his passion for aviation remains undiminished!

David has worked in a variety of roles with leading airlines in India and the Middle East from strategic planning, business development, learning & development & marketing.

Another passion of David is people and this quote from the book "When Breath Becomes Air" sums it up; «Human knowledge is never contained in one person. It grows from the relationship we create between each other and the world, and it is still never complete»

While work occupies a large part of our lives, the people that we love, know & interact with, is what makes life and living so very meaningful.

His current job role is Senior Manager – Business Development with the Gulf Center for Aviation Studies.

David is what you call a "global" wanderer, having lived, and worked in several countries during his career. While new countries and cities have their own unique "logistical", cultural and communication challenges, he always enjoys the knowledge, experiences, and new friends that every place brings with it.

His pride & joy is his family – his wife, Judith and two sons – Nihal & Aaryan.

David believes that life is a life-long learning experience and looks forward to learning, interacting and sharing and of course, networking!

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Kashish Kohli
Group Chief Financial Officer
SANAD

Kashish Kohli is the Group Chief Financial Officer of SANAD. He is responsible for the financial stewardship of the Company, including capital and operating budgets, financial affairs and reporting, FP&A, taxes, investments, and debt/treasury management and plays a significant role in Sanad's strategic leadership. He is also responsible for the Supply Chain Management and Information Technology department for both the businesses. Kashish has been instrumental in the turnaround of Sanad and transformation of the Finance, SCM and IT functions.

His career spans more than 17 years of varied experience in financial management, investment banking, investment management, capital markets, restructuring, process improvement and business leadership. Previously, he was Vice President at Mubadala in the Acquisitions and Investment Management Team from 2010 to 2014. Kashish joined Mubadala Acquisition and Investment Management Team in 2010 and during his tenure primarily focused on Mubadala's Aerospace portfolio. Continuing his career with Mubadala, he moved to Abu Dhabi Aircraft Technologies LLC (ADAT) in January 2014 to lead the carve-out of the Engine Services Division from ADAT resulting in the incorporation of TS&S Aerospace in Q3 2014.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Raffi Kasparian
Managing Director
Alton Aviation Consultancy

Raffi Kasparian is the Managing Director of Alton's Dubai office. He brings over 20 years of international management consulting and industry experience with a focus on air transport, logistics and infrastructure sectors. Raffi has led the development of various company reviews, business planning engagements and transaction advisory cases for major airports, airline groups and aviation investors. Prior to joining Alton, Raffi has had former consulting roles at tier-one strategy and management consulting firms where he developed several assignments primarily in the context of large-scale value creation programs. He was also part of the consulting team at Lufthansa Group where he served as a technical and commercial advisor on numerous airline planning assignments and company reviews. Raffi began his career in aviation at Middle East Airlines where he was responsible for production planning and corporate development issues, driving network and fleet planning decisions as well as the rollout of market intelligence solutions. He received his MBA from IMD business school in Switzerland and a BE in Industrial Engineering from the Lebanese American University.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Adam Cowburn
Managing Director
Alton Aviation Consultancy

Adam Cowburn is one of the co-founders and a Managing Director of Alton Aviation Consultancy, with over 20 years' experience in the aviation industry. Mr Cowburn is also the leader of the business aviation practice at Alton. Provides advice on strategic planning, new business development, mergers and acquisitions, business and asset valuations, financial modeling, and geographic expansion; extensive experience with business plan development and market analysis. Previously Managing Director of SH&E and ICF's aviation strategy, airline, and Asia-Pacific businesses. Mr Cowburn began his career in investment banking at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Frank McCrorie
Chief Operations Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Frank McCrorie is the Chief Operations Officer at Abu Dhabi Airports. As an experienced and resourceful aviation professional, with an extensive track-record of successful project delivery across a diverse range of markets, he oversees all of Abu Dhabi Airports' ongoing operational areas, working to ensure the delivery of a smooth and seamless airport experience for all passengers, partners, and staff at Abu Dhabi Airports. Frank is accountable for every aspect of Abu Dhabi Airport's round-the-clock operations across the group's five airports in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. Using his comprehensive knowledge of airport operations, he consistently seeks to enhance the experience of passengers using Abu Dhabi Airport's infrastructure, alongside ensuring efficient and regular service provision for airline partners operating at Abu Dhabi Airport's facilities. Having overseen the delivery of a range of capital projects, Frank brings sweeping insight into the wider development of Abu Dhabi's key aviation infrastructure. Prior to joining Abu Dhabi Airports, Frank was Senior Vice President of Operations at Dubai International Airport. Overseeing a team of over 1,300 staff, he held responsibility for all operations at the airport. During his time at Dubai, Frank designed and delivered a step transformation for performance across the airport's operations, oversaw the successful implementation of all investment programs, and enabled Dubai International Airport's world-class Airport Operations Control Centre. Frank has previously served at Mumbai International Airport, India, as Director of Operations, and at Stansted Airport in London, UK, first as Airside Director, then as Airside and Engineering Director, and then subsequently as Operations Director. Frank began his aviation career at Edinburgh Airport in the United Kingdom.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Ahmed Al Shehhi
Acting Senior Manager Airspace
Section Air Navigation
& Aerodromes Department
UAE GCAA

Ahmed Al Shehhi is the Senior Manager of the Airspace section of the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority, he is responsible of the regulatory, oversight and approval of activities affecting the UAE Airspace, Aeronautical Information Management, this includes drones airspace usage. Ahmed is a holder of Diploma in Aviation Safety, and has previously been an Airspace specialist in charge of airspace design at the Sheikh Zayed Air Navigation Center in the UAE. He started his career as an Air Traffic Controller.

Speaker



Mr. Kuljit S. Ghata-Aura
President, Middle East,
Turkey & Africa
**Boeing International
Corporation**

Kuljit Ghata-Aura is president of Boeing Middle East, Turkey and Africa (META). He is responsible for coordinating all companywide activities in the region and developing and implementing country and regional strategies. Ghata-Aura focuses on government affairs, new business and industrial partnership opportunities, corporate citizenship projects, expanding the Boeing presence and strengthening company relationships with customers and other stakeholders. He is based in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates and reports to Michael Arthur, president of Boeing International.

Ghata-Aura joined Boeing in 2010 and has progressed through several leadership positions. He most recently served as vice president and assistant general counsel for Boeing Global Services, from its inception in July 2017. He was responsible for the development and implementation of the strategy and activities of the legal and compliance teams including business structuring, transactional support, litigation and governance.

Prior to that, Ghata-Aura held roles as regional counsel for Europe, Russia and Israel and between 2010 and 2016, was regional counsel for India, Middle East, Turkey and Africa based in Dubai. He was responsible for advising the enterprise on all legal and compliance issues within the regions. In addition to his legal responsibilities, he also served as director of UAE Market Development, where he was responsible for planning and implementing key company initiatives in the United Arab Emirates.

Before joining Boeing, Ghata-Aura was a founding partner of Eversheds in Abu Dhabi. He previously spent 13 years practicing law in London, predominantly focusing on cross-border mergers & acquisitions, cross-border joint ventures, capital markets and general corporate and commercial work. Ghata-Aura is a British Citizen, born in Uganda, and grew up in London. He is a graduate of Oxford University and qualified as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales in 1997.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. David Doherty
Head of Sales
Etihad Airways Engineering

Aviation Professional with experience in sales, contract management, lease delivery and returns, aircraft operations and management.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Mark Green
Head ANS Projects
GANS

Mark is the Head of ANS Projects at Global Air Navigation Services. He has 29 years' experience working in the Air Traffic Control domain, initially as a controller before moving to deliver change into operations, notably in Airspace Design, the deployment of cutting-edge ATM Systems and the development of ATM concepts.

Mark started his career at Eurocontrol's Maastricht Centre, before moving to London Terminal Control Centre at NATS, where he progressed to become the technical lead for NATS input to SESAR's Terminal Airspace work package.

In 2010 Mark moved to the Middle East, working at Serco for Dubai Air Navigation Services in the role of Head of ATM Development before joining Global ANS in 2015. As the Head of ANS Projects, Mark is responsible for the delivery of the diverse portfolio of programmes and projects.

Mark has overseen major airspace changes, deployment of new technologies, such as the A-SMGCS automated 'Follow the Greens' 4 capability at Abu Dhabi International, and has led the development of advanced ATM concepts.

PANEL MODERATOR



Nasser Juma
Vice President,
Air Navigation Services
Abu Dhabi Airports

Dr. Naser has 34 years of rich and varied experience in Aviation Industry he holds a Doctorate Business Administration (DBA), and a Master of Applied Business Research (2020) with a Master of Science in Air Transport Management (2004-2007)

His aviation career started as Air traffic Control officer in 1987. In 1988 he completed Air Traffic Control Course from Dundridge College, U.K.

In 1996 he completed Approach Radar Course, SERCO Bailbrook College, Bath, England, In 1987 was granted an Air Traffic Control license and worked as an Air Traffic Control Officer in Fujairah International Airport. In 1998 he was promoted to the post of Manager Air Traffic Control.

In 2002 he was given additional task as airport safety Manager. In 2008 he joined Abu Dhabi Airport Company as Head of Safety Security & Emergency. From 2009 -2010 Abu Dhabi Airports Vice President Safety Security & Emergency. From 2010-2014 Vice President Air Navigation Services Abu Dhabi Airports, From 2014 – 2022 General Manager Operations Support, Abu Dhabi Airports, From September 2022 Vice President Air Navigation Services Abu Dhabi Airport

Dr. Al Blooshi is accredited Airport Management Professional he holds (AMPAP) accreditation, he attended several international, regional and national courses and seminars and participated in various aviation workshops. Presented various presentation on ATM challenges, innovations, related to aerodromes, Airspace Management, within National and international forum of aviation industry.

Dr. Al Blooshi's, objectives to utilize his strong successful managerial experience in airport operations to Establish quality, safety, compliance, and sound operational standards to produce positive impact on overall performance of the organization, and he provide leadership and direction to ensure the Air Navigation Services (ANS) and operates according to National and International regulations, and to ensure efficient and safe functioning of equipment, the movement of aircraft, and personnel across all ADAC operated airports.

PANEL 01

The aim of Panel 01 : To discuss developments in green mobility and outline the current state, customer requirements along with the UAE infrastructure support. The panel will also discuss emerging trends in the EV sector and how Governments can support growth of green mobility solutions.

SUPPORTED BY



09:55-10:15 : DEVELOPMENTS IN GREEN MOBILITY

- Current state of the market and customer appetite
- The UAE infrastructure and support
- How Al-Futtaim Automotive is driving the UAE forward with its green mobility strategy and vision
- Emerging trends in the EV sector
- How a relationship with government is crucial to accelerating the green strategy, and how the UAE is supporting the growth and adoption of green mobility solutions

Speaker



Mr. Vincent Wijnen
Senior Managing Director
AL-FUTTAIM AUTOMOTIVE

Speaker



Mr. Jonathan Pollock
Regional Managing Director - Emerging Brands
AL-FUTTAIM AUTOMOTIVE

Speaker



Yousuf AlRaeesi
Director of GCR & HSSE
AL-FUTTAIM AUTOMOTIVE

Moderator



Claire Lawson
General Manager
IMPACT PORTER NOVELLI

PANEL 02

The aim of Panel 02 : Major technology developments have reshaped the vertical take off and landing (eVTOL) hybrid aircrafts which has a game changing influence across the aviation sector. The Panel aims at discussing opportunities and challenges along with some key industry trends and benefits of the eVTOL developments.

10:15-11:00 : FUTURE OF URBAN MOBILITY – EVTOL HYBRID AIRCRAFT

- Diversity, equality and inclusion in aviation
- Recruitment - challenges & opportunities
- People Sustainability
- Training & development in aviation

Speaker



Mr. Georgy Alafinov
Chief Executive Officer
JETKA

Speaker



Aqeel Al Zarooni
Acting Assistant
Director General -
Aviation Safety
UAE GCAA

Speaker



**Captain
Ramandeep Oberoi**
Chief Operating Officer and
Accountable Manager
Falcon Aviation Services

Speaker



Mr. Victor Lefevre
Head of MEA
Eve Air Mobility

Moderator



Mr. Jean J. Botti
CEO and CTO
VoltAero

PANEL 03

The aim of Panel 03 : Robotics and AI have been a disruptive technology and this panel aims at outlining how these emerging technologies are reshaping the aviation business. It will discuss some key opportunities and challenges along with the much-needed balance required between machines and humans.

11:00-11:45 : ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY, AI AND ROBOTICS IN AVIATION

- Key opportunities & challenges
- The balance between machines & humans
- Impact of industry 4.0 emerging technologies on aviation
- Cybersecurity & cyber-resilience
- Airport Smart Gates – case study

Speaker



Mr. Sanjay Sharma
Head of Information Technology
Jumeriah International

Speaker



Mr. Andrew Kendall
Account Director
UAE, MICROSOFT

Speaker



Mr. Marcelo Kekligian
Vice President, Data & Automation
NEXT 50

Speaker



Mr. Lidor Revah
Co-Founder & CEO
IMPERIUM JETS

Speaker



Ms. Kanika Tekriwal
Co-Founder and CEO
JETSETGO

Speaker



Mr. Andrew Murphy
Chief Information Officer
Abu Dhabi Airports

Moderator



Mr. Mazen Thabet
Marketing & Communication Lead
Abu Dhabi Airports

PANEL 04

The aim of Panel 04 : Retail services have seen a dramatic shift towards e commerce particularly during Covid-19 and onwards. How is this impacting retail across airports? How are the non-aeronautical services changing the airport retail landscape and what are some key airport retailing trends and opportunities?

11:45-12:30 : RETAIL & SERVICES AT AIRPORTS

- Role and value of Non-Aeronautical Services
- Airport retail – key trends
- Abu Dhabi Airport – opportunities in the future

Speaker



Mr. Gareth Warwick
SVP Retail
Abu Dhabi Airports

Speaker



Ms. Rafaela Efstathiou
Business Development
Manager
Ariadnemaps

Speaker



Mr. Padmanabhan Subramaniam Iyer
Managing Director
Il Granaio delle Idee

Speaker



Mr. Anupam Saxena
Managing Director
TrueLucent International

Moderator



Mr. Sunil Malhotra
Managing Partner
Bchain Consultants

BIOGRAPHIES

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Vincent Wijnen
Senior Managing Director
AL-FUTTAIM AUTOMOTIVE

Al-Futtaim Automotive's Senior Managing Director, Vincent is an automotive industry veteran with over 30 years' management experience spanning business planning, marketing and strategy across geographies. Formerly at Nissan for over 25 years, he was instrumental to their growth across different countries. He started within the Aftersales division of Nissan Europe in the Netherlands, moving onto becoming the VP of Marketing for Nissan Europe; Managing Director for Nissan Germany, Switzerland & Austria; and Vice President of After-Sales, Customer Quality & Training. His last role at Nissan was Senior Vice President of Sales & Marketing at Nissan Motor Asia Pacific, where he looked after the overall sales, marketing, aftersales, customer quality and product planning for Southeast Asia and Oceania markets.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Jonathan Pollock
Regional Managing Director -
Emerging Brands
AL-FUTTAIM AUTOMOTIVE

As the Regional Managing Director of Emerging Brands, Jonathan is responsible for introducing new automotive brands into the GCC region, and the appointed business lead for Polestar in the UAE. Jonathan brings with him a rich and vast 30-year experience of managing business operations within the automotive sector. He started working with Al-Futtaim in 2021, where he was first appointed Managing Director at DOMASCO, a leading multi-brand company based in Qatar, before taking on his current position only nine months later. Previously, Jonathan worked with several leading brands from McLaren Automotive Ltd to Nissan Motor GB Ltd across different roles and countries. Prior to his role with Al-Futtaim, Jonathan was Interim Global Head of Sales at Aston Martin Lagonda Ltd where he was responsible for all sales, operations, planning, network development and overseeing regional offices across the USA, UK, Europe, and China. He also took up the role of EV Consultant Lead at MHA Macintyre Hudson, where he was heavily involved in all aspects of EV commercialisation and provided advice and guidance on EV activations from strategic big energy solutions to infrastructure support and dealer network training and development.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Yousuf AlRaeesi
Director of GCR & HSSE
AL-FUTTAIM AUTOMOTIVE

Prior to joining the automotive sector, Yousuf Ali AlRaeesi spent 15 years working within the UAE's Ministry of Defense. Bringing with him a wealth of connections, knowledge and expertise, he has now served for over 30 years within the region's automotive sector and continues to grow the sector as Al-Futtaim Automotive's Director of GCR & HSSE. His exceptional leadership qualities have significantly contributed to the business unit's tremendous success.

AlRaeesi joined Al-Futtaim Group in 2012 as the General Manager of Government Relations & HSSE for Al-Futtaim Motors, where his key responsibilities involved proactive engagement with government bodies, understanding core requirements, communicating, and showcasing services and capabilities across various business units, and working with internal and external stakeholders to develop pertinent propositions. Over a decade later, he was appointed to his current position where his responsibilities expanded to oversee the Al-Futtaim Automotive business units' compliance within the UAE.

PANEL MODERATOR



Claire Lawson
General Manager
IMPACT PORTER NOVELLI

Claire is a senior strategic and creative communications professional with over 15 years of experience in corporate, financial, technology and consumer public relations and is the General Manager of Impact Porter Novelli, an award-winning, global purpose communications consultancy.

Claire has led integrated communications campaigns across the EMEA and MENA regions for some of the most exciting brands including Amazon, IKEA, LinkedIn, Al-Futtaim, BMW, Nokia, Meraas, HSBC and Masdar. Her responsibilities have included creating, leading and driving PR programmes focusing on the consistent delivery of effective campaigns that drive results in-line with business objectives. She has also conducted media training for many of the senior executives across her clients. In addition to strategic planning and people management, her areas of expertise include global PR coordination and corporate positioning and she prides herself on continuously providing fresh thinking on behalf of her clients.

Claire joined Impact Porter Novelli in September 2018 to lead the agency's corporate business which includes clients such as Al-Futtaim Group, IKEA and Amazon. She moved to the region six years ago from London where she worked at global PR agency Text100 for more than three years, leading international integrated communications campaigns across the EMEA region for consumer technology and b2c brands including SanDisk, Nokia, Lenovo and AMD.

Claire has been instrumental in the work that has won several awards for the agency's clients including the best retail campaign for Al-Futtaim IKEA at the 2021 MEPRAs.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Aqeel Al Zarooni
Acting Assistant
Director General -
Aviation Safety
UAE GCAA

Aqeel graduated in 1992 from the first batch of Aviation Engineering Technology-Aircraft Maintenance program. After graduation, Aqeel joined the workforce in the arena of Aviation industry with Emirates Airlines as an engineering trainee and in 1996 he obtained his Aircraft Maintenance Engineer License and progressed with his career as an Licensed Aircraft Engineer with multiple aircraft ratings.

From 2007-2010 Aqeel began his experience with the management moving to the role of Manager Regional Outstation Engineering. He continued his academic learning and in 2010 obtained his MBA in Aviation management from Emirates Aviation college in collaboration with Coventry University in the United Kingdom.

In 2010, Aqeel decided to move with his career and joined General Civil Aviation Authority as Director of Foreign Operator and since 2022 as Acting Assistant Director General –Aviation Safety Affairs.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



**Captain
Ramandeep Oberoi**
COO and
Accountable Manager
Falcon Aviation Services

Captain Ramandeep Oberoi has been the Chief Operating Officer and Accountable Manager of Falcon Aviation Services since July 2015. He was born and raised in New Delhi, India and graduated from National Defence Academy to serve the Indian Airforce as a Pilot and Flight Instructor. He is Experimental Test Pilot from the French Test Pilot School (EPNER) and was instrumental in doing prototype test flying for the Dhruv helicopter project with Eurocopter and HAL.

As Chief Operating Officer and Accountable Manager at Falcon Aviation Services, Capt. Ramandeep Oberoi is responsible for the local and international operations of the company. He brings more than 40 years of experience to Falcon Aviation yielded from playing an integral part in various types of operations; VIP, Commercial, Oil & Gas, and Military Aviation. His experience and leadership have been focused on developing and delivering technology-driven aviation services and solutions, providing formidable client services, and driving profitable revenue growth.

Capt. Ramandeep is responsible for designing and implementing business operations, establishing policies that promote the company's core values, culture, and vision, and overseeing the company's operations and the work of the Directors.

Prior to joining Falcon Aviation, Capt. Ramandeep Oberoi held several leadership positions with the Indian Airforce, HAL, MillionAir, Gulf Helicopters and Abu Dhabi Aviation. He was also involved in various startup Charter Aviation Companies in India and UAE.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Victor Lefevre
Head of MEA
Eve Air Mobility

Victor is an aviation & mobility enthusiast. Over the past 10 years, he worked for the MEA region, selling Embraer's aircraft (3rd aircraft manufacturer in the world) to airlines. In 2020, he took on a personal challenge and crossed Africa by land from Cape Town to Cairo.

He is now leading MEA for Eve Air Mobility, a company that produces electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft for the future of sustainable urban air mobility.

Eve's announce a partnership with Falcon Aviation (UAE) to launch touristic flights using an eVTOL from The Palm (Dubai) starting in 2026.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Jean J. Botti
CEO and CTO
VoltAero

Jean Botti is the CEO and CTO of VoltAero SA and also the Co-Founder. From March 2016 until March 2017 he was Chief Innovation and Strategy Officer at Philips NV. In Netherlands. From May 2006 to March 2016 he was Airbus Group Chief Technical Officer. Botti began his professional career at Renault in 1978 before joining the Chassis Engineering division of General Motors in the U.S. in 1989. Upon his return to France in 1992, Botti was appointed General Motors' Director of European Engineering for chassis components. In 1997, he returned to the U.S. to take over the reins of the Delphi Corporation's Customer Solution Center, a position he held until 2002. From 2002 to 2004, he managed Delphi's new corporate Dynamics, Propulsion and Thermal Innovation Center as Chief Technical Officer. He rounded out his time at Delphi as the Business Line Executive for the Powertrain product line, before joining Airbus Group in 2006.

Botti graduated from the National Institute of Applied Sciences (INSA) in Toulouse, France, in 1986, with a degree in mechanical engineering. He pursued further studies in the U.S., where he earned an MBA from Central Michigan University and a degree in Research and Development Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), both in 1991. In addition, he was awarded a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the National Conservatory of Arts and Trades (CNAM) Paris in 1995, in collaboration with the University of Michigan. Botti was awarded honorary degrees from Bath University and Cardiff University in 2010 and 2012 respectively, both in the U.K., as well as from the U.S.'s University of South Alabama in 2014.

During his time with Airbus Group, he pushed the Group forward on the path of innovation in various areas and through many initiatives. Botti's perhaps best-known initiative, the E-Fan all-electric aircraft, is a pioneering project for which he has received many international awards – including the prestigious “Pro Pilot Award” for the “Best Aviation Technical Development of the Year 2015” at the 13th Annual Living Legends of Aviation Awards in Los Angeles.

Botti also served with the European Research Area Board (ERAB) as the representative for aeronautics and space. In addition, he served as a member of the Federation of German Industries' (BDI) Technical Committee.

He received in 2016 the Medal of Honor from the French Civil Aviation Organization (DGAC). In 2021 he was elected French Engineer of the year by the professional newspaper l'Usine Nouvelle. He is a recipient of the French Legion d'Honneur (Chevalier).

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Sanjay Sharma
Head of Information Technology
Jumeriah International

Sanjay Sharma joined Jumeirah Group in December 2018 as Head of Information Technology. He brings with him extensive experience particularly in Digital Transformation initiatives, which will greatly assist the Group in its growth strategy. Sanjay came to Jumeirah from Emirates Airline where, during his 20 year career, he held a variety of positions across the Information Technology environment. His expansive project work encompassed a wealth of innovation including both the customer journey as well as the organisational infrastructure.

An Indian national, Sanjay has a Master's degree from Bradford University in Business Administration and a Bachelors in Computer Science and Engineering from India.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Andrew Kendall
Account Director
UAE, MICROSOFT

Andrew is an experienced Leader and strategic consultant who accelerates business outcomes in highly complex environments. He has over his 25 years' experience in the aeronautical IT sector in both the airport & airlines business with major customers globally, with a focus over the past 18 years on partners in the aviation ecosystem in the Middle East and Africa. Currently Andrew works for Microsoft in the capacity of Account Director managing a strategic aviation account in the UAE.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Marcelo Kekligian
Vice President,
Data & Automation
NEXT 50

Marcelo Kekligian – AI Data Science & Analytics Leader at NEXT50

With more than 30 years of consulting experience, Marcelo Kekligian demystifies the latest breakthroughs from digital, Artificial Intelligence and data to drive the innovation economy. His work spans multiple markets working with some of the world's most recognised brands across many sectors including government, aviation, financial services, telecommunications, health, and energy among others. He draws on his expansive expertise in big data, consumer behaviour and AI to accelerate organisations' journey to becoming completely data-driven.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Lidor Revah
Co-Founder & CEO
IMPERIUM JETS

Teams and project leader with over six years of experience working with the IDF special forces and the Israeli government. Co-Founder and CEO at Imperium Jets, one of the fastest-growing jet utilization platforms, Imperium helps jet operators optimize their operations and maximize their profits while opening business aviation to the public.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Ms. Kanika Tekriwal
Co-Founder and CEO
JETSETGO

An entrepreneur who is a relentless pursuer of hope, positivity and drive – Ms. Kanika Tekriwal was not only chosen as one of the 100 most inspirational women in the world by BBC but also recognized by Forbes Asia as one of the 30 under 30 leading entrepreneurs in Asia amongst various other accolades.. Her energy is infectious and compels everyone around her strive for even greater success. A marathon runner, a painter, a traveler and more – she is redefining her life every day.

Ms. Kanika Tekriwal started her journey in the aviation industry at the age of 17. During her tenure, she has seen the industry grow and has grown with it. It is well and truly safe to assume that she has learnt more than a thing or two about the industry in this time.

As her career unfolded, she saw the frustration suffered by any customer in regard to chartering planes or helicopters. The industry was clouded by charter brokers and operators who were more interested in their commission than satisfying their customers. The absence of a technology driven platform in the private aviation industry led to a lack of transparency and astronomical prices for the same. The demand for “something better” was the spark that led her to create “A professional and comprehensive technology driver charter service providing a variety of aircrafts with a transparent pricing system”

JetSetGo is a direct result of the desire to solve this problem. It is a customer-centric venture aimed at revolutionizing the private aviation business in the region by re-defining the experience for private charter customers.

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Mazen Thabet
Marketing &
Communication Lead
Abu Dhabi Airports

Over 2 decades in communication taught me to always have a solid strategy that's both measurable and aligned with the organization's commercial strategy. Public Relations & Communication form the central nervous system of any large/successful organization. Using lessons learnt over the years as well as sharing and transferring knowledge with team members is vital for professional growth. So often marketing teams within large organizations work in silos with disastrous effects and massive wastage of time and resources. PR should talk to marketing who should talk to advertising who talks to branding. I focus on bringing positive and innovative Communication experiences to the table. Having worked in Europe as well as the Middle East, it is clear that there are cultural nuances involved in managing internal as well as external audiences that are specific to each geography. In my role of managing corporate communication for Abu Dhabi Ports, all its subsidiaries including the massive Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi (KIZAD), I made huge strides to attracting the right clientele into specialized industrial clusters from all over the world. I was also responsible for more than doubling the media exposure for the company, within less than a year of taking control, and building its international visibility in global media as opposed to solely appearing in local and regional media. In my current role at the Giga project of Qiddiya in Riyadh, managing the communication for this epic 334 sq km site where THE Capital of Entertainment, Sports and Culture will flourish, I bring all my skills and experience to the table along with the team there to make this unique project a reality for the community in Riyadh, the Kingdom of Saudi and beyond. Specialties: Strategic Corporate Communication, Master Think-Tank.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Gareth Warwick
SVP Retail
Abu Dhabi Airports

Business development and improvement specialist with over 20 years blue chip experience from food to luxury fashion. Enjoyed international experience as European Managing Director of a fashion retail brand leading projects in Europe and US. Founded an online food business gaining important digital knowledge and spent recent years tackling client's commercial challenges from leadership coaching and category management through to successfully delivering significant investment projects and business plans. Worked in the aviation industry leading projects delivering innovative retail and service solutions to meet the fast-changing needs of airlines and their passengers around the world for gategroup. Now leading non-aero commercial at Abu Dhabi Airport Company & supporting delivery of the new Midfield Terminal.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Ms. Rafaela Efstathiou
Business Development
Manager
Ariadnemap

Rafaela is the Global Business Development Executive at Ariadne Maps with an over 10 years extensive background within the Hospitality and Retail industry. She is passionate about smart cities, smart crowd analytics and customer success.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Padmanabhan Subramaniam Iyer
Managing Director
Il Granaio delle Idee

Strategic management professional with deep experience of over 32 years in FMCG retail & food service management. Intrapreneur with proven skills and operational excellence having led major business transformation projects for leading brands in the UAE and EU. Have launched and delivered new brands in the GCC enabling multi-million-dollar businesses. A successful track record of delivering results and enabling the business for stakeholders. Committed leader focused to deliver bottom line improvements for shareholders through teamwork. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS# 1 Enabled Shareholder Value - Enabled EBITDA maximization for shareholders across businesses & projects thru prudent cost & efficiency optimization and maximization of net profit & contribution levels# 2 Implemented Teamwork & Technology Deployed and delivered teams & emerging new technology solutions for clients enabling process and business improvements # 3 Knowledge & Growth Focused – Delivered knowledge and experience sharing through bespoke training delivery and education of teams and business drivers to deliver results.

PANELIST / SPEAKER



Mr. Anupam Saxena
Managing Director
TrueLucent International

Master distribution and business consultancy for the Middle East, African and Indian subcontinent markets for emerging brands in beauty, personal care, watches, fashion, accessories and sporting goods. Regional consultant for Parfums Chopard for the MENA region including domestic and travel retail markets. An innovative and resourceful leader with more than 20 years of senior management experience in distribution and retail businesses in the Middle East, Indian subcontinent and North Africa. • Extensively networked in luxury and masstige beauty products and FMCG businesses with a proven track record of successfully changing business performances • Capable of creating effective market pathways for new and emerging brands across categories in the ME, Africa and Indian sub continent regions • Highly insightful and analytical • Have led and successfully concluded high level negotiations and change management initiatives • Effective team builder and facilitator with clear focus on people development

PANEL MODERATOR



Mr. Sunil Malhotra
Managing Partner
Bchain Consultants

Sunil Malhotra is the Managing Partner of Bchain Consultants. He is an entrepreneur, investor and management consultant with over 32 years of rich experience across M&A, corporate finance, technology, manufacturing, F&B, retail, loyalty, aviation and transportation industries. Sunil has deep functional knowledge of corporate finance, technology, supply chain and operations and extensive expertise across the value chain bring global experience, having led engagements for Governments and Private sector across Europe, North America, Asia, Middle East and Africa. Prior to joining Bchain, he has led the MENA advisory practice for a leading Big 4 (PwC & EY) directing large scale organization transformation projects comprising performance improvement, investments & deals, risk and governance services, business and operational strategies, process design and improvement, project management and business transformation implementation initiatives. Sunil holds a Master of Business Administration, from The School of Management, Bradford University, United Kingdom, specializing in strategic management. He also holds a Bachelor of Commerce, with finance and economics. He holds a Diploma in Airline Management from International Air Transport Association, (IATA) and a Diploma in Hotel Management from The Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition. Sunil also holds a Diploma in Business Management from The National Executive Board of Supervisory Management (NEBSM), United Kingdom and a Certificate in Complete Direct Marketing from The Institute of Direct Marketing, Teddington, United Kingdom. Sunil is a PMP and holds a Certificate in Project Management (PMP) from International Institute of Learning (IIL), United States. In his spare time, Sunil loves travelling, reading business articles and writing.

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