



THE GLOBAL AEROSPACE SURFACE FINISHING CONFERENCE

25th Edition

BIARRITZ • FRANCE

22-24 SEPTEMBER 2026

THE GLOBAL MEETING PLACE FOR AEROSPACE SURFACE INNOVATION

Since 1972, SURFAIR has united aerospace innovators to advance the future of surface finishing technologies.

INSIDE 2026

15+

countries represented across the global aerospace community

30+

leading companies showcasing advanced solutions

50+

expert speakers delivering high-value industrial case studies

300+

senior-level participants from OEMs, Tier-1s, MROs, and technology innovators

**50 Years
of Excellence.**

**Defining Surface
Innovation.**

Inspiring Collaboration.

**Driving Global
Partnerships.**

Why attend SURFAIR?

WHERE AEROSPACE SURFACE FINISHING LEADERS SHAPE THE NEXT DECADE OF INNOVATION.

For more than 50 years, SURFAIR has been **the** global forum where engineers, scientists, OEMs, and suppliers come together to solve the industry's biggest performance and sustainability challenges. In 2026, the world's leading experts meet again in **Biarritz** to share real industrial insights, accelerate technology adoption, and build the partnerships driving the future of aerospace surface technologies.

WHAT TO EXPECT

> 1. Actionable insights — not theory

Hear **real-world OEM and Tier-1 case studies**, qualification feedback, and lessons learned that directly improve your processes and decision-making. Walk away with **solutions you can implement** right after the conference.

> 2. Benchmark yourself against global leaders

Understand how **Airbus, Air France, Boeing, Collins Aerospace, Lufthansa Technik, Safran, Thales**, and major research labs are:

- Replacing legacy chemistries
- Improving corrosion protection
- Optimizing coating performance
- Accelerating certification cycles

Compare your roadmap with the companies defining industry standards.

> 3. Get ahead of sustainability & regulatory shifts

SURFAIR gives you clarity on:

- REACH-driven transitions
- Chrome-free surface treatments
- Circular manufacturing
- Low-impact materials and processes

If you need to future-proof your strategy, this is the room to be in.

> 4. Connect with the people who make decisions

Network with **300+ senior-level participants** from OEMs, Tier-1s, MROs, R&D centers, and innovators from more than 15 countries.

These aren't casual contacts — these are **the people who qualify, certify, and deploy** tomorrow's technologies.

> 5. Accelerate projects and partnerships

Whether you're developing a new process, validating a technology, or entering new markets, SURFAIR offers:

- Supplier-developer dialogues
- Technical deep dives
- High-value business meetings
- Networking receptions & executive-level touchpoints

It's where innovation turns into collaboration — and collaboration into adoption.

SURFAIR IS WHERE AEROSPACE SURFACE INNOVATION HAPPENS.

Join the conversations shaping **performance, sustainability, and the next generation of surface finishing technologies.**

AMONG THE CONFIRMED COMPANIES



COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Elisa CAMPAZZI
*Expert in coating
technology*
AIRBUS HELICOPTERS



Yannick GIRARD
*Ho Advanced
Manufacturing
Technologies*
AIRBUS GROUP



Tobias MERTENS
*Head of Surface
Technology*
AIRBUS COMMERCIAL



Christophe COLIN
Material Expert
AIR FRANCE



Thierry GREGOIRE
*Industrial Expert
& A6 EIT Industrial leader*
ARIANE GROUP



Olivier BRUCELLE
*Senior Fellow
Materials & Processes*
COLLINS AEROSPACE



Stephanie BARBREL
*Head of Surface
Engineering*
DASSAULT AVIATION



Santiago ESPALLARGAS
Associate Professor
**DELFT UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY**



Fritz FRIEDERSDORF
Senior Technical Fellow
LUNA LABS



Philippe BAYARD
*Surface Treatment
Senior Expert*
SAFRAN AIRCRAFT ENGINES



Ngoc QUACH
*Surface Treatments
and Paints Expert*
THALES GROUP



Karen SCHULTZ
Technical Fellow
**THE BOEING
COMPANY**



Dominique FARKAS
Managing Director
**WORLD AEROSPACE
DEVELOPMENT**

2026 TECH PROGRAMME



Tuesday, September 22

01 : 00 pm Registration and Welcome Coffee

01 : 45 pm Welcome Note

MRO SURFACE CHALLENGES & ADVANCED MATERIALS

01 : 50 pm

| KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

CFM56 Program Insights and MRO Priorities: Surface Treatments, Corrosion, and the REACH Transition



■ ■ Catherine DUQUENNE,
CFM56 Program Director,
SAFRAN

02 : 20 pm

Session Chairpersons Welcome Note

■ ■ Karen SCHULTZ, *Technical Fellow,* **THE BOEING COMPANY**

■ ■ Philippe BAYARD, *Surface Treatments Senior Expert,* **SAFRAN AIRCRAFT ENGINES**

02 : 25 pm

Electrocoat for Commercial aerospace and Beyond

■ ■ Carol France DIXON, *Process and Physics Engineer,* **THE BOEING COMPANY**

02 : 45 pm

Gel electrode device for selective anodising

■ ■ Pablo SANTAMARIA CABODEVILLA, *Senior Researcher,* **CIDETED SURFACE ENGINEERING**

03 : 05 pm

Replacement of Chromic Acid for Stripping Anodized Aluminum

■ ■ Virginie BAGUE, *Surface Treatment Engineer,* **SAFRAN AIRCRAFT ENGINES**

■ ■ Ahmet BAYKAN, *Sr. Chemical Processes Engineer,* **GE AEROSPACE**

03 : 25 pm

Exhibitors Spotlight

03 : 40 pm

Refreshment Break & Networking

04 : 25 pm

Influence of Sulfo-Nitro-Ferric and Alkaline Surface Pretreatments on the Performance of Cr³⁺/Zr⁴⁺ Conversion Coatings on Aluminium Alloys

■ ■ Alexia GERNIGON, *PhD Student in Surface Treatment,* **THALES GLOBAL SERVICES**

■ ■ Jolanta SWIATOWSKA, *Director of Research at the CNRS,* **IRCP CHIMIE PARISTECH**

04 : 45 pm

Modelling of in-service relevant defects for the predictions of corrosion of light metal alloys

■ ■ René BÖTTCHER, *Corporate Technology Office,* **AIRBUS DEFENSE AND SPACE**

05 : 05 pm

Advanced Surface Treatment ready for Additively Manufactured Aluminum: Enhancement for TCP by No-Rinse Post-Dip for Superior Performance and Water Saving

■ ■ Peter VOLK, *Head of R&D Metal Pre-Treatment,* **SURTEC**

05 : 25 pm

Development of an electrothermal based ice protective system

■ ■ Julien GARCIA, *Project Leader,* **IRT SAINT EXUPERY**

05 : 45 pm

Exhibitors Spotlight

06 : 00 pm

END OF DAY 1

07 : 30 pm

SURFAIR GALA DINNER

2026 TECH PROGRAMME



Wednesday, September 23

08 : 15 am Registration and Welcome Coffee

ADVANCED MATERIALS & INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

09 : 05 am Session Chairpersons Welcome Note

🇮🇹 **Elisa CAMPAZZI**, *Expert in Coating Technologies*, **AIRBUS HELICOPTERS**

🇫🇷 **Olivier BRUCELLE**, *Senior Fellow - Materials & Processes*, **COLLINS AEROSPACE**

09 : 10 am **Masking by BotProtect: How to Accelerate and Standardise Masking While Achieving Zero Overspray**

🇬🇧 **Morvan DORDONNAT**, *Sales and Marketing Director*, **GEKATEX**

🇫🇷 **Stefan LE BRIS**, *Process Engineer*, **SAFRAN COMPOSITE**

09 : 30 am **Advancing Basecoat Science - Toner Technologies that Unlock Superior Hiding**

🇩🇪 **Jan TOBIS**, *New product Development Aerospace Coatings*, **AKZONOBEL**

09 : 50 am **Self Stratifying coatings for Aerospace application**

🇫🇷 **Aurélie WALTER**, *Research Engineer*, **AIRBUS**

10 : 10 am **Non contact thickness measurement of chrome-VI-free coatings on turbine shafts**

🇫🇷 **Geoffrey BRUNO**, *General Manager*, **ENOVASENSE**

🇫🇷 **Lea GANI**, *Paint Expert*, **SAFRAN AIRCRAFT ENGINES**

10 : 30 am **Exhibitors Spotlight**

10 : 45 am **Refreshment Break & Networking**

11 : 30 am **Enabling Thermoplastic Composites: Robust Surface Preparation for Finishes**

🇺🇸 **Karen SCHULTZ**, *Technical Fellow*, **THE BOEING COMPANY**

11 : 50 am **Testing the Capacity of Organic Coating to Protect Aluminum Alloys from Environmental Assisted Cracking**

🇺🇸 **Fritz FRIEDERSDORF**, *Senior Technical Fellow*, **LUNA LABS**

12 : 10 pm **The Invisible Challenge: Rapid & non destructive detection solution for verifying TCP presence**

🇫🇷 **Jean Arthur DREVET**, *Surface Treatment Expert*, **SAFRAN AEROSYSTEMS**

🇫🇷 **Marion ELY**, *Surface Preparation & Treatment R&D Team Manager*, **SOCOMORE**

12 : 30 pm **Exhibitors Spotlight**

12 : 45 pm **Lunch Break & Networking**

2026 TECH PROGRAMME



Wednesday, September 23

SUSTAINABILITY & CIRCULARITY IN AEROSPACE SURFACE TECHNOLOGIES

- 02 : 30 pm **Session Chairpersons Welcome Note**
🇩🇪 **Dominique FARKAS**, *Managing Director*, **WORLD AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT**
- 02 : 35 pm **Influence factors on the leaching behavior of a protected organic inhibitor in model primer formulations for aerospace applications**
🇪🇸 **Markus JORDAN**, *Expert under Development Paint Formulation*, **AIRBUS**
- 02 : 55 pm **Towards more resilient, sustainable, competitive and intelligent electrochemical surface treatments (Hard Chromium and Anaphoresis)**
🇪🇸 **Pedro ASTOLA GONZALEZ**, *R&D Manager*, **TITANIA ENSAYOS Y PROYECTOS INDUSTRIALES**
🇫🇷 **Fabrice JAMES**, *CEO*, **CHROME DUR INDUSTRIEL**
- 03 : 15 pm **Trivalent Chromium Plating for Aeronautical Components: towards industrialization Driven by Dedicated Process control and second generation chemistry**
🇫🇷 **Bruno MACQUAIRE**, *Scientific Deputy, Material & Process Department*, **SAFRAN**
🇪🇸 **Asier SALICIO**, *Team Leader Multifunctional Coatings*, **CIDETEC SURFACE ENGINEERING**
🇩🇪 **Dietmar STORK**, *Global Sales Director*, **SCHLOTTER**
- 03 : 40 pm **Chrome free primers and isocyanate-free topcoats**
🇨🇦 **Yijie LU**, *Aerospace Development Specialist*, **TRISTAR COATINGS**
🇨🇦 **Andrew TURNER**, *Aerospace Business Development Manager*, **TRISTAR COATINGS**
- 04 : 00 pm **Refreshment Break & Networking**
- 04 : 45 pm **Accelerated Sulfuric Acid Anodize a faster alternative to Boric and Chromic Acid Anodize**
🇺🇸 **Gail STRIBLING GELDIEN**, *Material, Process, and Physics Engineer*, **THE BOEING COMPANY**
- 05 : 05 pm **AeroSHARK - Reducing fuel consumption and cutting emissions with sharkskin Technolog**
🇩🇪 **Jörn DAHMEN**, *Senior Director Special Engineering Services*, **LUFTHANSA TECHNIK**
🇩🇪 **Brian WARD**, *Head of Global Strategic Marketing & Segment Management*, **BASF | Chemetall**
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- 05 : 25 pm **SOCOMORE Presentation in the Exhibition Hall**
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- 05 : 45 pm **COCKTAIL RECEPTION** In partnership with **SOCOMORE**
- 07 : 00 pm **END OF DAY 2**

2026 TECH PROGRAMME



Thursday, September 24

08 : 15 am Welcome Coffee & Networking

OEM STRATEGIES & INDUSTRIAL PERSPECTIVES

09 : 05 am Session Chairpersons Welcome Note

 **Tobias MERTENS**, Head of Surface Technology, **AIRBUS COMMERCIAL**

 **Fritz FRIEDERSDORF**, Senior Technical Fellow, **LUNA LABS**

09 : 10 am Can Removing Hexavalent Chromium Actually Boost Your Operational Efficiency?

 **Elisa CAMPAZZI**, Expert in Coating Technologies, **AIRBUS HELICOPTERS**

 **Natalia FEDORTCHENKO**, Coatings specialist, **AIRBUS HELICOPTERS**

09 : 30 am Plasma electrolytic polishing as post-processing treatment for additively manufactured nickel-based aeronautical stator parts

 **Loïc EXBRAYAT**, R&T Engineer Surface Treatment, **SAFRAN**

 **Alexis RENAUD**, R&D Project Manager, **IRTM2P**

09 : 50 am Computational Corrosion Prediction as an Enabler for Faster, Standards-Compliant Aircraft Design

 **Alan ROSE**, CEO, **CORRDESA**

10 : 10 am IR laser process for surface preparation before chemical conversion of aluminium alloys

 **Andrés Felipe LOMBANA OLIVERA**, Research Engineer, **IRT SAINT EXUPERY**

10 : 30 am Refreshment Break & Networking

11 : 15 am Panel discussion

11 : 45 am Conference Wrapup & Remarks Closing

11 : 55 am **SURFAIR AWARDS CEREMONY**

12 : 15 pm Lunch Break

02 : 00 pm **END OF CONFERENCE**

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Connect with the Leaders Who Set Aerospace Standards

SURFAIR gathers the world's leading voice in our industry, this is where your brand is seen, heard, and trusted.

WHY SPONSORS CHOOSE SURFAIR

> Meet the right people

C-suite, directors, engineers, and sustainability managers from OEMs and Tier 1s are in the room.

> Speak on stage, not behind a booth

position your brand as the expert, not a vendor.

> Multiple networking opportunities and touchpoints

> Visibility that lasts beyond the event

Your brand shows up pre-event, on-site, and in the post-event replay sessions used by R&D and exec teams for months.

> Built for quality leads — not foot traffic

SURFAIR is engineered to help you engage, influence, and convert the top companies of the market — not chase hundreds of unqualified leads.

REMAINING SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS



SURFAIR Gala Dinner

A Signature Moment for Maximum
Brand Visibility

Exclusive



SURFAIR Award Ceremony

Associate Your Brand
With Industry Excellence

Exclusive



Brand Awareness

Premium Visibility Package

2 remaining slots



Exhibit Space

Booth + Pitch on-stage

Limited

Interested? Contact us for the full sponsor kit: roel.mijnsbergen@infopro-digital.com

Practical Information

EVENT INFORMATION

SURFAIR 2026



Centre de Congrès Bellevue
Place Bellevue, 64200 Biarritz



22 > 24 September 2026

REGISTRATION FEES

EARLY BIRD RATE > € 1,590

 Available until June 1st

STANDARD RATE > € 1,695

Your registration includes:

- > Full access to the conference program
- > Access to the exhibition area
- > Networking sessions with participants
- > Coffee breaks and lunches
- > Conference documentation



SHOWCASE YOUR TECHNOLOGY

Companies wishing to increase their visibility can also **exhibit at SURFAIR** and present their innovations directly to aerospace decision-makers.

For exhibition opportunities, please contact the SURFAIR team.

How to Register:

surfaircongress.com/register-now