SURFAIR

25 TH CONGRESS

SEPTEMBER 22, 23, 24 2026

Conference center LE BELLEVUE Biarritz

CALL-FOR-SPEAKER

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2026

SURFAIR

Where only the best ideas fly

About SURFAIR

Since 1972, SURFAIR has been the **Global Stage for Aerospace Surface Technologies and Protective Coatings**. For more than 50 years, manufacturers, OEMs, airlines, MROs, suppliers, and researchers have gathered here to **exchange breakthroughs, share best practices, and shape the future of our industry**.

In **September 2026**, SURFAIR celebrates its 25th edition at the prestigious Conference Centre Le Bellevue, Biarritz, France — continuing its role as the **premier platform for innovation and collaboration in aeronautic surface technologies and coatings**.

Why join the Speaker Lineup

Being selected as a SURFAIR speaker means joining **a tradition of excellence that stretches back five decades**. Every edition, only 25 experts worldwide are given this honor.

- **Exclusivity:** Only 25 speakers are chosen every two years.
- **Recognition:** The most outstanding papers earn the SURFAIR Awards — honored at the closing ceremony.
- **Prestige:** Selection by a renowned international committee of aerospace R&D leaders.
- **Privilege:** Speakers enjoy a 50% discount registration rate, including the full days of conferences, panels, exhibition access, networking breaks, dinner, and the celebrated SURFAIR Awards.

This is not just another conference — it is the Stage where reputations in Aerospace Surface Finishing are built.

How SURFAIR selects its Speakers

1 – The Judges – SURFAIR Committee

Papers are reviewed by a **high level international committee** of major OEMs and suppliers. Using the submission form you provide, the Committee will evaluate your proposal's **industrial relevance and contribution to the sector**.
It is therefore essential to provide precise, well-detailed information in each section.

2 – Selection Criteria

- **Relevance to Theme & SubThemes** — Abstract must align with the main theme and at least one subtheme.
- **Innovation & Originality**
  - Presents a new or innovative approach.
  - Content not repeatedly shared at other events.
  - Demonstrates potential to influence practices across the aerospace value chain.
- **Practical Applicability & Case Study Value**
  - Provides validated results, lessons learned, or tangible data.
  - Extra weight given to case studies, cross-industry exchanges, or joint presentations (e.g. OEM–Supplier, Supplier–Supplier, Airline–Supplier).
  - Demonstrates clear pathways for innovation and implementation.

Who should submit

- OEMs, Tier1s, Coating Manufacturers, Surface Technologies Suppliers
- Airlines (MRO, operations, sustainability)
- Regulators & Agencies (EASA, FAA, ICAO) and Research & Academia
- Cross-industry innovators in **Coating materials, Painting Processes, AI, Digital Engineering, Sustainability & Circularity**

Before you submit

By submitting a paper, you agree to:

- Register for the conference **(speaker rate applies)**.
- Present during **any session assigned by the committee**, between September 22–24, 2026.

How to submit:

Complete the submission form and send it by email no later than **Friday, December 5, 2025**

bin.wu@infopro-digital.com

Contact & Speaker Information:

Primary Contact

Full Name

Job Title / Role

Company / Institution

Division / Department (if applicable)

Corporate Email

Phone (direct line or mobile)

Country

Proposed Speaker(s)

(The individual(s) who will present if selected)

SPEAKER 1

Company Name

Full Name

Job Title

Mobile Phone

Corporate Email

Country

SPEAKER 2 *(only for joint presentations from two different companies)*

Company Name

Full Name

Job Title

Mobile Phone

Corporate Email

Country

2026 TECHNICAL THEMES

I. OEM Strategies & Industrial Perspectives in Surface Technologies & Protective Coatings

Explores how OEMs define requirements and expectations in aeronautical surface technologies, outlining R&D priorities, certification requirements, and collaboration models to guide suppliers and MRO players across the value chain.

II. Advanced Materials & Innovative Technologies

Adaptation of Surface Technologies for composites, additive manufacturing, and water-based, biobased coatings, alongside digital twins and predictive models.

1) What progress is being made in Advanced Coating materials and applications that could extend exterior **paint durability**, contribute to **weight reduction, ease of maintenance, and advanced corrosion protection?**

2) **How can we use data to train AI surrogate models to shorten testing and qualification cycles**, so new coating materials and applications reach certification faster?

3) What **role could AI and Automation play** in turning surface technologies from a compliance necessity into a driver of lifecycle cost reduction and sustainability gains?

III. MRO & Lifecycle Surface Challenges

Addresses operational challenges across fleet lifecycles, **repainting, stripping, cost, and aircraft availability issues for mixed fleets, with focus on rapid repair, on-wing solutions, and digitalized predictive maintenance**.

1) **Which approaches to midlife maintenance of coated components** could be acceptable to regulators - full retreatment, partial rework, or new hybrid methods?

2) How can **airlines and MROs optimize resources and fleet availability** while scaling surface technologies across diverse aircraft portfolios?

3) **What best practices exist for refurbishing in-service parts when original surface technology chemicals (e.g., chromium VI) are now restricted or banned under REACH**?

4) What innovations **in Predictive Maintenance** could be adapted to predict paint degradation or corrosion risk for aircraft?

IV. Sustainability & Circularity in Aerospace Surface Technologies

Go beyond REACH, compliance with environmental regulations, and the drive toward eco-friendly and circular solutions for coatings, stripping and repair processes:

1) Regulations are tightening further, accelerating the phase-out of PFAS in the aeronautic sector, **how aerospace companies are actively working to reduce or substitute PFAS? What PFAS-free solutions** in development combine eco-friendly performance with **chemical resistance and durability** for **Aerospace Environments**, and how close are they to **certification** readiness?

2) What innovations **reduce VOC emissions in coating**, stripping and repair processes without sacrificing durability?

3) What are the best practices in Waste treatment and Circularity (e.g., closed loop recovery of solvents, reclaiming metallics, chemical recycling)? **Case studies from automotive & Transportation or electronics manufacturing**?

4) What smart **Water Management solutions** (monitoring, closed loop or low consumption processes) are being proven in other heavy industry settings and could be brought into aerospace surface industry?

2026 Speaker Submission Form

Submission Deadline Friday, December 5, 2025, to bin.wu@infopro-digital.com

----- All fields are mandatory -----

Company / Institution:

Proposed Technical Session

- ☐ OEM Strategies & Industrial Perspectives in Surface Technologies and Protective Coatings
- ☐ Advanced Materials & Innovative Technologies
- ☐ MRO & Lifecycle Surface Challenges
- ☐ Sustainability & Circularity in Aerospace Surface Technologies

Select the theme(s) most relevant to your work. The Committee will guide final placement to ensure maximum impact.

Proposed Presentation Title

Has this work been presented before?

☐ No, it is first disclosure at SURFAIR

☐ Yes, previously presented at:

(Please specify event name, year, and audience profile.)

Abstract

(In no more than 300 words, describe the essence of your paper. Highlight the challenge, your approach, and why it matters now.)

What Makes It Original or Differentiating?

(Explain how your work breaks new ground compared with established solutions. Why should industry leaders hear it on the SURFAIR stage?)

Proven Achievements & Results

(Please include clear outcomes where possible — performance gains, time savings, weight reduction, cost efficiencies, or emissions cuts, or other measurable impact;

if measurable data is not yet available, indicate the key impact areas that best describe your work: Sustainability & Circularity, Emissions & Environmental Impact Cost Reduction, Operational Efficiency, Ramp-up & Industrialization, Digitalization & Data Use, Process simplification.. .)