Mr. Raza Ali Gulam



CNSS Technical Officer/ ICAO

Mr. Raza Ali Gulam is a Technical Officer for CNS and Spectrum within ICAO's Air Navigation Bureau and Secretary of the Communications Panel Data Communication Infrastructure Working Group (CP-DCIWG). His career spans over three decades across aviation and telecommunications, specializing in aeronautical communication systems, spectrum coordination, and digital infrastructure.

Joining ICAO in 2007 as Regional Officer CNS in the Middle East Office, Raza supported States with the development and implementation of regional air navigation plans as well as frequency coordination, before transitioning to ICAO Headquarters in Montreal in 2016. A certified ICAO instructor, he regularly delivers specialized technical training courses globally.

Raza holds a Bachelor's degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering and a Master of Business Administration (MBA). His technical foundation is complemented by extensive expertise in software development, aeronautical datalinks, and complex international project management.

Dr. Nikos Fistas



Head of Standardisation EUROCONTROL

Nikos is Head of the EUROCONTROL Standardisation Service, where he oversees the development of EUROCONTROL standards and collaboration with international standardisation bodies.

Prior to his current role, Nikos led the EUROCONTROL NM's datalink team, supporting the deployment and operation of CPDLC across Europe. Earlier in his career, he supported the development of advanced aviation communication systems for datalink and surveillance use, starting from research to standardisation. He also contributed to the SESAR1 and SESAR2 communication projects, as well as the datalink activities of SDM.

On behalf of EUROCONTROL and SESAR, Nikos has supported international coordination on datalink aspects between Europe and the US under EU–US cooperation frameworks, working with ICAO and the FAA on initiatives such as DCOM, CCOM and Action Plans.

With over 30 years of experience in aviation, he has represented EUROCONTROL in several technical groups, in particular in ICAO, EUROCAE, RTCA, AEEC and ETSI.

Mr. Andrew Yang



Mr. Andrew Yang is Manager, Radio Systems and Datalink Strategy at NAV CANADA, with over 15 years of experience in aeronautical voice and data link communications for air traffic management. His background as an air traffic controller brings an operational perspective to his technical leadership. He oversees the lifecycle management, sustainment, and modernization of radio systems supporting air traffic control across Canadian airspace and leads the development of Canada's data link strategy and roadmap.

Mr. Yang is committed to advancing innovation and international standards for future aeronautical communications. Through the ICAO Communications Panel, he has contributed to the development of various Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and guidance materials. He currently serves as Chair of the Data Communication Infrastructure Working Group (CP-DCIWG) and Rapporteur of the Project Team on Space-Based VHF.

He holds an MBA in Aviation and an air traffic control license, complemented by a background in engineering.

Mr. Mario García



Mr. García is the ENAIRE's Head of Aeronautical Messaging and Datalink Department. He is also the coordinator within ENAIRE's CNS Directorate of COM projects within SESAR Program.

Mario is the Chairman of ICAO AMHS to SWIM Transition Task Force (AST TF) and also participates in other ICAO SWIM and Communications working groups as a senior advisor.

Mario is a Telecommunications Engineer by UPM in Madrid, Spain and has been working as a senior project manager in the telecommunications industry until he joined AENA, now ENAIRE.

Mario has been working for AENA/ENAIRE for 20 years and he is involved in many different technical working groups providing advise to ENAIRE's top management.

Mr. Juan-José Cornejo



Mr. Juan-José Cornejo is Startical's Director of Business Development and Institutional Relations, leading global engagement with ANSPs, airlines and aviation stakeholders to advance space-based VHF communications and surveillance services.

Juanjo is a recognized advocate for satellite-enabled aviation connectivity, promoting Startical's vision worldwide and supporting the adoption of next-generation communications solutions for air traffic management.

Prior to joining Startical in 2021, Juanjo developed his career for over 15 years at ENAIRE, Spain's Air Navigation Service Provider, specializing in satellite-based navigation and leading the European GNSS System EGNOS Unit in Spain.

Mr. Michael Garcia



Michael Garcia, PhD, is the Chief Innovation Scientist at Aireon, LLC. Garcia has the overall responsibility for the company's strategy and execution for Space-Based ADS-B and VHF innovation, system architecture, and leadership in the industry's technical forums. His responsibilities also include engagement with Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs), standards and recommended practices (SARPs) groups, sub-contractors, and investors. Some examples of international standards organizations that Garcia participates in are Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA), EUROCAE, The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the National Academy of Sciences (NAS).

Dr. Craig Benson



Craig is an electrical engineer whose aviation career started as a flight line engineering officer for the Royal Australian Air Force. He also played a leading role in the Australian Navigation Warfare program, protecting a wide range of platforms from GPS jamming.

He spent 15 years as faculty at the University of New South Wales in Canberra, and he continues to teach in a variety of aerospace fields.

As a co-founder of Skykraft, Craig is responsible for development of key products and services, as well as driving work to deliver exceptional robustness and reliability while reducing costs of service for customers.

When not working or teaching Craig is a keen runner, ironman triathlete and coach.

Mr. Danny Bharj



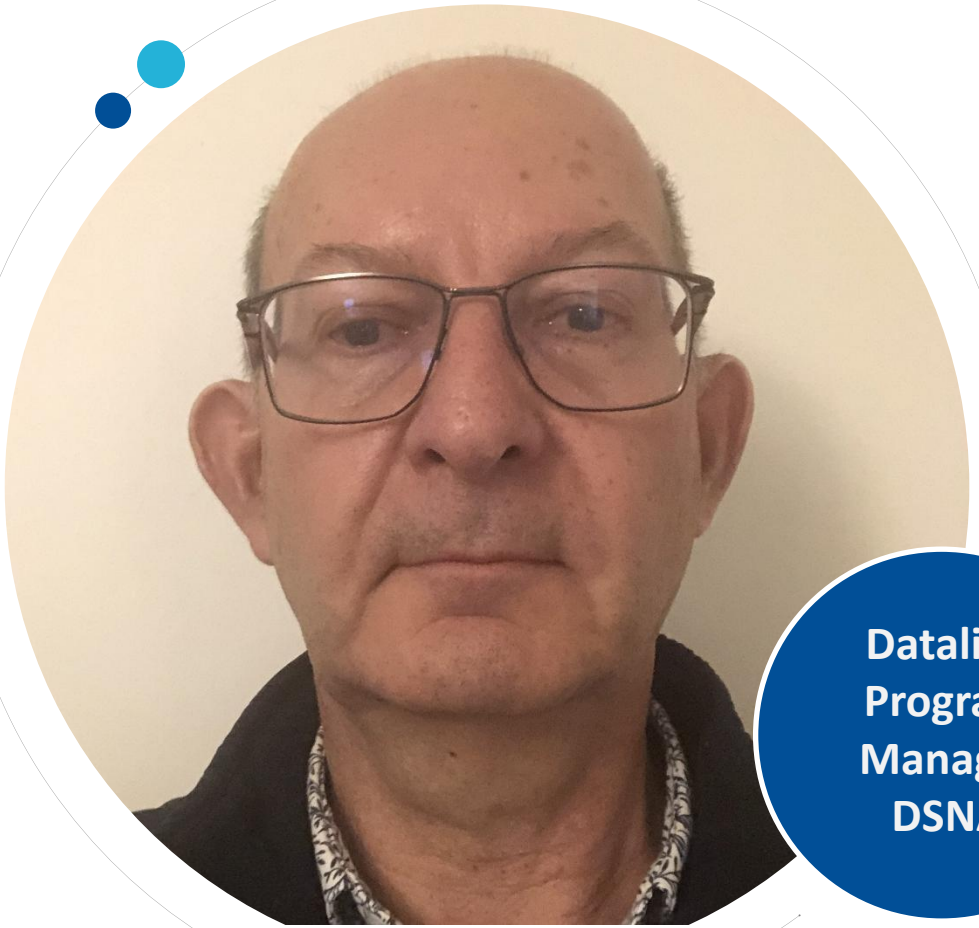
Mr. Danny Bharj is Director of Aviation Technology Programmes at Viasat, where he leads the development and deployment of the Iris programme, a pioneering satellite based data link service designed to modernise air traffic management.

Danny has been instrumental in advancing Iris toward full operational capability, enhancing aviation safety, supporting compliance with European and international standards, and enabling pan European EASA certification through partner ESSP. With more than 30 years of experience across aviation, communications and defence, Danny has held senior positions at the UK Ministry of Defence, SITA and EUROCONTROL. At SITA, he managed the product lifecycle of the ATN Datalink Service, while at EUROCONTROL he led the PETAL II programme office, helping drive innovation in digital air traffic communications.

Danny is also an active contributor to industry standardisation efforts, representing Viasat and SITA at ICAO, IATA and EUROCAE.

Danny holds a BSc in Electrical, Electronics and Communications Engineering degree.

Mr. Jean-Michel Crenais



Datalink Program Manager DSNA

Jean-Michel Crenais is an engineer from DSNA (French ANSP) involved in CNS projects since 1991.

Jean-Michel was involved in the initial ICAO ATN SARPS definition in the nineties and in the first DSNA and European projects about Datalink and ATN. In 2006 he moved to GNSS projects and was in charge of the European SBAS (EGNOS) operations until 2013.

He went back to his initial area of expertise in 2021, Datalink, with various responsibilities in DSNA and European Datalink projects.

Jean-Michel is now the DSNA Datalink Program Director and is representing France at the ICAO COM Panel (DCIWG).

Mr. Kathy Torrence



Kathy currently serves as the Director (A) for the FAA's National Airspace System (NAS) Systems Engineering and Integration Office.

Kathy served as the Program Manager for the Data Communications (Data Comm) program at the FAA Technical Center in Atlantic City. She was also the lead system and test engineer on the Data Comm program during the implementation and deployment of Tower and En Route Services across the NAS.

Kathy has over 35 years of experience working with the FAA, holding positions as both a federal employee and a contractor. This experience has included managing teams of FAA engineers supporting a wide portfolio of air traffic and decision support automation systems.Kathy earned a Master of Science in Software Engineering from Monmouth University. She also holds both a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Rowan University."

Mr. Thierry Lelievre



For the past 30 years, acting as chairman and editor of RTCA/EUROCAE ATS Datalink Standards or ICAO GOLD standards, Thierry has been deeply involved in the development of Operational, Safety, Performances, and Interoperability requirements for advanced datalink services (ATN Baseline 1 and ATS Baseline 2) and the definition of associated operational concepts (e.g. 4D-Trajectory Based Operation).

Two years ago, he joined the EUROPEAN SATLLITE SERVICE PROVIDER (ESSP – SAS) to proactively support and contribute to the operational adoption of the IRIS Satcom service which is a key enabler for the provision of Advanced Datalink Services paving the way towards Trajectory Based Operations in Europe and beyond.

Mr. Khaled Eltanany



Khaled Eltanany is Senior Manager CNS Technology at the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in Montreal, where he represents airline positions in driving the cost-effective implementation of Communications, Navigation, and Surveillance (CNS) technologies.

In this role, he liaises closely with a broad range of aviation stakeholders to promote operationally driven technology deployment and safeguard aviation access to critical radio spectrum.

Khaled is an active member of several International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) expert groups and panels, contributing to the development of global aviation standards, policies, and guidance material. He has more than 16 years of experience in CNS systems, telecommunications, aviation safety and regulatory affairs, with extensive expertise in international standards and aviation modernization initiatives.

Khaled holds a bachelor’s degree in Telecommunications and Electronics Engineering and a master’s degree in Sustainable Air Transport Management, combining technical expertise with a strong understanding of strategic and sustainable aviation development.

Mr. Liviu Popescu



Liviu is currently the EUROCONTROL Communications (COM) Senior Team Leader, the Rapporteur of ICAO Working Group Internetwork (WG-I), the Panel member of ICAO CP-DCIWG and the member of ICAO Council's Ad Hoc Cybersecurity Coordination Committee (AHCCC).

Liviu is chairing the EUROCONTROL Communication Steering Group (COM-SG), the VoIP in ATM Implementation Support group (VOTE), the IPv6 Resources technical and administrative contacts group (IPv6 ACTNOW), the Flight Message Transfer Protocol (FMTP) Implementation support group (FMTP-IS) and the EUROCAE WG-67 Voice over IP for ATM. He is a member of several IPS Industry Standardisation groups (RTCA SSC-223/ EUROCAE WG-108, AEEC IPS Subcommittee).

Liviu started his carrier in 1992 as Radio Communications design engineer after graduating the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest, Electronics and Telecommunications Faculty, specialisation: Communications and Radio-navigation Equipment. During his carrier in aviation, he consolidated his engineering aeronautical communication skills being safety regulator and air traffic controller.

Mr. Stéphane Pelleschi



Stéphane Pelleschi is a communication systems technical expert for Collins Aerospace, involved in the development of avionics data link solutions. Stéphane is rapporteur of the WG-M VDL Mode 2 and ATN/OSI standards and he is chair of the EUROCAE WG-92 (VDL Mode 2) and WG-108 (ATN/IPS) working groups. Stéphane is also involved in HYCON through SESAR projects and standardization.

Mr. Michal Skorepa



Michal has more than 16 years of experience in avionics research and development. At Honeywell Aerospace, he has played a key role in the research, development, and validation of Internet Protocol Suite (IPS) technology across multiple SESAR, Clean Sky, ESA, and FAA research programs.

He has also made significant contributions to the standardization of IPS through industry organizations, including AEEC, ICAO, and RTCA/EUROCAE.

Currently, Michal leads a team of engineers focused on the research and development of emerging technologies for safety-critical air-ground connectivity.

EASA

Mr. Bernhard Haindl



Bernhard Haindl holds an M.Sc. degree in Digital Communication Systems and a Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering from the Vienna University of Technology. He is a Principal Scientist at Frequentis and has nearly 30 years of experience in the design, development, and standardization of aeronautical communication systems.

His areas of expertise include ATN/IPS, IP networking, mobility management, LDACS, and aeronautical air-ground communications. He actively contributes to international research and development initiatives focused on advancing next-generation aviation communication technologies.

He is actively involved in international aviation standardization activities, particularly within ICAO Working Group I (WG-I) and the Project Team on Terrestrial Systems (PT-T). In these roles, he contributes to the evolution of ICAO communication technologies, the deployment of IP-based aeronautical networks, and the ongoing standardization and industrialization of LDACS.

Mr. Francesco Gualtieri



Francesco Gualtieri is an electronic engineer with focus on Telecommunication with more than 25+ year experience in aeronautical radio communication.

After holding several positions in different companies, he joined Rohde & Schwarz in 2011 contributing to develop innovative ATC radio products.

Since 4 years, he is actively involved in developing LDACS technology, both on the technical as well as on the market side.

Mr. Mattia Nurisso



Mattia Nurisso is an aerospace engineer and aviation professional with over 15 years of experience in Air Traffic Management (ATM), Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) systems, and international aviation projects. He currently serves as CNS Programme Manager at EUROCONTROL in Brussels, where he leads the coordination and delivery of CNS activities, drives the development of future CNS concepts and promotes stakeholder collaboration to support a shared European vision for CNS.

Prior to EUROCONTROL, he held several positions at Airbus, leading major SESAR and EU-funded projects, ATM validation activities, flight and integration tests, environmental initiatives, and the demonstration of innovative operational concepts across Europe.

Mattia holds a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Polytechnic of Turin and a Specialized Master's degree in Aviation Safety and Airworthiness from ISAE/ENAC in Toulouse. Fluent in Italian, English, and French, he is passionate about innovation, international cooperation, and the future of air traffic management.

Mr. Kai Guo



Kai Guo is an Associate Professor at the School of Electronics and Information Engineering and the State Key Laboratory of CNS/ATM, Beihang University. He earned his Ph.D. in Engineering Surveying and Space Geodesy from the Nottingham Geospatial Institute, University of Nottingham, in 2021, and has been a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow since 2017.

His research focuses on aviation navigation and integrated communication and navigation. Nominated by China, he serves as an advisor to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Navigation and Communication Systems Panel. His current work emphasizes LDACS compatibility validation, navigation functionality development within CP/PT-T, and the development of 5G AeroMACS standards within CP/WG-M.

Mr. Michael Schnell



Senior Scientist / German Aerospace Center

Michael is Senior Scientist at the Institute of Communications and Navigation of the German Aerospace Center (DLR). His main research interests are the development and modernization of CNS technologies for civil aviation and unmanned aerial systems.

After his studies at the University Erlangen-Nuremberg he joined DLR in 1990 as scientific researcher and earned a Ph.D. degree for his work on wireless communications in 1997 from University of Essen. As Group Leader, Michael established the Aeronautical Communications Group in 1999 and advanced it further until 2022. In recognition of his outstanding professional achievements, he received the DLR Senior Scientist Award in 2018.

Michael acts as selected advisor for the German Air Navigation Service Provider (DFS GmbH) on various committees at EUROCONTROL and ICAO. As Rapporteur of the Project Team “Terrestrial Data Link” within the ICAO Communications Panel he is organizing the international standardization of the future terrestrial data link LDACS.

Mr. Xijing Tan



Mr. Xijing Tan is Director at SkyBlue Tech. Ltd. He has over 14 years of experience in AeroMACS (Aeronautical Mobile Airport Communication System) technology and related products and has started researching and developing 5G AeroMACS communication technology and related products since 2020.

He is responsible for the development, delivery, maintenance support of aviation 5G AeroMACS communication networks and air traffic control/airport application products at multiple airports in China.

Mr. Tan, with over 25 years of experience in research and industry applications of airborne data link communication technology, has been involved in the development and management of multiple ACARS data link systems related to air traffic control and airline operations.

Dr. Andrea Trimarchi



Dr. Andrea Trimarchi joined the EUROCAE Secretariat in November 2025. He holds a Ph.D. in Aviation Law from the University of Cologne, where he also worked as a research assistant in international law and aviation law. His research focused on the regulation of labour and social matters in the aviation industry. He also holds an (Adv.) LL.M. in Air & Space Law from the International Institute of Air & Space Law, Leiden University.

Andrea brings extensive legal and policy experience relating to international and European aviation. He is the author of numerous publications in the area of aviation law and policy, including his textbooks “Fundamentals of International Aviation Law and Policy” and “International Aviation Labour Law”, and he is regularly invited to lecture at universities and speak at international aviation conferences.

Mr. David Alexander



David Alexander has been with SAE International and its affiliates for over 20 years and is currently located in London, UK, having been based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA from 2022-26.

David is responsible globally for the strategy and operations of the SAE Aerospace and Systems Management Standards programs comprising over 7,900 consensus standards maintained by more than 180 technical committees. He is also engaged in coordination of SAE standards across diverse sectors including aerospace, automotive and commercial vehicle which includes the staff leadership for the SAE Executive Standards Committee.

Supported by SAE staff in across Europe, Asia and the US, program activities include relationships with industry, associations, regulatory authorities and government stakeholders around the world and strategy for standardization in areas as diverse as artificial intelligence, predictive maintenance, hydrogen & sustainable fuels, electrification, additive manufacturing, human factors and quality.

David holds a BA (Hons) degree from the University of Manchester.

Mr. Hete Hoekema



Mr. Hoekema is the Chief Expert Avionics & Electrical Systems and Acting Chief Engineer & Safety Adviser at the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). He has over 30 years of experience working in the aviation industry, starting as an engineer at one of Europe's major airlines before joining EASA. His responsibilities include the development of regulation, policies, and standards in the fields of avionics, cybersecurity, electrical systems, as well as electronic flight control systems, and ensuring the consistent application thereof.

Hette supports certification and rulemaking teams and provides advice to EASA management at every level. Since joining EASA, Hette has played an active role the development of policies on CNS, Datalink/CPDLC, spectrum as well as the development specific policies for General Aviation, Rotorcraft and Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

As of the 1st of July 2026, Hette has also taken up the role of Acting Chief Engineer & Safety Adviser.