

DELIVERING INTEGRATED ROTARY AND UNCREWED AVIATION CAPABILITIES TO 2040 AND BEYOND

HEAR FROM INTERNATIONAL LEADERS FROM ACROSS THE MILITARY HELICOPTER COMMUNITY, INCLUDING:



Admiral Sir Keith Blount KCB OBE Deputy Supreme Allied Commander (DSACEUR) Europe NATO-ACO-SHAPE



Major General David Hafner AM CSC Commander, Aviation Command Australian Army



Rear Admiral Cho Young-sang Commander, ROKN Naval Air Command Republic of Korea Navy



Brigadier General Cain Baker Director, Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team US Army



Brigadier General
Wolfgang
Luttenberger
Commander, Air
Support Brigade
Austrian Air Force



Commodore
Steve Bolton
Deputy Director
Aviation Programmes
and Futures
Royal Navy

"You've got the very best of the primes, you've got subject matter experts across industry, and then of course, you've got militaries from around the world. IMH is a unique event in terms of its size and shape as a Rotary wing conference, and it's really, really impressive."

Commodore Steve Bolton, Deputy Director Aviation Programmes and Futures, Royal Navy

























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WELCOME TO IMH 2026

Dear Colleague,

Now in its 25th year, the International Military Helicopter Conference (IMH) is returning to the Novotel London West from 24 – 26 February 2026. As the longest-standing and most respected forum dedicated to rotary wing capability development and cooperation, IMH 2026 will bring together the most influential stakeholders from across the global rotary wing community, including military leaders, operators, procurement heads and industry experts, to shape the future of vertical lift.

Military rotorcraft are entering a defining era, driven by rapid technological advancements, shifting mission demands and evolving threats. As nations continue to modernise legacy fleets and invest in next-generation platforms, the shifting international environment presents complex challenges when operating against peer and near-peer adversaries. In this context, the growing sophistication and capability of uncrewed systems is prompting military leaders to reassess how rotary platforms can deliver critical effects in the modern operating environment.

As nations invest in the renewal of legacy fleets, and look to procure next-generation platforms, IMH continues to provide the most valuable forum to address current challenges and priorities for rotary aviation. The 25th annual IMH will focus on the evolution of rotorcraft capabilities, with particular emphasis on the tactical integration of uncrewed and autonomous systems for lift, find, and attack missions, as well as the continued development of next-generation rotorcraft platforms and requirements that meet the demands of future operations. Alongside

these forward-thinking discussions, the conference will examine strategies for modernising, sustaining, upgrading, and optimising current fleets to maintain readiness and availability in increasingly contested environments.

Alongside the interactive exhibition floor, the conference spans 3 days with a schedule providing more content, and more opportunities for networking. The return of dedicated conference tracks and industry morning sessions will allow attendees to dive deeper into specialist topics, have more opportunities to solidify relationships, and make new connections. All this means you will benefit from a richer on-site experience, making IMH 2026 a mission-critical opportunity for the international military helicopter community.

The 25th Annual IMH will provide you with maximum value for your time by bringing together the right people for a productive week of information exchange and problem solving. Together, you will tackle key challenges, drive collaboration, and help shape the future direction of vertical lift.

I look forward to welcoming you to International Military Helicopter in February 2026 – the most influential conference for the rotary aviation community for 25 years.

Sincerely,

Alice Andrews Event Director, International Military Helicopter 2026

MEET THE CHAIRMAN



Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE

Former Director Land Warfare & Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command Chairman, International Military Helicopter 2026

James Illingworth retired from the British Army in 2022. In his early career as an Army Air Corps officer, he specialised in flying both Army and RAF helicopters (predominantly Lynx, Chinook and Gazelle). He commanded 657 Squadron AAC on operations in the Balkans and Iraq between 2001-2003 and received an OBE following command of the Joint Special Forces Aviation Wing based out of RAF Odiham between 2006-2008.

When not at front line duty, he held a number of posts in the Joint Helicopter Command (now the Joint Aviation Command), most notably as the 1* Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff. He also had tours as the Deputy Commander 1(UK)Division, along with staff jobs in the MOD Operations Directorate, Army Headquarters, and attendance on the Higher & Advanced Command and Staff Courses.

His last post in the military as Director Land Warfare (DLW) included responsibility for much of the British Army's training, along with its doctrine, lessons learned and warfare development activities. In this role he commanded and led a significant number of the Army's and Defence's trade training organisations (including ground training at the Army Aviation Centre at Middle Wallop), as well as the Army's collective and combined arms training in the UK, Germany, Kenya, Belize and Canada.

Prior to this he was dual hatted as the Civil Administrator of the UK's Sovereign Base Areas in Cyprus and Commander of all Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force personnel in this vitally important Overseas Territory. His knowledge and experience in the diplomatic arena and operating at the strategic level was honed through a three-year tour as the UK's Military Attaché in Washington DC; here he was responsible for developing the many interoperability strands (including aviation) between the US and British Armies following the Afghan Combat Mission.



AGENDA AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2026	WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2026		THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2026		
REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS	REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS		REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS		
ROTARY POWER IN ALLIANCE: THE ROLE OF HELICOPTERS IN THE MODERN OPERATING ENVIRONMENT	CURRENT AND FUTURE ROTORCRAFT CAPABILITIES		INDUSTRY MORNING Interactive Roundtable Discussions	TRACK 2 - PRIORITISING FLEET VERSATILITY	
MORNING NETWORKING BREAK	MORNING NETWORKING BREAK, VIP EXHIBITION TOURS AND TECH DEMOS		MORNING NETWORKING BREAK, VIP EXHIBITION TOURS AND TECH DEMOS		
ACCELERATING NEXT GENERATION ROTORCRAFT: UPDATES ON CURRENT PROGRAMMES	TRACK 1 – BOLSTERING SITUATIONAL AWARENESS	TRACK 2 – INCREASING LETHALITY OF ROTARY AVIATION	INDUSTRY MORNING Panel Discussion and Lightning Briefs	TRACK 2 - HEAVY LIFT FLEETS AND STRATEGIC AIR MOBILITY	
LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK	LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK		LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK		
DELIVERING CAPABILITIES FOR THE CURRENT AND FUTURE OPERATING ENVIRONMENT	TRACK 1 – INTEGRATION OF UNCREWED CAPABILITIES FOR LIFT, FIND, AND ATTACK MISSIONS	TRACK 2 - ENHANCING AVAILABILITY AND READINESS IN INCREASINGLY CONTESTED ENVIRONMENTS	ADVANCING INTEROPERABILITY WITH PARTNERS AND ALLIES TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS		
AFTERNOON NETWORKING BREAK AND VIP EXHIBITION TOURS		AFTERNOON NETWORKING BREAK, VIP EXHIBITION TOURS AND TECH DEMOS		AFTERNOON NETWORKING BREAK AND VIP EXHIBITION TOURS	
FLEET MODERNISATION TO MAXIMISE PERFORMANCE	TRACK 1 – FUTURE OF UNCREWED CAPABILITIES	TRACK 2 – TRAINING FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE THREATS	SHAPING THE FUTUR OPERA		
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF IMH NETWORKING DRINKS RECEPTION - HOSTED BY EVENT PARTNER Join us as we celebrate 25 years of the International Military Helicopter Conference!		INKS RECEPTION – VENT PARTNER	END OF CONFERENCE		



WHAT'S NEW AT IMH 2026



Greater emphasis on developments in uncrewed systems working in conjunction with rotary wing aircraft, with new perspectives on Manned-Unmanned Teaming (MUM-T), Air-Launched Effects, and unmanned aerial systems being used during lift, attack, and find missions



More briefings from global naval aviators, including representation from the Royal Navy, German Navy, Republic of Korea Navy and more, offering the complete picture of rotary aviation across domains



Renewed focus on fleet modernisation and upgrades for current fleets, focusing on how militaries are maximising operational availability, and defining strategies for extending service life of existing platforms



Return of the Industry
Morning – with lightning
briefs, a series of interactive
roundtables covering critical
topics, and a panel discussion
with military representatives,
the IMH industry morning is
your opportunity to share and
hear visions and direction for
rotary capabilities up to 2040
and beyond with as many
potential partners across
Industry as possible



Expanded and reinvigorated exhibition space, allowing
more opportunities to connect
with the right people across
three days of content and
networking



"IMH is a great forum for the international military helicopter user, maintainers, logistics and operator community to come together and share and discuss current experiences, ways of working and associated challenges."

MAA Futures & Strategy Development, MAA



BENEFITS OF ATTENDING

- Gain a comprehensive view of the near-term and long-term priorities across the global rotary wing space, highlighting developments in evolving programmes that are defining future capabilities to meet the operational requirements to 2040 and beyond, including FLRAA, NGRC and Heavy Lift programmes.
- Engage with leading nations and technical experts to explore the role of uncrewed systems and autonomy in conjunction with crewed platforms, focusing on applications for lift, find and attack missions, featuring exlusive insights from **Australian Army Aviation**, **Royal Navy, German Army Aviation** and more.
- Understand how forces are overcoming the challenge of maximising availability, whilst looking at cost and time-effective solutions to enhance maintenance, repair and overhaul of legacy fleets, including real-world case studies from the **Croatian Air Force, Slovak Air Force, and UK MoD.**
- Hear from forces that are upgrading and modernising their current fleets in order to meet today's requirements, expand mass, and extend service life to keep fleets in operation for the next 5 years, with updates from **Armasuisse**, **Hungarian Air Force**, and **French Army Aviation**.
- Explore future considerations for the integration and interoperability of rotary capabilities across the wider force, in the context of operating within the multi-domain battlespace, with keynote presentations from **NATO leaders and the Republic of Korea Navy.**

"I think in today's world, face to face contact is becoming a rarity and yet this event maintains that, which shows the importance of it to create personal relationships that develop into business."

Phil Marshall, Campaign Manager, QinetiQ

60+
Nations



40+
Presentations



500+ Attendees



80+
Organisations





YOUR EXPERT SPEAKER FACULTY FROM ACROSS THE ROTORCRAFT CHAIN OF COMMAND

CHAIRMAN



Major General (Rtd)
James Illingworth
OBE
Former Director Land

Warfare & Former
Deputy Commander
Joint Helicopter
Command
IMH Conference
Chairman

CO-CHAIR



Rear Admiral (Rtd) Michael Steffen Former Commander, Navy Reserve Fores Command & HSL-60 US Navy



Admiral Sir Keith Blount KCB OBE Deputy Supreme Allied Commander (DSACEUR) Europe NATO-ACO-SHAPE



Major General David Hafner AM CSC Commander, Aviation Command Australian Army



Major General Bogdan Rycerski Commander Joint Force Training Centre



Rear Admiral Cho Young-sang Commander, ROKN Naval Air Command Republic of Korea Navy



Brigadier General
David Walsh
Program Executive
Officer, Air AntiSubmarine Warfare,
Assault and Special
Miss
Department of the
Navy



Brigadier General Cain Baker Director, Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team US Army



Brigadier General David Cruzille Commanding General French Army Aviation



Commodore Steve Bolton Deputy Director Aviation Programmes and Futures Royal Navy



Brigadier General Wolfgang Luttenberger Commander, Air Support Brigade Austrian Air Force



Brigadier General Francisco Coll Herrero SP Head of Rotary Wing Aerial Systems Directorate-General of Arms and Materiel (DGAM)



Commodore Steve Jose Head of UKMFTS Portfolio UK Ministry of Defence



Air Commodore Nicholas Knight Head Combat Aviation Programmes British Army



Colonel Jeffrey Poquette Program Manager, Future Long Range Assault Aircraft US Army



Colonel Krzysztof Kwiatkowski Chief of Combat Aviation Helicopter Branch General Command of the Polish Armed



YOUR EXPERT SPEAKER FACULTY FROM ACROSS THE ROTORCRAFT CHAIN OF COMMAND



Colonel Robert Tyler
Director Air
Requirements
Royal Canadian Air
Force



Colonel Brent "Sword" Golden Force Application Division Chief US Joint Staff, J8



Colonel Lawrence Jones Deputy Division Chief US Joint Staff, J8



Colonel Jorge Inacio
Commander
Multinational
Helicopter Training
Centre



Colonel Christian Guntsch Advisor to the Air Chief for CH-47F German Air Force



Captain Broder Nielsen Commander German Naval Air Command



Colonel Timothy Jaeger Director, Army Aviation US Army



Captain James Hall Commanding Officer, RNAS Culdrose Royal Navy



Colonel Krešimir Ražov Commander, 93rd Wing Croatian Air Force



Mark Langrill
Director Rotary Wing
and Uncrewed Aerial
Systems
DE&S - UK MoD



Colonel Guido Krahl Branch Chief, Army Aviation Bundeswehr



Colonel Stefan Okos Commander, 51st Helicopter Wing Slovak Air Forcer



Colonel Roger Waleski Jr. Commander US Army Special Operations Aviation Command



Commander Brett Gillies Commanding Officer, 1710 Naval Air Squadron Royal Navy



Arbo Probal
UxS and C-UxS
Program Manager,
Force Transformation
Command
Estonian Defence
Forces



YOUR EXPERT SPEAKER FACULTY FROM ACROSS THE ROTORCRAFT CHAIN OF COMMAND



Colonel Krisztián Kovács Commander, 86th Helicopter Brigade **Hungarian Defence Forces**



Commodore Neil Mathieson. Head Regulation and Certification. Military Aviation Authority - UK MoD



Sandro Martino Program Manager Military Transport Helicopter Armasuisse



Cvril Heckel Program and Next Generation Rotorcraft Capability Manager **NATO Support and Procurement Agency** (NSPA)



Helen Wheatley DE&S Hels OC -Future RW Strategy Lead DE&S - UK MoD



James Gavin UKDI Deputy Director, Head Technology Transition DE&S



Meirion Roscoe Technical Officer -NATO Flight Training Europe (NFTE) **NATO Support and Procurement Agency**



Dr. Jack Watling Senior Research Fellow, Land Warfare **RUSI** *subject to final confirmation



Nick Childs Senior Fellow International Institute for Strategic Studies

2026 INDUSTRY **SPEAKERS**



Rvan Scoble Director, Business Development, Army Rotary Wing Programs and MOSA Modernization **Collins Aerospace**



Scott Ariotti Director of Programs The DiSTI Corporation

7DiSTI

"IMH is a great forum for the international military helicopter user, maintainers, logistics and operator community to come together and share and discuss current experiences, ways of working and associated challenges."

MAA Futures & Strategy Development, MAA



DAY ONE: TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2026

0700	REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS
0820 Defence iQ	DEFENCE iQ WELCOME Alice Andrews, Conference Director, Defence iQ
0825	CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Chairman IMH 2026
	ROTARY POWER IN ALLIANCE: THE ROLE OF HELICOPTERS IN THE MODERN OPERATING ENVIRONMENT
0830	 KEYNOTE: ROTARY POWER IN ALLIANCE: ADVANCING NATO INTEROPERABILITY, READINESS, AND MARITIME REACH Enhancing multinational interoperability across NATO rotary assets to maximise mission effectiveness Reinforcing NATO joint force readiness by supporting scalable options from deterrence forward presence to high-intensity conflict and rapid humanitarian assistance Expanding the indispensable role of rotary aviation in advancing NATO's integrated maritime posture and expeditionary flexibility Admiral Sir Keith Blount KCB OBE, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander (DSACEUR) Europe, NATO-ACO-SHAPE
0900	RESERVED FOR FOUR STAR LEAD PARTNER
0930	 CURRENT AND FUTURE ROLE OF ROTARY AIR POWER Understanding the current context of rotary wing operations in light of recent conflict Crewed or uncrewed? Explore the future role of crewed helicopter platforms with the recent proliferation of drones in modern warfare Developing future rotary requirements to meet evolving threats Jack Watling, Senior Research Fellow, RUSI *Subject to Final Confirmation
1000	INDUSTRY INSIGHTS FROM AIRBUS
1030	MORNING COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK
	ACCELERATING NEXT GENERATION ROTORCRAFT: UPDATES ON CURRENT PROGRAMMES
1100	 FLRAA: FROM DEVELOPMENT TO DEPLOYMENT > Prioritising speed, endurance, and reliability > Shifting the timeline to accelerate development > Operational advantage from doubling the range of the existing fleet Colonel Jeffrey Poquette, Program Manager, Future Long Range Assault Aircraft, US Army



1130

PANEL

PANEL DISCUSSION: ACCELERATING FLRAA

- > What are the critical enablers driving momentum in the FLRAA programme? What needs to happen to deliver FLRAA on time, on budget, and mission ready?
- > What are the potential roadblocks that both US Army and industry see in delivering FLRAA and an accelerated pace, and what are the proposed solutions?
- > How will FLRAA align with Army requirements for speed, range, and capability alongside operational needs?
- > What do Bell and Rolls Royce view as priority one for meeting the demands of the US Army, and how will this impact future platform development?

Moderated by: Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Conference Chairman IMH 2026

Panellists:

Colonel Jeffrey Poquette, Program Manager, Future Long Range Assault Aircraft, US Army

Senior Representative, Bell

Senior Representative, Rolls Royce

1210

ENTERING A NEW PHASE FOR NGRC

- > Understanding the NGRC targets for 2026 following the conclusion of Study 5
- > Early results from NGRC working groups who are defining key requirements ahead of the RFP
- > Outline of the new procurement model for NSPA

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Cyril Heckel, NGRC Programme Manager, NSPA

1240

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS FROM SIKORSKY



1310

LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK

DELIVERING CAPABILITIES FOR THE CURRENT AND FUTURE OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

1410

INDUSTRY LEADERS PANEL DISCUSSION: DELIVERING ENHANCED ROTARY CAPABILITIES FOR TODAY'S AND TOMORROW'S MISSION

- > How can current technology maturation and modernisation of capabilities like Air Launched Effects benefit operators of existing fleets?
- **PANEL**
- > How can industry help integrate new capabilities to meet new threats and adapt at pace?
- > How fast can industry react to managing platform obsolescence in today's economic climate?
- > What is the industry perspective on prioritising modularity to allow collaboration with multiple assets during operation?
- > What are the foreseen challenges of operating in an increasingly multi-domain environment, and how do industry suggest solving these challenges?

Moderated by: Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Conference Chairman IMH 2026

Senior Representative, Airbus

1500

UPDATE ON UNCREWED SYSTEM INITIATIVES, AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE ROYAL NAVY'S MARITIME AVIATION TRANSFORMATION PLAN

- > Update on the Proteus Technology Demonstrator
- > Developments in other uncrewed systems to support Royal Navy operations and enhance capabilities
- > Impact on the Future Maritime Aviation Force



Commodore Steve Bolton, Deputy Director Aviation Programmes and Futures, Royal Navy



1530 RESERVED FOR INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

1600 BOLSTERING ASW CAPABILITIES OF THE NAVAL AIR COMMAND

- > Enhancing the Navy's ability to detect and counter submarine threats from adversaries with the introduction of the MH-60R Seahawks
- > Importance of longer flight endurance for anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare operations
- > Interoperability between new and existing fleets to support maritime patrol operations

Rear Admiral Cho Young-sang, Commander, ROKN Naval Air Command, Republic of Korea Navy

1630 AFTERNOON TEA BREAK, VIP EXHIBITION TOURS

MODERNISING ROTARY FLEETS TO MAXIMISE PERFORMANCE AND SURVIVABILITY

1700 MAINTAINING DOMINANCE IN FUTURE MULTI-DOMAIN OPERATIONS

- > Adopting MOSA for more rapid upgrades and ensuring adaptability to future needs
- > Enhancing joint force capabilities
- > Integrating advanced sensors, weapons, and data sharing networks

Brigadier General Cain Baker, Director, Future Vertical Lift Cross Functional Team, US Army

1730 CAPABILITY MODERNISATION FOR CURRENT AIRCRAFT

- > Using Obsolescence for Modernisation
- > Establishing a hardware and software building block approach to architectures
- > Creating an early foundation for future growth

Ryan Scoble, Associate Director Business Development, Army Rotary Wing Programs / Military Avionics, Collins Aerospace

1800 ENHANCING MANOEUVRE AND ASSAULT OPERATIONS WITH A MODERNISED FLEET

- > Integrating next-generation weapons to enhance lethality of the Tiger MK III fleet
- > Increasing survivability
- > Future efforts to integrate uncrewed capabilities

Brigadier General David Cruzille, Commanding General, French Army Aviation

CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS AND DAY ONE SUMMARY

Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Chairman IMH 2026

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF IMH NETWORKING DRINKS RECEPTION – HOSTED BY EVENT PARTNER Join us as we celebrate 25 years of the International Military Helicopter Conference!



2000 END OF DAY ONE

1830

1835



DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2026

MORNING COFFEE BREAK, VIP EXHIBITION TOURS & TECH DEMOS

0730	REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS			
0845	CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Chairman IMH 2026			
	CURRENT AND FUTURE ROTORCRAFT CAPABILITIES			
0850	ADVANCING POLAND'S COMBAT CAPABILITIES: BOLSTERING SECURITY ON THE EASTERN FLANK Impact of current conflict on attack missions, focusing on challenges and strategies to prepare for multi-domain operations with the acquisition of Apache helicopters from the US Ongoing efforts to modernise Poland's rotary wing fleet with UAV compatible platforms, increasing to rapid response capabilities Learn how robust support infrastructure enhances the ability to sustain high-tempo operations in response to threats on the Eastern Flank Colonel Krzysztof Kwiatkowski, Chief of Combat Aviation Helicopter Branch, Polish Air Force			
0920 PANEL	PANEL DISCUSSION: BALANCING MODERNISATION, INNOVATION, AND AFFORDABILITY > Perspectives on how to balance investments to upgrade current fleets, while looking ahead to future programs and developments > How are shifting procurement models impacting the timelines for development through to deployment, and how can industry support these approaches? > How does the shifting balance of crewed and uncrewed systems impact the relationship between industry, government, and militaries? > How do we strike the right balance between cost and capability, focusing on near-term requirements? Moderated by: Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Conference Chairman IMH 2026 Panellists: Colonel Robert Tyler, Director Air Requirements, Royal Canadian Air Force Helen Wheatley, DE&S Hels OC – Future RW Strategy Lead, DE&S – UK MoD Senior Representative, Sikorsky			
1000	INDUSTRY INSIGHTS: INTEGRATING ADVANCED WEAPON SYSTEMS			



	ENHANCING OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES IN INCREASINGLY CONTESTED AIRSPACE	INCREASING LETHALITY OF ROTARY AVIATION	
1100	MISSION AND REQUIREMENTS OF US ARMY AVIATION Current operational requirements for the US Army, focusing on lessons identified from current conflicts Army aviation modernisation priorities to increase situational awareness and lethality Future role of rotary aviation in combat, and capabilities needed to operate in increasingly contested air space Colonel Tim Jaeger, Director Army Aviation, US Army	CURRENT CAPABILITIES AND FUTURE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARINEFLIEGERKOMMANDO > Challenges and successes from the integration of the NH-90 Sea Lion and Sea Lynx Mk88A fleets > Bolstering lethality for ASW operations > Future requirements for advanced surveillance capabilities Captain Broder Nielsen, Commander, German Naval Air Command	
1130	INDUSTRY INSIGHTS FROM HENSOLDT HENSOLDT	RESERVED FOR INDUSTRY INSIGHTS	
1200	MODERNISING THE HUNGARIAN AIR FORCE HELICOPTER UNITS > Avionics and communication upgrade priorities for the existing fleet > Future procurement plans to maximise effectiveness and improve readiness > Importance of compatibility and interoperability between platforms Colonel Krisztián Kovács, Commander, 86th Helicopter Brigade, Hungarian Air Force	BOLSTERING OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS WITH CREWED-UNCREWED TEAMING > Force multiplying effect of integrating drones and crewed aircraft Challenge for deployed crews to identify where drones can support warfighting capability RNAS Culdrose plans to continue supporting RN effects in uncrewed systems Captain James Hall, Commanding Officer, RNAS Culdrose, Royal Navy	
1230	LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK		
	INTEGRATION OF UNCREWED CAPABILITIES FOR LIFT, FIND, AND ATTACK MISSIONS	ENHANCING AVAILABILITY AND READINESS IN INCREASINGLY CONTESTED ENVIRONMENTS	
1330	 UTILISING UNCREWED ASSETS ALONGSIDE THE ROTARY FLEET Impact of the UK's SDR on the direction of rotary aviation Collaboration with industry to shape procurement processes Integrating uncrewed systems for lift, find, and attack missions Mark Langrill, Director Rotary Wing and Uncrewed Aerial Systems, DE&S - UK MoD 	PRIORITISING AVAILABILITY FOR THE CROATIAN AIR FORCE > Sustainment strategies for the entire Black Hawk life cycle > Importance of versatility for a multi-mission helicopter fleet > Future procurement priorities Colonel Krešimir Ražov, Commander, 93rd Wing, Croatian Air Force	
1400	RESERVED FOR INDUSTRY INSIGHTS	 TRANSFORMING MILITARY HELICOPTER TRAINING: FROM VIRTUAL TO MISSION-READY Exploring the Future of Mission Readiness: Virtualized training is reshaping the development of helicopter crews, enhancing their readiness and adaptability in an ever-evolving operational landscape. Enhancing Training Efficiency: Virtual scenarios can effectively prepare soldiers for realworld missions, fostering confidence and reducing risks while optimizing training time. Informed Decision-Making through Analytics: Leveraging data and timely content updates provides commanders with valuable insights into team performance and readiness. Insights from the Field: Real-world applications from military programs around the globe that have achieved notable improvements in operational efficiency and training effectiveness through advanced virtual environments. Scott Ariotti, Director of Programs, The DiSTI Corporation 	



1430 ADVANCING MANNED-UNMANNED TEAMING FOR ROTARY AVIATION

- > Current requirements for UAS that operate in conjunction with crewed platforms
- > Capability improvements of MUM-T for German Army Aviation
- > Finding the right balance between autonomy and manned-unmanned teaming

Colonel Guido Krahl, Branch Chief Army Aviation, Bundeswehr



UTILISING AI AT THE CORE OF MILITARY AVIATION TO SUPPORT FRONTLINE **OPERATIONS**

- > Delivering innovation not only at the edge, but at the core of aviation activity
- > Real-world applications of AI to enhance availability
- > Investing in digital tools for enhanced maintenance and sustainment

Commander Brett Gillies, Commanding Officer, 1710 Naval Air Squadron, **Royal Navy**



1530

AFTERNOON TEA BREAK, VIP EXHIBITION TOURS & TECH DEMOS

FUTURE ROLE OF UNCREWED CAPABILITIES FOR ROTARY AVIATION

BUILDING A MODERNISED FLEET PREPARED FOR UNCREWED AVIATION

- > Priorities for achieving IOC for the Apache fleet in 2028
- > Plans for integrating future drone and loitering munition capabilities
- > Streamlining training and sustainment for the Black Hawk fleet

Major General David Hafner AM CSC, Commander, Aviation Command, **Australian Army**



TRAINING FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE THREATS

PRIORITIES FOR THE MULTINATIONAL HELICOPTER TRAINING CENTRE (MHTC) **PROGRAMME**

- > Improving European military helicopter interoperability and capability
- > Importance of delivering multinational tactic training to harmonise common TTPs
- > Maximising preparation and readiness for current and future operational theatres



1600 INTEGRATING UNCREWED SYSTEMS INTO THE FUTURE BATTLESPACE

- > Lessons learned from current conflicts on the role of UxS, and the need for robust counter measures
- > Priorities for seamless integration between UxS and manned aviation
- > Standardising interoperability frameworks, and ensuring scalable UxS solutions

Arbo Probal, UxS and C-UxS Program Manager, Force Transformation Command. Estonian Defence Forces



MEETING TOMORROW'S CHALLENGES TODAY: NATO JOINT FORCE TRAINING CENTRE PERSPECTIVE

- > Supporting current and future operations with advanced training technologies
- > Improving interoperability and joint NATO capabilities
- > Priorities for development the next generation of combat aviators

Major General Bogdan Rycerski, Commander, Joint Force Training Centre



FIRESIDE CHAT: ROTARY WING INNOVATIONS 1630

- > What is the UKDI perspective on the current innovation in rotary wing aviation alongside developments in uncrewed systems?
- > What models of partnership are proving most effective in accelerating the integration of new technologies into frontline rotary-wing capability?
- > Where are the most disruptive innovations emerging that could fundamentally change the role of rotary aviation in the next 10-15 years?

James Gavin, UKDI Deputy Director, Head Technology Transition, DE&S, UK MoD



PANEL DISCUSSION: MAXIMISING READINESS WITH TACTICAL TRAINING STRATEGIES

- > How are existing structures being leveraged to deliver state-of-the-are training for nextgeneration pilots?
- > How do experts view the balance required between live and simulated training programmes to enhance operational capability while keeping costs under control?
- > How are existing training programmes developing to account for the integration of uncrewed capabilities into rotary wing operations?

Panellists:

Commodore Steve Jose, Head of UKMFTS Portfolio, UK Ministry of Defence Colonel Jorge Inacio, Commander, Multinational Helicopter Training Centre Meirion Roscoe, Technical Officer -NATO Flight Training Europe (NFTE), **NATO Support and Procurement Agency**





1700

RETURN TO PLENARY

1705

REDUCING BOTTLENECKS IN UAS AIRWORTHINESS AND APPROVAL TO OPERATE WITH ROTARY FLEETS

- > Certification challenges of uncrewed systems, and current regulatory status
- > Accelerating the approval process of operating UAS in the UK
- > Importance of collaboration to ensure safe integration of increasingly sophisticated UAS with existing rotary fleets

MAA

Commodore Neil Mathieson, Head Regulation and Certification, Military Aviation Authority

0825

CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS AND DAY TWO SUMMARY

Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Chairman IMH 2026

1740

NETWORKING DRINKS RECEPTION

All conference participants are invited to an evening of informal networking during the drinks reception

1830

END OF DAY TWO







DAY THREE: THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2026

REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS



CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Chairman IMH 2026

INDUSTRY MORNING All Attendees Welcome

Participants are invited to take part in the International Military Helicopter 2026 'Industry Morning', designed to maximise opportunities for engagement across the entire rotary supply chain, as well as foster collaboration with key military stakeholders. Take the opportunity to share and hear visions and direction for rotary capabilities, understand how industry can work together to help with the thinking, planning, and development of next-generation rotary requirements

0900

ROUNDTABLE

INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLES: JOIN TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO DISCUSS CURRENT AND FUTURE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS FOR ADVANCED ROTARY **CAPABILITIES**

Pick two topics to join for two rounds of 45-minute discussion moderated by industry experts, engineers and technology leads from OEMS and Primes

1. BALANCING LIVE AND SYNTHETIC TRAINING

2. INTEGRATION OF ALE AND DRONE MULES

3. UTILISING AI AND **DIGITAL TOOLS FOR MAINTENANCE**

4.WEAPON SYSTEMS TO **INCREASE LETHALITY**

5. ADVANCED AVIONICS, COMMUNICATIONS AND CONNECTIVITY

6. INCREASING SURVIVABILITY WITH ARMOUR AND **PROTECTION**

PRIORITISING FLEET VERSATILITY FOR CURRENT AND **FUTURE OPERATIONS**

0900

STRENGTHENING AUSTRIA'S ROTARY DEFENCE

- > Enhanced operational capability with upgraded Black Hawk helicopters delivering improved mobility, survivability, and mission flexibility
- > Supporting interoperability with partners and allies
- > Aligning future acquisition priorities with long-terms force development goals

Brigadier General Wolfgang Luttenberger, Commander, Air Support Brigade, Austrian Air Force

VTOL FORCE APPLICATION OPPORTUNITIES 0930

- Anchoring with Allies and Partners to build enduring advantages through force planning and integration
- A holistic look at the capability requirements of the next generation of VTOL aircraft in the future operating environment
- Maximising operational agility to meet contested and dispersed battlefield demands



Colonel Brent Golden, Force Application Division Chief, US Joint Staff, J8 Colonel Lawrence Jones, Deputy Division Chief, US Joint Staff, J8

1000

MODERNISING ROTARY WING CAPABILITIES FOR MULTI-ROLE **MISSIONS**

- Enhancing capacity for defence, SAR, disaster relief, and medevac operations
- Ensuring seamless integration with allied forces through common standards and training exercises
- Future procurement outlook



Colonel Stefan Okos, Commander, 51st Helicopter Wing, Slovak Air Force



1030	MORNING COFFEE AND NETWORKING BREAK		
	INDUSTRY MORNING All Attendees Welcome		HEAVY LIFT FLEETS AND STRATEGIC AIR MOBILITY
1100	 SME-LED PANEL DISCUSSION: SUPPORTING THE NEXT-GENERATION OF ROTARY OPERATIONS Hear from a panel of industry innovators, showcasing cutting-edge ideas, technologies and capabilities. The panel is designed to provide fresh perspectives on emerging solutions to support both current and future rotary-wing operations. What are the biggest challenges and opportunities for integrating new technologies into existing helicopter fleets? How can collaboration between defence primes, SMEs and military stakeholders help accelerate capability delivery? How can industry innovators best align their priorities with evolving needs of military forces in the context of high-intensity operations and multi-domain integration? What role can SMEs play in creating resilient, responsive supply chains that support sustained helicopter operations in contested environments? 	1100	 DELIVERING CH-47F FOR THE GERMAN AIR FORCE Current priorities and preparations for the arrival of the CH-47F fleet, including progress on training and sustainment planning Key features tailored for German Air Force requirements, and the importance of interoperability with NATO partners Unique modifications to enhance self-protection and deterrence Colonel Christian Guntsch, Advisor to the Air Chief for CH-47F, German Air Force
		1130	 MODERNISING THE SWISS TRANSPORT FLEET Extending operational life with upgrades and modernisation Prioritising improved safety and reliability Specific capability requirements to meet current and future demands Sandro Martino, Program Manager Military Transport Helicopter, Armasuisse
1200	LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK		
	ADVANCING INTEROPERABILITY BETWE	EN PLATF	FORMS AND ALLIES
1300	 USASOAC: DRIVING INTEROPERABILITY AND LETHALITY ACROSS THE JOINT FOR Advanced technology and tactics to maintain dominance in complex environments Enhancing mission success through synchronised planning, training, and execution Integrating Special Operations Aviation capabilities seamlessly with joint forces Colonel Roger Waleski Jr. Commander, US Army Special Operations Aviation Commander 		
1330	RESERVED FOR INDUSTRY INSIGHTS		
1400	SHAPING THE FUTURE FIGHT: PRIORITIES FOR BRITISH ARMY COMBAT AVIATION Delivering a modernised battlefield aviation fleet that is fully integrated with land forces Maximising operational readiness and prioritising allied interoperability Reshaping force structure to deliver a more agile aviation force Air Commodore Nick Knight OBE, Head Combat Aviation Programmes, British Army		
1430	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK VIP EXHIBITION TOURS		



1530

PANEL

1600

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MULTI-DOMAIN OPERATIONS

1500 UNIFIED MULTI-DOMAIN CAPABILITIES FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

- Strengthening joint operational effectiveness with the NH90 deliveries across the Air and Space Force, FAMET, and Navy
- Streamlining training, logistics, and maintenance
- Procurement plans for the Spanish Armed Forces rotary-wing fleet

Brigadier General Francisco Coll Herrero, SP Head of Rotary Wing Aerial Systems, Directorate-General of Arms and Materiel (DGAM)

PANEL DISCUSSION: MAXIMISING ROTORCRAFT EFFECTIVENESS IN MULTI-DOMAIN OPERATIONS

With worldwide interest for multi-use helicopters, what capabilities should Armed Forces prioritise given current security challenges and evolving threats?

- What capabilities are required for enduring fleets to be operationally effective in MDO environments?
 How are nations fostering better coordination and collaboration through multinational helicopter exercises, and how does this aid in preparing for multi-domain operations?
- How are militaries planning to optimise battlespace management when operating in MDO environments?

Moderated by: Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Conference Chairman IMH 2026
Panellists:

Captain Broder Nielsen, Commander, German Naval Air Command

Nick Childs, Senior Fellow, International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)

CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS AND DAY TWO SUMMARY

Major General (Retd) James Illingworth OBE, Former Deputy Commander Joint Helicopter Command, Chairman IMH 2026

1615 END OF CONFERENCE





MAXIMISE YOUR INVOLVEMENT:

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES



Sponsorship is the most effective way to share your company's solution with our audience of international strategic leaders, operators, procurement heads and technical experts that are working across the military helicopter ecosystem.

Do you provide a solution that can help our international audience in tackling the biggest challenges for the rotary aviation community? Our audience is looking to meet key industry stakeholders providing solutions and innovations in these areas:

- Rotary Platforms
- Weapon Systems
- Avionics and Communications
- Uncrewed Systems, Autonomy and AI
- Sensor and Radar Technology
- Cockpit Technology and Pilot Aids
- > Propulsion
- Survivability and Protection

- > Training and Simulation
- MRO and Infrastructure
- Search and Rescue
- Positioning, Navigation and Timing
- Aftermarket and Supply Chain Support
- Components and Hardware
- Electronic Sub Systems

Thought Leadership Speaking Opportunities

Thought Leadership Speaking Opportunities

Present your solution during the main plenary or streamed session to showcase your solution and share opportunities for collaboration and advancement

Exhibition Opportunities

Position your company as an industry leader

Position your company as an industry leader and raise your brand profile on-site with a dedicated space in our exhibition area

Tailored Networking Solutions
Continue strategic conversations by hosting a drinks reception for conference attendees to enjoy, and engage with senior decision-makers in a more casual setting

On-Site Branding

Increase your brand visibility with unique branding opportunities to keep your organisation front of mind throughout the event

Participation in Comprehensive Pre-Event Marketing Campaigns
Share your involvement with the conference as we promote your role as an industry leader with our audience

Industry Morning

Take part in interactive sessions that give industry the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to solve key challenges facing the community

SME Opportunities

We are committed to supporting SMEs and emerging technology providers, with opportunities to contribute directly to the agenda and demonstrate capabilities that might not be on the radar of key stakeholders. Please get in touch if you'd like to learn more about these packages and who qualifies.

For more information and to discuss the right opportunity, contact Claudia O'Riordan on +44 (0)207 368 9300 or partner@defenceiq.com



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AIRBUS

We provide the most efficient civil and military helicopter solutions to our customers who serve, protect, save lives and safely carry passengers in highly demanding environments.

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Two Star Partners **





Thinking above and beyond is what we do. For more than 80 years, we've been reimagining the experience of flight – and where it can take us. We are pioneers. We were the first to break the sound barrier and to certify a commercial helicopter. We were aboard NASA's first lunar mission and brought advanced tiltrotor systems to market. Today, we're defining the future of on-demand mobility. Headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas – as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Textron Inc., – we have strategic locations around the globe. And with nearly one quarter of our workforce having served, helping our military achieve their missions is a passion of ours. Above all, our breakthrough innovations deliver exceptional experiences to our customers. Efficiently. Reliably. And always, with safety at the forefront.

Website: https://www.bellflight.com/



At Collins Aerospace, we're working side-by-side with our customers and partners to dream, design and deliver solutions that redefine the future of our industry. We're reaching across markets, disciplines and boundaries to develop new and more advanced technologies. And, together, we're making the most powerful concepts in aerospace a reality.

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The **DiSTI Corporation** is a global leader in virtual training solutions, specializing in the development of cutting-edge 3D training technology for the defense and aerospace sectors. With over three decades of experience, DiSTI delivers immersive, high-fidelity virtual training environments that enhance readiness, reduce training costs, and accelerate learning outcomes for military personnel worldwide.

Headquartered in Orlando, Florida, USA, home to the world's largest cluster of modeling, simulation, and training organizations, DiSTI has earned a trusted reputation among U.S. and international defense agencies. Our track record includes successful deployments across the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, as well as allied military forces throughout Europe, South America, the Middle East, and Asia.

A core area of DiSTI's expertise lies in rotary-wing aviation training. We specialize in creating advanced virtual maintenance trainers (VMTs) and part-task trainers (PTTs) for a wide range of military helicopters, including the UH-60 Black Hawk, CH-47 Chinook, AH-64 Apache, as well as SOF programs and international platforms. These training solutions integrate real-time 3D graphics, physics-based interactions, and mixed-reality environments to replicate complex systems and maintenance and operational procedures with exceptional realism and accuracy.

DiSTI's flagship product, VE Studio®, empowers defense programs to rapidly develop and deploy scalable training applications that can be delivered on desktop, virtual reality (VR), or augmented/mixed reality (AR/MR) platforms, without having to rebuild or rework content for each delivery method. This unique capability ensures consistency, reduces development costs, and supports evolving mission needs.

As militaries worldwide modernize their training infrastructures, DiSTI continues to lead with innovative, agile, and proven solutions that prepare warfighters for the demands of today's missions and tomorrow's challenges. Our commitment to quality, performance, and mission success is why defense organizations across the globe continue to choose DiSTI.

Website: https://disti.com/





HENSOLDT is a leading company in the European defence industry with global reach. Based in Taufkirchen near Munich, the company develops complete sensor solutions for defence and security applications. As a technology leader, HENSOLDT drives the development of defence electronics and optronics and is continuously expanding its portfolio based on innovative approaches to data management, robotics and cyber security.

HENSOLDT is listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. HENSOLDT's main areas of activity include intelligence and reconnaissance sensors, solutions for controlling the electromagnetic spectrum and mission avionics systems. The company combines various mission-critical sensor technologies to create package solutions that allow detection capabilities to be substantially improved through sensor and data fusion. With its proven expertise, HENSOLDT plays a substantial role in multinational future-oriented projects, such as the Future Combat Air System (FCAS), Main Ground Combat System (MGCS) and Maritime Airborne Warfare System (MAWS).

Among the most prominent air and space platforms equipped with HENSOLDT's products are the F-16, Eurofighter, Gripen and Rafale combat aircraft, the TanDEM-X and EDRS-A satellites, the A400M transport aircraft and various types of helicopters.

Website: https://www.hensoldt.net/



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Lockheed Martin Sikorsky has invested more than \$1 Billion dollars and has spent more than a decade developing, scaling and maturing X2TM Technology (X2 Technology Demonstrator first flight in 2008). The three prototype programs leveraging X2TM Technology (SB>1 DEFIANT, S-97 RAIDER, X2 Technology Demonstrator) have accumulated more than 375 flight hours and more than 1,020 hours of ground testing completed on propulsion system, transmission, and avionics test beds.

X2 Technology incorporates the latest advances in fly-by-wire, flight controls, vehicle management systems and systems integration. These technologies enable the aircraft to operate at high speeds while maintaining the low-speed handling qualities and maneuverability of conventional single main rotor helicopters.

Lockheed Martin Sikorsky is excited about the opportunity to extend X2 capabilities to our allies, with its transformational rotorcraft technology and key attributes that will be relevant in the future near-peer threat environment – speed, maneuverability, survivability, affordability, upgradeability, flexibility and optionally piloted.



Leonardo is a world-class provider of aerospace, defence, and security solutions, delivering advanced multi-domain capabilities across its Helicopters, Aircraft, Aerostructures, Electronics, Cyber Security, and Space divisions. With a workforce of over 53,000, the company has a strong industrial presence in the UK, Italy, Poland, and the US, operating in 150 countries through subsidiaries, joint ventures, and local support hubs. Leonardo designs, manufactures, and supports cutting-edge military helicopters. Its diverse rotorcraft portfolio spans from agile 3-tonne single-engine helicopters to powerful 15.6-tonne three-engine platforms. The company is also pioneering the development of uncrewed rotary-wing air systems in the 200kg and 3-tonne categories, shaping the future of military aviation. In the UK, Leonardo's Yeovil site is at the forefront of rotary wing innovation and is recognised as 'the Home of British Helicopters' where more than 3300 helicopters have been produced since 1947, and more than half of the British Armed Forces' frontline helicopter fleet was built. Beyond helicopter manufacturing, Leonardo integrates world-leading air platform protection, reconnaissance and surveillance technologies, enhancing the safety and effectiveness of helicopter fleets worldwide. To ensure optimal performance and longevity, Leonardo provides integrated operational support (IOS) and training for Domestic and international customers. This provides aircrews and engineers with the expertise and resources to maintain mission readiness and keep their fleets operating at peak performance. Leonardo is proud to be the Three Star Sponsor of IMH 2025.



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Website: www.dillonaero.com



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Founded in 1988, GTA Containers, Inc. is a leader in the design and manufacture of both military vehicle covers and doors and large-scale flexible fluid containment, transport and distribution systems. Our facilities span three plants and feature over 200,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space to meet the needs of commercial and military clients alike. By offering unparalleled technical expertise, consistent quality, and reliable delivery, GTA is a trusted manufacturer for the United States Marine Corps, Army, Air Force, and foreign militaries.

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Website: www.gtacontainers.com



QinetiQ is a company of scientists and engineers committed to listening, understanding and responding to our customers' needs. We work in partnership with our customers to equip them with powerful solutions to their most pressing challenges, delivering operational and competitive advantage.

QinetiQ offers world-class expertise in advice, services and innovative technology-based products. We deploy our scientific and technological knowledge, proven research capabilities and unique, purpose-built facilities to provide both services and products that create real benefit and added value. As a trusted partner, we enable, assure and protect the interests of a wide range of global customers.

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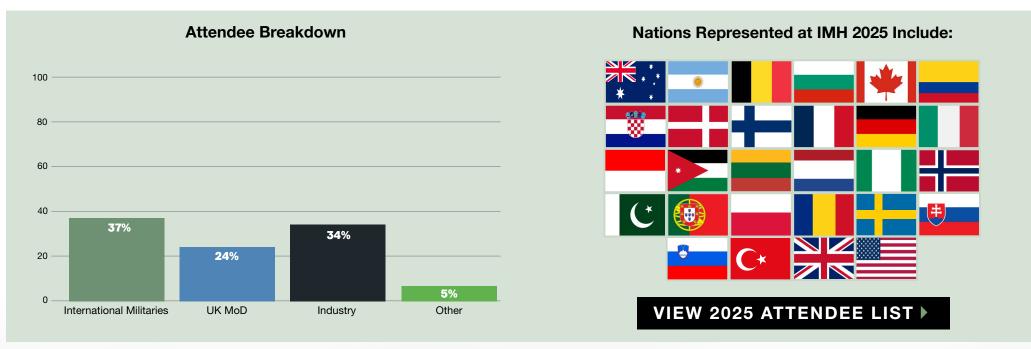


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Grow your business with a captive audience of the most influential stakeholders from across the global rotary aviation community, with representation from organisations including:

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- Airbus Helicopters
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- Sikorsky, A Lockheed Martin Company

- > Spanish Air Force
- > Spanish Army Aviation Brigade
- Spanish Navy
- Swiss Air Force
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- > US Army Futures Command
- > US Army Special Operations Aviation Command
- > US Marine Corps
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For updates on the venue and accommodation information, please visit: https://www.defenceig.com/events-militaryhelicopter/venue

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