



# ARSAG 2026

# DRAFT

21 – 23 April

Orlando, Florida

10 April 2026

## **Monday, 20 April**

0800 – 1700 Registration, Check-in, Badging  
1700 Briefers' Meeting, for Presenters & Panel Chairs – Seminole Ballroom  
Attendance required for all briefers

## **Tuesday, 21 April**

0700 Check-in, Badging  
0700 ***Exhibits Grand Opening***, Universal A/B Ballroom  
0800 **General Session Opens**, Seminole Ballroom  
***Welcome, Introductions***  
0815 ***Keynote Speaker***  
0900 ***Keynote Speaker***  
0945 ***International Military Status Reports***  
0950 NATO Aircom  
0958 MRTT MN Unit  
1006 Belgium  
1014 France  
1025 Coffee, Exhibits & Networking, Universal A/B Ballroom  
***International Status Reports continued***  
1055 Germany  
1103 Italy  
1111 United Kingdom  
1119 Türkiye  
1127 Israel  
1135 Japan  
1143 Australia  
1151 Canada  
1200 Q & A  
1205 Luncheon, Pavillion  
***Guest Speaker***  
1315 ***ARSAG Awards*** Seminole Ballroom  
1330 ***Senior Industry Panel Discussion***  
1415 **Joint Standardization Board (JSB)  
for Aerial Refueling Systems Status Report**  
1430 Coffee, Exhibits, Networking, Universal A/B Ballroom  
1500 ***United States Military Status Reports***  
1505 USN  
1515 Contracted AR Services  
1525 USN / Omega Air  
1535 USN / Metrea Strategic Mobility  
1545 USAF/AMC  
1555 Q & A

Lt Gen John B. Sams, Jr. USAF, Ret.  
ARSAG Chairman, Chief Executive Officer  
**General Randall Reed, USAF  
Commander, USTRANSCOM**  
**Lt Gen Rebecca Sonkiss, Interim Commander AMC**  
**Moderator: Laurent Donnet, Metrea**  
Sqn Ldr Kenny Murray, Aircom  
LTC Marc Charlier, MMF  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Shana Moelans, BAF  
TBD

**Moderator: Laurent Donnet, Metrea**  
LTC Oliver Kox, GAF  
Col Fabio Zanichelli, ItAF  
MAcr Paul Riley, RAF  
Maj Murat Cakir, TuAF  
Maj Edan Masil, IAF  
Lt Col Junya Aono, JASDF  
Sqn Ldr Nick Barnes, RAAF  
LTC Kyle Welsh, RCAF

Jake Kwasnik, The Boeing Company  
Vice-President, KC-46 Program Manager

**Moderator: General Carlton D. Everhart II, USAF, Ret.**  
Tom Jones, Northrop Grumman  
President, Aeronautics Systems  
Bosco da Costa, Jr. Embraer Defense and Security  
President and CEO  
Tom O'Leary, JetZero, co-founder and CEO

Farhad Choudhury, USN, JSB Chair

**Moderator, TBD**  
Farhad Choudhury, USN  
Rhonda Link, USN  
Peter Vanagas, Omega Aerial Refueling Services  
Slim Morgan, Metrea Strategic Mobility  
Maj Jack Rush, HQ AMC/Stn Eval

Tuesday continued

1600 **Operations Panel**  
1605 Next Gen Countermeasure Dispenser Technology  
1615 Improved Operation Capabilities for KC-135 Fleet  
1625 Resuscitating NGAS: Considerations for USAF  
1635 Evolving Needs & Global Responses in AR  
1645 Operation Midnight Hammer  
1655 Q & A

1700 *Adjourn*  
1800 - 2000 **Exhibitors' Reception**, Universal A/B Ballroom

**Moderator: Richard Simms, USTRANSCOM**  
Doug Resetar, *Northrop Grumman*  
Matthew Mariam, *USAF*  
Timothy Walton, *Hudson Institute*  
Francois-Xavier Fraisse, *SAFRAN*  
Col Isaiah Oppelaar, *USAF*

## **Wednesday, 22 April**

0700 Registration, Check-In Badging  
0700 Exhibits Open, Universal A/B Ballroom  
0800 General Session, Seminole Ballroom

**Introductions**  
Lt Gen John B. Sams, Jr. USAF, Ret.  
ARSAG Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

0815 **Guest Speaker**  
0900 **Guest Speaker**  
**SES Roberto Guerrero, SAF/IEN**  
**Antoine Noguier, Head of Strategy**  
**Airbus Defence and Space**

0945 **System Design Panel**  
0950 A-10 Probe/Receptacle Adapter  
1005 DC-10, KDC-10, KC-10 Grounding and Path to RTS  
1015 F-35 MA-2 Nozzle Failure Investigation  
1025 Q & A  
1030 *Coffee, Exhibits, Networking*, Universal A/B Ballroom

**Interoperability Panel**  
1100 NATO HQ  
1105 JAPCC + AAR WG update  
1115 MRTT MN Unit AAR Technical Compatibility Application  
1125 Movement Coordination Centre Europe  
1135 Compliance by Similarity  
1145 Industry contributions to pairings simplification  
1150 Q & A

1155 *Luncheon, Pavillion*  
**Guest Speaker**  
TBD, *Airbus*

1300 **ARSAG Awards**

1330 **Cyber Security Panel**  
Cyber Security for the Aerial Refueling Enterprise  
- Critical Mission Assurance for Today's Warfighters  
**Moderator: Jim Sutton**  
Ted Rybeck, *Venly*  
Chris Beattie, *Northrop Grumman*  
Brian North, *Lockheed Martin*  
Bill Bryant, *Modern Technologies Solution, Inc*

1415 Q&A

1420 **Test & Evaluation Panel**  
1425 E-2D AAR Preliminary Testing with French Tankers  
1435 E-2D AAR Testing with French Tankers  
1445 Autonomy EXPERT AAR Flight Test Update  
1455 Q & A

1500 *Coffee, Exhibits, Networking*, Universal A/B Ballroom

1530 **Advanced Concepts Panel**  
1535 MQ-25 Update from Boeing and NAVAIR PMA-268  
1545 T-BARS (Tactical Boom Aerial Refueling System)  
1555 Certification of Unmanned Aerial Refueling  
1605 USAF Refueling Fleet Efficiency Mods  
1615 Q&A  
1620 *Adjourn*  
1800 – 2000 Reception sponsored by the *Eaton Corporation* Sun & Surf Ballroom

**Moderator: Stephen Sipprell, Eaton**  
Stephen Sipprell, *Eaton* & Jeffrey Baker, *Eaton*  
David McKnight, *Omega Air*  
Stephen Sipprell, *Eaton*

**Moderator: Maj Eric Yuan, NATO JAPCC**  
Alexander Defazio, *IS/D2IA*  
Maj Eric Yuan, *NATO JAPCC*  
Maj Mike van Mierlo, *MMF*  
LTC Jeremy D'hondt, *MCCE*  
Sara Fernandez, *Airbus*

**Moderator: Chris Nickell, US Navy**  
Gregoire Pertitot, *DGA Flight Test*  
Rebecca Szumski and Austin Brouillard, *US Navy*  
John "Stash" Fristachi, *Calspan*

**Moderator: Farhad Choudhury, NAVAIR**  
Alex Ewing, *The Boeing Company*  
Matt Lund, *Eaton*  
Dr. Scott Nykl, *AFIT*  
Michael Peet, *SAF/IEN*

## **Thursday, 23 April**

0700 Exhibits Open, Universal A/B Ballroom

0800 General Session, Seminole Ballroom

### ***Introductions***

0815 ***Guest Speaker***

0900 ***Safety Panel***

0905 USAF Tanker Mishap Trends

0915 Tanker Flight Safety Update

0925 US Navy Aerial Refueling Safety Update

0935 Contract Aerial Refueling Mishaps/Lessons Learned

0945 Loss of Safe Separation (LOSS)

0955 Q & A

1000 *Coffee, Exhibits, Networking*, Universal A/B Ballroom

1030 ***Reliability and Maintainability Panel***

1040 Aging Aircraft and Diminishing Manufacturing Sources in the ALC

1050 KC-46 Aerial Refueling Health Management (ARHM) Update

1100 Airbus Central Data System

1110 Q & A

1130 *Luncheon, Pavillion*

### ***Guest Speaker***

1200 Exhibits Close

1300 ***Guest Speaker***

1345 ***Training Panel***

1350 KC-135 Training Focused on International Training and Cooperation

1400 KC-46 Training Focused on International Training and Cooperation

1410 C-135FR Training

1420 A330 MRTT Training Capabilities

1430 The Power of One Sortie: How EARL is Redefining Air Refueling Training

1440 Q&A

1445 ***Industry / Studies & Analysis Panel***

1450 Additive Manufacturing for Sustainment: Producing an Aerial Refueling Boom

1500 Airbus Tankers, Innovations and New Capabilities

1510 Thermal Management for AR Platforms

1520 AAR Innovative Solutions and AI Applications

1530 Q & A

1535 General Session adjourns

1600 ARSAG Steering Group Meeting, Universal E1/2

Lt Gen John B. Sams, Jr. USAF, Ret.

ARSAG Chairman, Chief Executive Officer

**James Jacobson**, *The Boeing Company*

**Moderator: Jason Pavelschak**, *The Boeing Company*

Maj Mark Koch, *USAF Safety Center / Flight Safety*

Col John Kelley, *USAF AMC, Director of Safety*

Tom Cavallaro, *NAVAIR*

William "Joe" Parker, *Metrea Strategic Mobility*

F/O Ben Humphries, *RAF Air Safety Cell*

**Moderator: Greg Twyford**, *The Boeing Company*

Col Leah Vanagas, *USAF WR-ALC/CD*

Jason Pavelschak, *The Boeing Company*

Antonio Cano, *Airbus*

TBD

**Mark Hasara**, *Operation Anaconda*

**Moderator: Lt Col Aaron Brown**, *USAF 54 ARS/DO*

MSgt Russhope Marcelo, *USAF 54 ARS/Flight Chief*

Lt Col John Cockburn, *USAF 56 ARS/CC*

William "Joe" Parker, *Metrea Strategic Mobility*

Santiago Perez Panero, *Airbus*

Ryan Pulliam, *Specular Theory*

**Moderator: Tom Swiderek**, *Omega Air*

Slade Gardner, *Big Metal Additive*

Jeronimo Amador, *Airbus DS*

Andrea Peacock, *Mezzo Technologies*

Remi Battarra, *SAFRAN Aerosystems*

Tom Swiderek, *Omega Air*

Farhad Choudhury, *NAVAIR*

## **Auxiliary Meetings**

### **Monday, 20 April**

0900 NATO/JAPCC Meeting, Universal E1/2  
(by invitation)

1400 ARSAG International BOD Meeting

1700 Panel Chairs and Briefers Meeting  
Briefers Submit PowerPoint Briefings  
Seminole Ballroom

Maj Eric Yuan, *NATO JAPCC*

By invitation only

Tom Swiderek, *Omega Air*