A joint meeting of the European Society of Aerospace Medicine, Aerospace Medical Association, the Czech Institute of Aviation Medicine and the Czech Association of Aviation Medicine

Prague, The Czech Republic
20 to 23 September 2018
A Note from ESAM

Dear friends and colleagues of Aerospace Medicine.

It is a pleasure to see that we are moving forward in the development of the conference in Prague in September, thanks to hard work by many dedicated people! I hope you all have saved the dates.

The organising and scientific committees are working to make this a memorable conference for AMEs, Military medical doctors, Human factors experts, researchers and all the other specialists who constitute the family of Aerospace Medicine.

ESAM membership constitutes professionals from Russia in the east to Portugal in the west, from Norway in the north to the shores of the Mediterranean in the south; of course, we are expecting overseas participation as well.

Continuing the close cooperation with the Aerospace Medical Association, we are putting together a program which will bring up-to-date knowledge and presentations from world experts to the fine meeting facilities we are lucky to get access to.

The venue is the old beautiful city of Prague, and hopefully this cultural infusion into our scientific proceedings will be an inspiration during the meeting.

Congress Registration information and a call for abstracts will soon be published.

I wish you all luck in preparing for this exciting conference.

Anthony S. Wagstaff
President, ESAM

The ECAM 6 Organising Committee Report

Greetings from the Organising Committee of ECAM 2018. We are continuing to develop the program for the ECAM in Prague next September.

We plan to commence registration in March 2018 using the AsMA portal. This will allow payment on-line and in US $. The early bird rate has been pitched at under €400. Because the price is in US$ the exchange rate will vary over time with the Euro and the Czech Krona.

There will be an accompanying persons programme with social events. We plan to publish this in the next newsletter. The ECAM will run over three days and include lunches on the Friday and Saturday and a Gala dinner.

Accommodation in Prague is at a premium next September, so early confirmation of hotel bookings is strongly advised, to avoid disappointment. AIM, the events organizing company have provided us with links to three or four hotels that they have negotiated with. Their links will be published on the website early in the New Year. So Save the Date: TCAS Prague 20-23 September 2018.

For now, Slán,
Declan.

Declan Maher, First Vice President, ESAM.
Organising Committee Chair

Scientific Program Committee Report

Theme: Trust & Care in Aviation Safety

The Scientific Program Committee is actively creating an attractive program addressing the newest aeromedical and technological developments.

Features of the ECAM 6 program include panel sessions on the following topics:

- Rules and Safety - 2 sides of the same coin?
- Advances in Aeromedical screening
- Contrasts and lessons learned: military and civilian Aerospace medicine
- UAV operations - developments and challenges
- AME course/Workshop on AEMCs
- Aviation Psychology - Psychosocial well-being
- Psychological and Mental health assessments
- Special senses and orientation
- Space flight: physiology and psychology

and a half-day workshop dealing with specific AMEs issues.

All sessions will have an introduction by one or two keynote speakers followed by abstract presentations and in-depth discussion.

Abstract Submission Process

All abstracts must be submitted electronically via the congress website.

There will be a link to the congress web-site on the site of each partner organisation for submission of abstracts. www.esam.aero and www.asma.org

Abstracts can be submitted from 1 March 2018. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 15 July 2018.

An abstract must be in English and should be submitted in the following form:

Abstract title, presenting author information, including affiliation and e-mail contact details, and contributing authors’ details.

The abstract should where possible be written in the form of Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion and Learning Objectives.

The abstract should be limited to no more than 500 words including the title and authors’ details. It should be in .doc, .docx, or .pdf format.

In addition three (3) True/False or Multiple Choice Questions should be included, with the correct answer indicated. These questions will be used to offer US physicians Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credits for participating in the ECAM 2018. The text of questions and answers does not count for the max. allowed 500 words in the abstract.

Financial Disclosure/Conflict of Interests/Ethics

Abstracts must be accompanied by a completed and signed Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (EACCME form: attached). This is mandatory for accreditation of ECAM 2018 by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

Scientific presentations must adhere to the highest standards of scientific ethics and include appropriate acknowledgement or reference to scientific and or financial sources. No endorsement of commercial products is permitted and presentations should not contain any visible or audible product endorsement or advertising in any form.

Following acceptance of an abstract for oral presentation, this must be in the form of a PowerPoint presentation.

The abstract may, at the discretion of the Scientific Programme Committee, be published on the ESAM and/or AsMA, and in paper format.

It is the author’s responsibility to obtain all necessary permissions and clearances prior to submission of abstracts. ESAM, AsMA, the Czech Aeronautical Institute, and the Czech Association of Aviation Medicine will not accept any legal or scientific liability or responsibility for the publication of any submitted material.

Acceptance Process

All abstracts will be reviewed by the members of the Scientific Programme Committee. Acceptance, requests for modification or for more information, or outright rejection, will be notified to the presenting author by e-mail following the review process. Abstracts will be selected for either oral/slide (PowerPoint) presentation or for a poster presentation.

If an abstract is accepted then it is expected that the lead author will present the paper in
person at the meeting. A co-author may present the paper, but any other person shall only present with the prior permission of the planning committee. In the case of a poster presentation the author(s) shall prepare a suitable poster for display and be available to discuss the poster with any interested delegate at an appointed time as scheduled by the programme planning committee.

It is hoped that once submitted, an abstract will not be withdrawn but if this is necessary then the request to withdraw the abstract should be made in writing to the Scientific Programme Committee with the reasons for the request to withdraw. Withdrawals received after any publication deadline may still be published in paper or electronic format.

Dr Ries SIMONS
Chairman, S&P Committee ECAM 6

Continuing Medical Education Credit Points

Physicians from the United States (US) and European Union (EU) attending the congress will have the possibility to earn continuing education credit points. The European Union for Medical Specialists (UEMS) can grant credit points according to the principles as noted by the European Accreditation Council for CME (EACCME®): https://www.uems.eu/areas-of-expertise/cme-cpd/eaccme

“The UEMS-EACCME® sets itself as the central link between the National Accreditation Authorities (NAAs), the UEMS Specialist Sections and Boards (S& Bs), the European Specialty Accreditation Boards (ESABs) and the Providers of CME activities.

The UEMS-EACCME® has mutual recognition agreements with the American Medical Association (AMA) for live events and e-learning materials and with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for live events only.”

The Organizing Committee of the 6th ECAM would like you to know that the reasons for our application is not for the CME points alone, but also to assure the participants that the Congress will be held according to the highest internationally recognized educational and scientific standards, to wit: “European Accreditation means the decision by UEMS-EACCME® that a CME activity, event, programme or e-learning material has fulfilled the UEMS-EACCME® quality requirements. A CME activity or e-learning material will be accredited by UEMS-EACCME® if it has a high quality scientific content, if it is free of commercial bias and has an appropriate educational approach.”

The Institute of Aviation Medicine, Prague
Adapted from http://www.uems.eu/en/history/about-us/history

“The Institute of Aviation Medicine (IAM), Prague was established in 1953 by the Ministry of National Defence, integrating the research in the field of aviation medicine and hygiene, the health assessment and preventive care for military and civilian aviation personnel and the activities in the field of examination and prevention of aviation disasters. From the very beginning it served as a training centre for aviation medical community and later on also for Air Force pilots.

From its founding to the present the Institute provides a complex base for aero medical training of Air Force pilots, parachutists and divers. Today’s IAM in Prague has become a leading diagnostic, clinical and assessing medical facility for both civil and military flying personnel. It includes a host of clinical departments (internal, ENT, ophthalmology, neurology, radiodiagnostic, surgery, psychiatry and psychology, dentistry and clinical physiology) and employs modern diagnostic and training technologies (ex. night vision training, hypobaric and hyperbaric chambers, Lower Body Negative Pressure, Gyro IPT II, flight simulator TL-39). These facilities can also be available for use by other government and non-government organizations for their own particular training needs”.

ECAM 6
Registration

There will be several different levels of Registration for the ECAM. The ‘Early Bird’ registration dates will be from 01 March until 15 April, 2018. The regular pre-congress registration period will be from 16 April until 14 September, 2018. Onsite registration will start on 15 September and end at the close of the congress. There will also be separate registrations for those wishing to attend on a single day and for accompanying persons.

Registration fees for those applying during the ‘Early Bird’ period will be substantially less than those for congress attendees registering after the end of the Early Bird period. It therefore behooves attendees to register for the congress as early as possible.

Accompanying Persons Social Program

Prague is a lovely city in which to have our congress, offering a host of beautiful historic sites. Many of you may not have ever been to Prague or know little about the city. With this in mind, a special tour has been scheduled for
those accompanying congress attendees. More information on this tour will be published in the next issue of the ECAM Newsletter.

**Abit more about Prague**

“Did you know that there is a major medical library located in the heart of Prague? As per the library’s webpage (https://nlk.cz/en/o-knihovne/) the “National Medical Library is a public library specialized in medicine and related fields. Our collections and services are accessible to all users. We strive to develop and improve access to scientific medical information resources through modern library and information services”.

The National Medical Library is located at Sokolska 54 Prague 2. Opening hours are Monday through Thursday from 09:00 until 19:00 and on Fridays from 09:00 until 18:00.

One of the departments of the Library is its Medical Museum. Located at 121 32 Prague 2, Sokolska 54 (courtyard building), the museum is home to a splendid collection of medical instruments, documents, photographs and artwork dating back to the 17th century.

One of the largest aviation museums in Europe, the unique collection houses 275 aircraft of various types and times. The collection is among the largest and finest in Europe. At present, it has 275 aircraft and a world-class collection of “aircraft engines, parts of airplane dragons, armament, outfits, uniforms, banners, awards and other monuments that relate to the history of Czechoslovak and Czech aviation”.

The museum is located at ul. Mladoboleslavská, Prague 9 – Kbely and is open from May to October, every day except Mondays from 10:00 to 18:00 (hangars close at 1730). Before visiting, it is recommend that you contact them at tel. 973 207 500 or museum@army.cz to confirm opening days and times.

One excellent way to learn about Prague’s grand history, what to see, where to go, where to eat and stay (etc.) is to stop by one of the city’s Tourist Information Centers. There are several throughout the city and two at the International Airport.

You might also wish to visit the Kbely Aircraft Museum. From its website (http://www.vhu.cz/muzea/zakladni-informace-o-Im-kbely), “The museum was founded in 1968 on the premises of the historical military airport Prague-Kbely, which was the first air base built after the establishment of Czechoslovakia in 1918”.
Tourist services and information provided include (from: http://www.prague.eu/en/practical):

- General information on Prague (events, culture, tourism, orientation in the town, transport, accommodation and dining, shops and services, nature, sports, important contacts, historical monuments, museums, galleries, exhibitions, trades, festivals and much more)
- Accommodation in all price categories
- Tickets for concerts, theatres and other cultural, social and sports events
- Prague sightseeing tours
- Trips outside of Prague
- Basic information brochures about Prague in foreign languages for free
- Prague Card - free entry to over 50 city attractions and free use of public transport (www.praguecitycard.com)
- Transport tickets (1 day and 3 days)

For more information, you can email the Prague Tourist Information Office at: tourinfo@prague.eu.


The 6th ECAM will certainly be an exciting and historic occasion that no aerospace medicine and human performance specialist will want to miss.

Therefore please feel free to forward this newsletter to all colleagues and friends!

Next Newsletter in April!

Looking forward to seeing you in Prague!