



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate release

## **Registration now open for the FAI International Drones Conference and Expo 2018**

Lausanne, Switzerland, 14 June 2018 – **Gain a unique insight into the latest drone technology and hear experts reveal how drones will shape our future. Register now for the FAI International Drones Conference and Expo taking place at the EPFL Rolex Learning Center in Lausanne, Switzerland, from 31 August to 2 September 2018. The themes of this second edition of this absorbing, industry-leading conference are Sports, Safety and Innovation within the rapidly-developing drone world.**

The conference, with international speakers and expert-led discussions, will form a central part of the unique EPFL Drone Days, an event hosted by the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, a renowned engineering college, research institute and centre for excellence in robotics research. It comprises a cutting-edge drone technology showcase and demonstrations as well as the thrilling 2018 SRSA World Cup.

Don't miss out! Register online today: [www.fai.org/drones-conference-registration](http://www.fai.org/drones-conference-registration)

We look forward to seeing you in Lausanne for the drone event of the year!

### **Conference Programme (31 August – 1 September)**

Attracting expert speakers from around the world, the two-day conference offers a platform for organisations, businesses and individuals to connect around three main themes: Sports, Innovation and Safety

#### Sports

Drone racing has become extremely popular globally, which is reflected in the rapidly growing number of participants in the FAI Drone Racing World Cup and the organisation of the first FAI World Drone Racing Championships in China in November 2018. Experts will also discuss the ways in which grassroots players can connect with top competitors and how technology can improve audience experience to get even closer to the sport.

#### Safety

Commercial and recreational use of drones has boomed in recent years with governments and international companies backing development. Leading experts will discuss the main challenges facing the global drone, traditional aviation, and air sports communities: how to safely integrate all these extra drones into an already crowded air space.

#### Innovation

Drones are now an integral part of many industries across the globe: surveying buildings, checking farmland, delivering parcels, and rescuing people facing life-threatening emergencies. Drones are also transforming how we spend our free time, with millions of people capturing video footage and photographs, and participating in drone sports. Industry leaders will highlight the latest progress in drone innovation with regard to personal transport and autonomous flying and address challenges such as energy management and endurance.

Also part of the event, DRONEMASTERS MeetUps are an opportunity to connect with other drone enthusiasts from business, science, society and politics, who will share their insights and ideas with the aim of accelerating the drone ecosystem.

### **Public Expo** (31 August – 2 September)

Bringing together hundreds of drone industry leaders and experts, the Expo at the FAI International Drones Conference and Expo will combine temporary exhibits linked to the conference with the EPFL's robotics-focused exhibition. It is open to the public as well as those attending the conference.

Entrance for the Expo is free; don't miss this unique opportunity to find out more about the drones we can expect to see in the skies of the future and how they will shape tomorrow's world.

### **EPFL Drone Days** (31 August – 2 September)

The FAI International Drones Conference and Expo is part of the EPFL Drone Days 2018.

The EPFL Drone Days include:

- The FAI International Drones Conference and Expo
- The EPFL robotics showcase
- The 2018 SRSA World Cup

#### EPFL robotics showcase

The EPFL will be demonstrating the cutting-edge robotics technology that is leading the way in drone use in sport, commerce and safety. Temporary exhibits, brought together especially for this event, will be showcased alongside the EPFL's permanent robotics-focused exhibition, and visitors will be enthralled by the very latest scientific developments. What impact will they have on our daily lives? What are its practical applications, from wind harvesting to humanitarian work, agriculture or automated delivery?

#### The 2018 SRSA World Cup

The Swiss Rotor Sports Association (SRSA) Cup will also be a huge draw during the Drone Days event – as part of the FAI Drone Racing World Cup series 2018. Some of the very best pilots in the world will provide a fantastic display of top-level drone racing, open to all who attend the conference.

### **Editor's Notes**

Registration fees for the FAI International Drones Conference and Expo are:

Students: CHF100

FAI / EPFL Members/Associates: CHF175

General public: CHF250

Registration: [www.fai.org/drones-conference-registration](http://www.fai.org/drones-conference-registration)

Media accreditations et registrations: [communication@fai.org](mailto:communication@fai.org)

Website: [www.fai-dronesconference.org](http://www.fai-dronesconference.org)

### **About FAI**

The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI), also known as the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Airships, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Balloons, Drones, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Helicopters, Manpowered Flying, Microlights, Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors, Power Flying and all other Aeronautic activities and Space records.

[www.facebook.com/airsports.fai](http://www.facebook.com/airsports.fai)

[www.instagram.com/airsports.fai](http://www.instagram.com/airsports.fai)

[www.twitter.com/airsports\\_fai](http://www.twitter.com/airsports_fai)

[www.flickr.com/airsports\\_fai](http://www.flickr.com/airsports_fai)

[www.fai.org](http://www.fai.org)

**For more details, please contact:**

FAI – Fédération Aéronautique Internationale

0041 21 345 10 70

[drones-conference@fai.org](mailto:drones-conference@fai.org)

###