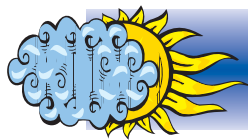


# AIR BEAT TODAY

THE OFFICIAL DAILY NEWSLETTER OF THE AIRBORNE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

VOL. 6, ISSUE 1 / WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2008



TODAY'S WEATHER: MOSTLY CLOUDY, HIGH NEAR 94.  
30 % CHANCE OF SHOWERS, MAINLY AFTER 1PM.

## FROM YOUR ALEA PRESIDENT

Welcome to my hometown, Houston, Texas, & the ALEA's 38th Annual Conference & Exposition.

Houston becomes the first three-time host of our annual event, having been the site of our inaugural conference & exposition in 1971 and then again in 1996. This event is the culmination of the work done by ALEA staff and volunteers towards the fulfillment of our Mission Statement, "To support, promote and advance the safe and effective utilization of aircraft by law enforcement agencies in support of law enforcement missions through training, networking, advocacy, and educational programs."

With 156 exhibitors, over 70 hours of classes, forums, and meetings, and nightly sponsored events, your next three days will be full of information gathering and networking. Make the most of your time here, and try to work in some time to enjoy all the attractions the Houston area has to offer.

*Air Beat Today*, now in its sixth year of production, is your official daily conference newsletter, and has become a staple at our annual event. Pick up a copy on Thursday and Friday mornings to learn about the day's events. A couple of changes that were instituted last year and, due to their success have been incorporated into this year's schedule, are the move of the General Membership Meeting from Saturday afternoon to Thursday morning immediately following the Opening Breakfast, and the Saturday evening Awards Banquet to a Saturday Awards Luncheon. Read *Air Beat Today* for the most up-to-date information during the conference. Also featured is information on



the exhibitors and the products and services they are offering. Visit their booths for more in-depth information and an opportunity to check-out firsthand the cutting-edge in airborne law enforcement.

During the conference, expo, and evening events, your ALEA Board members will be easy to spot. We are here to assist you in any way possible, so don't be shy. Also, feel free to offer your praise for those things you like or constructive criticism for those you don't. We do this for you, so all input helps.

Learn, share, buy, make new friends, renew old acquaintances, and have fun. But most importantly, take something back that makes you, your operation, and your fellow employees safer and more effective.

Only then we will realize our vision of "the safe and successful completion of each airborne law enforcement mission."

Dan Schwarzbach

## Houston Volunteers Help to Make Your Week Go Smooth



Houston Citizens' Police Academy Alumni Association (HCPAAA) has provided enthusiastic, smiling and able volunteers all week to help direct students to classes, deliver word of instructors' audio-visual emergency needs, collect and tally critiques and graciously handle other tasks as they arise. With HCPAAA's excellent help, the Pre-conference cCourses and Main Conference Classes will be going strong all week.

## Upcoming Events

### Wednesday 1930-2100

Opening Reception, presented by Bell Helicopter, at the Ballroom of Americas-Hilton Hotel

### 2100-2400

Torching of the Pig Party  
Balcony D, GRB Convention Center

### Thursday 0800-1600

Registration Desk Open  
ALEA's "Hangar" Open

### 0900-1000

Opening Breakfast sponsored by AgustaWestland, Room 370

### 1000-1045

General Membership Meeting  
Room 370

### 1045-1100

Ribbon Cutting & Exhibit Hall  
Grand Opening

## Visit Our Dark Room

Aero Dynamix, Inc. is proud to announce that it has recently become an authorized ITT Repair



Warranty Certification Center for the AN/AVS-9, F4949, F4210, F4211 and F4212 aviation night vision goggle systems. ITT clearly is the leading supplier of night vision devices. Aero Dynamix will not only be a leader in NVG cockpit modifications, but we will now be able to support our customers with NVG goggle service and maintenance. Come visit our dark room at booth 128 to see the way NVG should be done.

## Need Data, Text & Voice?

SkyTrac Systems Ltd. is a trusted supplier of SatCom systems for flight following, mapping and communications based on data, text and voice.

SkyTrac has recently obtained the STC for the installation of its automated flight following and satellite communications equipment on the Robinson R22 and R44 aircraft types. The R22 and R44 are the latest additions to SkyTrac's long and growing list of STCs which includes popular rotary and fixed-wing aircraft from Bell, Eurocopter, MBB, Sikorsky, Beechcraft, Raytheon and Agusta Westland. Drop by booth 201 for more information.



## Bell Donates Aircraft To Museum



Bell Helicopter-Textron is donating one of its 206B helicopters to the National Law Enforcement Museum this week.

"Thanks to this generous donation from Bell Helicopter, visitors to the Museum will be able to see and appreciate the important and often dangerous work that is performed by our airborne law enforcement professionals," said Craig W. Floyd, chairman and CEO of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Please join us in the Bell booth 811 tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. for the formal signing ceremony.

## FLIR Debuts Ultra 9HD

FLIR Systems, Inc. is showcasing the Ultra 9HD, the latest generation of its industry-leading Ultra series of airborne thermal imaging systems. At booth 715, you'll see the most advanced 9-inch EO/IR imaging system ever designed for airborne law enforcement platforms.



Ultra 9HD's analog and digital video signals integrate with high or standard definition displays and recording devices. Its expanded interface capability allows it to work seamlessly with GPSs, moving maps, searchlight slaving units and radar systems. The new, TFO-designed joystick controller provides full operational control of the Ultra 9HD, providing instinctive and ergonomic use over long missions.

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## Bambi Bucket Solutions on Display



SEI Industries Ltd. is primarily involved in the design, engineering and manufacturing of products for the aviation, fire suppression, exploration and environmental management industries. More than 1,000 helicopter operators and fire-fighting agencies around the world rely on our award-winning Bambi Bucket for their aerial fire suppression needs. Stop by booth 503 today for a demonstration of how this tool can help your agency.

What you can't see...can hurt you.



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## Educational Opportunities Await You



Pre-conference Courses have been in full force this week, including the Aviation Unit Manager's Course (top) and the Tactical Flight Officers Course (left). Please refer to your ALEA Program Guide for the Main Conference Classes being held tomorrow so you don't miss out on the chance to learn from the experts!

## NVG Provider Thanks TX DPS



REBTECH is proud to be the provider of the Texas Dept of Public Safety's NVG cockpit lighting, and we thank them for the opportunity. The first of six helicopters is on display today at the American Eurocopter booth 733.

Did you know that REBTECH holds 17 FAA/Transport Canada approved STC installations available in the Bell (206.407.412), Eurocopter (AS 350 B2, B3, B4, AS 355, EC 120, BK 117) and Robinson R44 platforms? REBTECH is developing STC's for the EC 135/145, MD 500/900, S61/S76 and S92. Stop by REBTECH booth 401 to learn more.

## What Can A Cessna Do For You?



Cessna Aircraft Company, booth 407, is the world's leading designer and manufacturer of the most comprehensive line of light and mid-size jets, utility turboprops and single engine piston aircraft. With over 187,000 aircraft flying in nearly 80 countries, more than half of the general aviation aircraft flying carry a Cessna logo. Today, Cessna offers the most extensive product line of aircraft in the industry. Stop by and visit us today to learn more about our extensive product line.

The World Leader in Thermal Imaging **has exciting news.**

Thursday  
11:15 am  
Booth #715



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## NVG Focus Verification



Hoffman Engineering is unveiling its new, economical night vision goggle (NVG) infinity focus verification device today at booth 301. Performance of this new device is modeled upon Hoffman's highly successful ANV 20/20, used by military forces throughout the world. Stop by the Hoffman booth to see a full range of NVG test devices and NVG compatible lighting components.

Kick up your heels with Turbomeca during ALEA's Sneak Preview!





# Congratulations

HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AIR SUPPORT UNIT

Protecting the citizens of Houston from the air is a demanding job on both man and machine. Since 1976, the HPD Air Support Unit has logged more than 180,000 hours in turbine-powered rotorcraft. We salute your outstanding performance and are proud to have played a role in keeping your fleet ready for duty.

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## ALEA Hangar Offers Jewelry Selections



New selections at ALEA's Hangar includes charms, bracelets and drop earrings, all in a variety of manufacturers' models. Hangar volunteers will even attach your new charms to your bracelet for free! Also available are helicopter pins that double as eye-glass holders and beautiful helicopter and crystal wind chimes. Prices are more than reasonable for the shopper who wants to take home something pretty this year for someone special at home.

## Dunker Training on Saturday



If you're interested in emergency water egress training, don't miss ALEA's dunker class to be held Saturday morning at the host hotel's indoor pool area. You'll learn from a team of experts how to egress after ditching and how to use emergency air and survival vests. There is a \$30 fee plus a waiver form that needs to be completed prior to training. For information, please visit the Registration Desk.

## Do UAVs Have A Place in Airborne Law Enforcement?



Don't miss tomorrow's Alternative Aircraft Forum to be held in Room 370 from 3-5 p.m. ALEA has assembled a distinguished panel of experts in the area of alternative aircraft and unmanned aircraft systems to discuss their current and future use in airborne law enforcement operations. This session promises to be an interesting and lively discussion, and attendees are encouraged to ask questions and share their views.

## Gear To Do The Job



Aerial Machine and Tool is the proud manufacturer of law enforcement, military and government agency products. In booth 110, we will be displaying a variety of products to include SAR and LE equipment, vests and harnesses, flotation collars and systems. Our latest product, the rescue platform, is the next generation life-saving system for SAR operations. The platforms allow for great flexibility in use, capacity of 10 personnel or 3,300 pounds, and the simplicity and speed of extraction of less than one minute. Aerial also specializes in custom sewing and precision machined components that perform flawlessly, even in life and death situations.

## San Antonio Police Log Over 20,000 Hours On 333 Fleet

The San Antonio (TX) Police Department Helicopter Detail recently marked over 20,000 hours of logged flight time on their fleet of Schweizer 333 helicopters. The SAPD purchased their first two Schweizer helicopters in 1997. In order to meet an increased demand for patrol missions, they added two more Schweizer 333 helicopters to their fleet and increased patrol coverage to a 24/7 schedule. They now operate four helicopters; three of those are Schweizer 333 helicopters. According to Sergeant Patrick McNamara, "The 333 is an excellent police patrol helicopter." Stop by booth 434 to see what a Schweizer aircraft can do for your agency.



Photo: Schweizer Aircraft

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