The 26th symposium of the SFTE European chapter will take place in Seville, Spain. The School of Engineers of the University of Seville will be our host. The theme for this year is “Flight Test, where no one has gone before.” Certainly most of the work on flight test has to do with opening the envelope and go beyond to the unexplored to check that what theory and simulations were right. Where no one has gone before. Seville is also the home of the Airbus Defence & Space Flight Test Center. Here is where most of the test in military aircraft in Europe is managed.
This city with nearly 3000 years of history charms every visitor thanks to the lifestyle of the outgoing and welcoming inhabitants, who certainly know how to enjoy and share every moment. With around 300 days of sun, the climate welcomes you as warmly as the people do, making it possible to celebrate life out in the passionate streets. During the Semana Santa (Holy week) and the Feria de Abril (April Fair), two of the most important celebrations in the world, the passion of the city arises in a remarkable contrast: Sevillanos live both pain and joy with the same intensity. Flamenco, declared Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO, springs at every turn in the city that mothered it. The exceptional gastronomy in the form of the famous tapas is nowadays a culinary world leader, just another of the many examples of how you can live and share the joy of Seville in good company.
How to get here?

Flight. You can arrive through Seville International Airport. Many airlines fly here.

Railway. You can take advantage of the Spanish High Speed trains network. AVE available from Madrid or Barcelona. You can check timetables at www.renfe.es

Shipping. Guadalquivir River can be navigated by small ships. But not the most used way to come.
INTA stands for National Institute for Aerospace Technology; is the Public Research Organization specialized in aerospace research and technology development. Among its main functions it is worth mentioning:

- The acquisition, maintenance and continuous improvement of all those technologies that can be applied to the aerospace field.
- Performing all types of tests to check, approve and certify materials, components equipment items, subsystems and systems that have an aerospace application.
- To provide technical assessment and services to official bodies and agencies, and also to industrial or technological companies.
- To act as a technological centre for the Ministry of Defence.
Airbus Defence and Space is Europe’s No. 1 defence and space company. Worldwide, it ranks second for space and is among the top 10 defence companies, with revenues of approximately €13 billion per year. Composed of four business lines – Military Aircraft, Space Systems, Communication and Intelligence & Security (CIS), and Electronics – Airbus Defence and Space brings together a wide portfolio to continue to meet the complex needs of its customers, contribute to nations’ defence and security, and secure Europe’s sovereign and independent access to space.

Headquartered in Madrid (Spain), the company’s facilities are essentially based in Spain. Its main sites are Getafe, close to Madrid, where the civil Airbus platforms, such as the A330, are converted into Multi Role Tanker Transport (MRTT) aircraft, and Seville, where the San Pablo factory, south of the airport, hosts the A400M Final Assembly Line opened in 2007, as well as the complete production and final assembly of the C212, CN235 and C295 aircraft. Opened in 2010, the all new Airbus Military Training Centre is also located close to the San Pablo facility.

Another facility houses both the Flight Test Centre and the Delivery Centre for both product ranges. Also a brand new building, offering a usable surface of 5,400 sq m of office space, it hosts the A400M support hangar, and accommodates the Flight Test activities including the Telemetry facility which allows aircraft to be tracked in real time during their test flights and is connected with its counterparts at Airbus in Toulouse (France), and Getafe (Spain), and design offices in Hamburg, Bremen (Germany), and Filton (UK). This state-of-the-art facility is capable of receiving and sending data of up to 40,000 different parameters during test-flights.
The Higher Technical School of Engineering (ETSII) was established in December 1963 according to the Spanish Royal Decree 3608/63 and sponsored by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Experts from the OECD first visit Seville in July 1965 in order to agreed the curriculum of the School. The OECD curriculum was approved in July 1967. The School has matured over its 29 years of life. Over 1900 well-trained graduates left their classrooms, many of them now PhDs, Professors, etc. The School has set up relations and collaborations with many other domestic and foreign universities in order to help both professors and students. Nowadays many students attend their courses in renowned international centres in the frame of the international exchange programmes. Our School has nowadays almost 6000 students, 400 professors and an annual number of graduates of over 400 engineers. The contact with the industrial sector, first through the Laboratory of Industrial Research and Tests and then through the Andalusian Association for Industrial Research and Cooperation (AICIA) has been a constant and productive target that duly helps to train the students and the industrial development of the region.
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