



From satellites to drones: DES 2026 explores the future of dual-use technologies

Europe's largest event on AI and exponential technologies expands its cybersecurity program to address innovations in organizational protection and military operations

Leaders from the European Space Agency, German aerospace company DLR GfR mbH, the Spanish Civil Guard and Zoho, alongside CISOs from major multinational corporations, will share strategies to reduce risk exposure

Madrid, May 20, 2026. – The current geopolitical landscape, marked by ongoing conflicts and increasingly sophisticated digital threats, has placed security, defense and cyber resilience at the top of the agenda for businesses and government agencies. Against this backdrop, [DES – Digital Enterprise Show 2026](#), Europe's largest event dedicated to AI and exponential technologies, will expand its content on technological protection from **June 9 to 11 in Malaga, Spain**, and launch a forum dedicated to the new solutions that are transforming military activity.

The evolution of recent engagements has highlighted the growing role of unmanned and autonomous systems, especially drones. These robotic systems have opened new avenues for digital development and are transforming the way operations are conducted, from combat missions to intelligence, surveillance, logistics and decision-making support. For this reason, DES 2026 will bring together **Eugenia Hernández**, member of the **Military Life Observatory of the Spanish Congress**; **Silvia Gamo**, executive director at the **Circle Foundation for Defence and Security Technologies**; and **Rosalía Machín**, Commander at the Digital Transformation and Cybersecurity Division of the **Guardia Civil**, Spain's national gendarmerie force. The experts will discuss the impact these aircraft have had on improving situational awareness, decision-making cycles and risks to personnel.

Orbital dimension, the next step for defense

Europe's leading event on exponential technologies will also address the next steps in security with a focus on space. Satellite-based platforms have emerged as essential assets for enhancing intelligence, surveillance, communications and the scope of operations. This topic will be discussed by **Francisco Gallardo**, a Global Navigation Satellite System engineer at the German aerospace company **DLR GfR mbH**; **Nil Angli**, Head of Business Applications and Partnerships at the **European Space Agency**; and **Joan Mas**, Scientific Director of the Digital Area at **Eurecat**.

Alongside them, in the space domain, **Enrique Pérez** and **Alejandra Vicens**, representatives of the **Joint Cyber Command**, will also take part. They will examine the technologies currently being deployed to build resilient networks, proactive protection strategies, and corporate preparedness to withstand cyberattacks.

Such cyberattacks have increased by 70% across Europe in organizational and critical environments since 2023, driven, among other factors, by the expansion of artificial intelligence. In this regard, executives from **Prosegur**, the Mobility and Accessibility Division of the **Madrid Regional Transport Consortium**, and the **Andalusian Cybersecurity Center** will highlight the dual nature of technologies, which are viewed

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as both a risk and an opportunity for investigating attacks, analyzing seized devices and supporting actions against organized crime.

Data protection

The safeguarding of information will be another topic covered in the field of cyber defense. For that purpose, DES 2026 will examine the evolution of password management within organizations, with the goal of transforming it into a comprehensive command center for corporate security. **Joan Vives**, technical consultant for Iberia at **ManageEngine**, part of Zoho Corporation, will explain how the suite of cybersecurity solutions and policies – Privileged Access Management – manages to control, automate and monitor in real time the individuals accessing different systems and the processes they use, to ensure confidentiality and mitigate breaches.

The event will also feature **Alejandro Sánchez**, International Relations Coordinator at the **Spanish Data Protection Agency**, who will explore the ethical, legal and social issues that have arisen with big data analytics, as well as biometrics and facial recognition.

The role of the CISO, essential for competitiveness

The key figure ensuring the implementation of technologies and initiatives in companies and public administrations to strengthen cyber resilience is the CISO. This role has evolved in recent years to align security with business objectives, manage threats and foster a culture of prevention within organizations. To assess the current function of these information security leaders, DES 2026 will host CISOs from **CTT Express, Gigas, Abertis Group and Renfe** who will analyze the challenges they face from their positions. In addition, they will share the concepts they are implementing, such as Zero Trust, to maintain the performance, competitiveness and operation of corporate assets.

Likewise, DES 2026 will explore the new responsibilities being assumed by Boards of Directors, including EU cybersecurity regulations, responsible AI governance and emerging risks. This will be reviewed with **CISOs from MasOrange, Carrefour and the Seville Metropolitan Water Supply and Sanitation Company**, as well as **Laura del Pino**, Discipline Leader Information Security at **BBVA**.

[About DES | Digital Enterprise Show \(June 9-11, 2026, FYCMA, Malaga\)](#): DES – Digital Enterprise Show is an event organized by Nebext – Next Business Exhibitions in collaboration with Malaga City Council and the Regional Government of Andalusia. Over nine editions, it has become the largest European professional event on exponential technologies and one of the world's leading events, offering senior management the latest solutions and products to accompany large corporations, SMEs, and European public administrations towards digital transformation. Over three days, we combine technology and innovation with digital leadership, technological solutions to improve customer and employee experience, optimization of operational processes and the identification of new business models, services and products from all industries.

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