In the US the Position Location and Navigation Symposium (PLANS) is a biennial technical conference that occurs in the spring of even numbered years. Aim of the symposium is to provide a forum to share the latest advances in navigation technology.

This conference is jointly sponsored by the Aerospace and Electronics Systems Society (AESS), and the Institute of Navigation (ION). The AESS is, in turn, sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), which is claimed to be the world’s largest professional engineering organization.

In the US the ION is one of the world’s premier professional organization for the advancement of positioning, navigation and timing.

The PLANS conference is a four day event with one day dedicated to tutorials and three days to technical sessions.

Tutorials provide delegates with the opportunity to learn about navigation technology from well-known industry experts.

A variety of tutorials are offered to serve the professional needs of both newcomers and those well-versed in the field of navigation. This year’s tutorials include a wide range of navigation subjects from core navigation fundamentals to in-depth classes about the latest technologies.

Twenty-four half-day technical sessions are offered over a three-day period, with four sessions running simultaneously each morning and afternoon. At the technical sessions scientists, researchers and engineers from around the world present their latest work in the field of navigation. Presentations range from fundamental research, to applications, to field test results. Topics include sensors, systems, optimal integration of multiple sensors, and novel or emerging technologies used in the field of navigation.

In parallel with the sessions there will be a technical exhibit at which navigation equipment component and system suppliers show their current products and most recent technical innovations. Visitors can expect to see the latest, most innovative navigation products and services from leading navigation companies, highlighted in the exhibit hall.