

Wednesday, 14 October

Day 1 Conference Program

8.50am	Welcome and opening remarks Geoff Hird – Events Director, Comms Connect, and MC, Chris Stevens		
9.00am	Public Safety Mobile Broadband (PSMB) – Australian Government update Bradley Creevey – Assistant Coordinator General, PSMB Taskforce, NEMA		
9.30am	Public Safety Communications – an agency perspective Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority		
10.00am	Together connects emergency services Moderator: Kirsten Garwood – Head of Government, Telstra Tim Rutherford – CIO/CTO, Dept of Police, Fire & Emergency Management Tasmania Andrew Johns – Wireless Engineering Principal, Telstra		
10.30am	Morning Break — Exhibition Hall		
	Public Safety stream	Technology stream	Industry stream
11.15am	P25 global update Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA)	Hybrid comms solution ensures continuous connectivity to rural & remote Australia David D'Souza – ICT & Operational Technology Leader, Powercor	Interoperability challenges in the age of 3GPP, IWF and MCX – lessons learned David Deacon – CEO, Etherstack Lilian Gaichies – COO, Streamwide
11.45am	Introducing a new shared voice console for NZ's emergency services Matthew Hansen – Senior Program Manager, PSN Program, SafetyNet NZ	When fiber is not an option: Five agencies, four continents and the networks they built instead Luke O'Kelly – VP and APAC Region Head, Ceragon Networks	Safer marine operations with remote comms upgrade Daniel Conwell – Manager Marine Technical Services, Port Operations & VTS, Maritime Safety Queensland
12.15pm	Drone-in-a-box for emergency services: Resilient connectivity beyond terrestrial networks Riley Porteous – Communications Systems Team Leader, Surf Life Saving NSW	Delivering mission-critical comms for the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics Adolfo Ferraro – VP Critical Communications Sales, Leonardo	Private wireless networks for underground mining Kaine Mulder – Technical Product Manager, RFI Technology Solutions
12.45pm	Lunch Break — Exhibition Hall — Sponsored by TCCA/ACCF		
1.45pm	Architecting digital nations: Why MNO digital trust is the cornerstone of mission-critical confidence Julian Gorman – APAC Head, GSMA	When drones enter the incident scene Thomas Pils – SVP, Global Public Safety, Frequentis	Beyond the generator: An agnostic look at rapid-deployable power for critical communications resilience Gareth McKay – MD, Valen Power
2.15pm	Breaking invisible borders - Can the European EUCCS model unlock Australia's PSMB? Alain Ruinet – Sales and Programmes for Airbus Defence and Space's Public Safety and Security business, Airbus Defence and Space - Public Safety and Security	How can ESO's prepare for next-gen satellite connectivity Darren Cooley – Head of Enterprise & Government, Pivotel	ARCIA's role in a modern critical communications ecosystem Hamish Duff – President, ARCIA
2.45pm	From network rollout to mission adoption – Lessons learnt on successful agency adoption Pierre Fortier – Vice President, Capgemini	Powering the future power grid: Real-time performance visibility in a Polish utility's 450 MHz network Claus Still – CEO, Creanord Oy	Sensing the Future – How 5G and ISAC are redefining public safety networks Yasin Khan – CTO, Mission Critical Networks & Enterprise, Ericsson
3.15pm	Afternoon Break — Exhibition Hall		
3.45pm	From Portals to Pathways: Exploring future secure data delivery for 000 Leigh Wickerson – Regional Manager, Allerium	From Deep Space to Critical Communications: the SKAO as a blueprint for the future of connected infrastructure Peter Scougall – General Manager, Strategy & Growth, Ventia	Digital LMR and location services part 2: managing time and space dimensions David Ross – Senior Software Engineer, Omnitronics
4.15pm	PANEL: Beyond LMR vs Broadband — What Will the Next Critical Communications Ecosystem Actually Look Like? Moderator: Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS Panellists: TBC		
5.00pm	NETWORKING DRINKS — EXHIBITION HALL — sponsored by Hypha		
6.30pm	ARCIA ANNUAL INDUSTRY GALA DINNER – Sofitel Melbourne on Collins		

Thursday, 15 October

Day 2 Conference Program

8.55am	Welcome and opening remarks Chris Stevens , MC, Comms Connect		
9.00am	5G and Smart Cities – emerging technologies enhancing citizen safety Hamad Alnuaimi – ICT Advisor, Abu Dhabi Police GHQ		
9.30am	The AI shift that's rewiring emergency communications Louise Francis – NZ Country Manager, Ecosystem		
10.00am	Collaboration is driving Innovation in Critical Communication Shane Fitzsimmons AO AFSM – Board Chair, Connectivity Innovation Network (CIN)		
10.30am	PANEL: AI in Critical Comms – insights from local and global leaders Moderator: Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS Panellists: Dayle Stevens OAM – AI Executive, Telstra, David D'Souza – ICT & Operational Technology Leader, Powercor, Craig Parnham – Executive Director, Digital Technology & Innovation, NSW Telco Authority, Louise Francis – NZ Country Manager, Ecosystem, Dan Winson – Founder & CEO, Zetifi		
11.15am	Morning Break – Exhibition Hall		
	Public Safety stream	Technology stream	Industry stream
12.00pm	Together builds safer communities Vaiju Joshi – Portfolio Director, Mobile Transformation, SA Police Luke Marchant – Market Creation, Industry & Customer Advisory Head, Telstra	Modernising Search & Rescue Communications Matt Ellingham – ICT Director, NZ Land, Search & Rescue Inc	Building for Agents, not Chatbots: How agentic AI is changing workflows, risk management and product development Dan Winson – Founder & CEO, Zetifi
12.30pm	How to implement cost effective interoperability Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA)	Converging LMR, Satellite, NTN and PTT technologies in a real-life water utilities case study James Potter – Director, Product Management, L3Harris Technologies	Advances & best practice for natural disaster response Dylan Earle – Business Solutions Manager, Tait Communications
1.00pm	The secret sauce behind NZ's world-leading Public Safety Network Cellular Jason Novak – Principal Engineer, One NZ	Geospatial Intelligence for Mission Critical Operations: Integrating Location Services, Mapping and Radio Networks Arslan Nizami – Engineer, Tait Communications	Delivering critical communications on one of the world's most remote islands Molly James – Service Delivery & Roaming Manager, Omnitouch Network Services
1.30pm	Lunch Break – Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by TCCA/ACCF Communications		
2.15pm	Unbreakable Connectivity: How European Emergency Services are combining space and terrestrial networks Simon Hill – CTO, Excelerate Technology Matt Wroughton – Group Sales Director, Excelerate Technology	From beach patrol to statewide response: Building an interoperable, remote-ready dispatch ecosystem Cal Silcock – Manager, State Operations, Surf Life Saving SA	AFC in 6Ghz and WISP Compliance Adrian Robertson – President WISPAU and Director of WISP, Dreamtilt
2.45pm	From LMR to Mission-Critical Broadband: Lessons from Public Safety Networks Steve Bush – CEO, Tait Systems New Zealand	Star Wars – the LEO strikes back Dale Stacey – Managing Director, Sat Pty Ltd	Is 6GHz band AFC an option for your 5GHz network challenges? Mike Everest – Managing Director, DuxTel
3.15pm	When the vehicle calls for help: Is Australasia ready for eCall? Neal Richardson – Director, Otari Services Ltd	Trust before Tech: Introducing AI when failure matters Derek Madden – CEO, Moorabool Shire Council	Critical comms use cases in the global Health Sector Elina Avela – CEO, Beaconsim
3.45pm	CONFERENCE CLOSES		

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