



MELBOURNE MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE 15-16 OCTOBER

Wednesday, 15 October

Day 1 Conference Program

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Welcome and opening remarks Geoff Hird – Events Director, Comms Connect, and MC, Chris Stevens			
From whoa to go – lessons learned on New Zealand's Public Safety Network cellular service journey			
Matthew Hansen – Senior Program Manager, PSN Program, NGCC; Sam Newton – Enterprise Architect, Hourua; Inspector Kerei Gray – New Zealand Police			
Australian PSMB progress update Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority; Bradley Creevey – Assistant Co-ordinator General, PSMB Taskforce, NEMA			
PANEL: International Public Safety Fireside Chat Panelists: Tero Pesonen – Vice Chair & Board Director, TCCA; Sara Olsson – Project Manager, MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency); m speakers TBC			

10.30am	Morning Break — Exhibition Hall				
	Public Safety – Theatre 1	Technology – Theatre 2	Industry – Theatre 3		
11.15am	P25 global update Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA)	The future of LMR in Australia and USA Andrew Maxymillian – President, GWTCA	Australia's competitive digital future depends on affordable access to spectrum Louise Hyland – CEO, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association		
11.45am	PANEL: Critical Communications – an eye on the horizon Moderator: Luke Marchant – GM, Customer & Advisory Services, Telstra Enterprise; Panellists: Natalie Kolodziej – Head of Enterprise & Government Radio Networks, Telstra; Frank Savaglio – Senior Technology Specialist, Telstra Networks; lain Russell – Industry CTO, Telstra	PANEL: Addressing the LMR Wireless Workforce crisis Moderator: Andrew Maxymillian – President, GWTCA / Panelists – TBC	Energy company responding to a cyclone James Lowe – Network Engineer, Ergon Energy		
12.15pm	Vehicle as a Node (VaaN) – the NSW Rural Fire Service story Matthew White – Manager Operational Platforms, NSW Rural Fire Service	The hybrid future – weaving public, private and virtual networks for critical communications Julian Gorman – Head of APAC, GSMA	Dedicated network solutions for industries with a focus on LTE/5G in the 400 MHz bands Gösta Kallner – Executive Chairman, 450 MHz Alliance		
12.45pm	Lunch Break — E	xhibition Hall — Sponsored by Radlink	Communications		
1.45pm	Seamless connectivity & next gen critical communications at NZ Police Inspector Kerei Gray – Business Change Leader, PSN Program, NZ Police	Developing technically innovative solutions for public safety and disaster resilience Genie Tan – COO, Connectivity Innovation Network	Keeping communities connected with rapidly deployable connectivity when it matters most Shane Fitzsimmons – MD, SAF Leading Advisory; Kylie De Courteney – MD, NSW Telco Authority; Darren Cooley – National Manager, Pivotel Satellite + customer tbc		
2.15pm	Providing a pathway for the future of the critical link between the community and first responders – NECWG white paper Matt Wormald – Chief Superintendent, Ops & Comms, Fire & Rescue NSW	Nelson Coastguard radio dispatch system Allan Cambridge – Comms & IT Project Leader, Coastguard Nelson	When (rapid) connectivity matters most Luke Wadeson – CEO, Exceed ICT		
2.45pm	Coastal emergency alerting system – enhancing public safety through integration Speakers – TBC	Cyber risk management in P25 and LMR environments – insights from recent large- scale projects Harry Brown- Cyber Security Consultant, Phronesis Security; Barry Grek – GRC Director, Phronesis Security	NGX & MCX – two sides of the same coin Manuel Hintermayr – Global Head of Public Safety, Frequentis Martin Rampl – Managing Director, Frequentis Australasia		
3.15pm		Afternoon Break — Exhibition Hall			
3.45pm	Mission-critical console deployment integrates multiple vendor tech for interoperability Leslie Scott – Systems Manager, Zetron	WISPAU Update – Automatic Frequency Coordination (AFC) 6Ghz Trial in Australia, the SOCI Act and Compliance updates for WISPs in Australia Adrian Robertson – President WISPAU and Director of WISP, Dreamtilt	How Public Safety agencies optimised critical comms during the Paris Olympics Brad Welch – GM, TPL Systems		
4.15pm	PANEL: Women in Critical Comms – pathways, challenges and opportunities Moderator: Natalie Kolodziej – Head of Enterprise & Government Radio Networks, Telstra Panellists: Louise Hyland – CEO, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association; Bidar Homsey – Chair, Australian Critical Communications Forum; Genie Tan – COO, Connectivity Innovation Network; Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, P25 Technology Interest Group; Rania Wannous – Executive Director, Emergency Management, NSW Telco Authority				



PROGRAM GUIDE 2025



6.30pm

ARCIA ANNUAL INDUSTRY GALA DINNER – Sofitel Melbourne on Collins

Thursday, 16 October

Day 2 Conference Program

8.55am	Welcome and opening remarks Chris Stevens, MC, Comms Connect		
9.00am	Establishing the European Critical Communication System (EUCCS) Dr David Lund – Project Coordinator, EUCCS Preparation; Public Safety Communication Europe		
9.30am	Space and land convergence – how rapid developments in satellite tech are revolutionising critical mobile connectivity Luke Coleman – CEO, Australian Telecommunications Alliance		
10.00am	International presentation TBC		

10.30am		Morning Break — Exhibition Hall		
	Public Safety – Theatre 1	Technology - Theatre 2	Industry – Theatre 3	
11.15am	Radio communication protocols in joint & emergency operations – an approach towards Brazilian reality Gustavo Dantas – Lt Colonel, Brazilian Military Police	LEO Satellite market update – resilient connectivity for remote & mission critical operations	Australia's first 5G mmWave community a new era in wireless connectivity Carly Irving-Dolan – Executive Director, Prospecta Utilities	
11.45am	New Zealand's new Cellular Network Visibility service – boosting emergency services capabilities Steve Lawrence – Chief Technical Director, NGCC Sam Newton – Enterprise Architect, Hourua	Cyber security & digital radio – protecting mission-critical comms Paul Whitfield – Research & Development Manager, Omnitronics	Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport Metro Link Vishal Kohil – Senior Solutions Specialist LTW,5G & LMR, Commtel Network Solutions	
12.15pm	Powering public safety with 5G – secure, resilient, cyber-ready Enrique Garcia – Head of Mission- Critical Networks, Ericsson	Digital transformation in mission-critical comms - from traditional to hybrid operations with PTToC Eliam-Jay Bendavid – Lead Solutions Architect, Streamwide	As mission-critical technology evolves, are you keeping an eye on your network? Senthil Sundram – Head of Telecommunications, Rohde & Schwarz	
12.45pm	Lunch Brea	k — Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by Radlin	nk Communications	
1.45pm	Beyond interoperability – designing mission-driven networks for emergency response & defence Leith Mudge – Senior Systems Engineer, DTC	Network sensing for flood monitoring and prediction Jay Guo – Distinguished Professor, UTS	What has changed to allow broadband- first in mission-critical communications Lee Mason – Public Safety Leader, L3Harri	
2.15pm	From Narrowband to Mission Critical to Broadband, through standards Alain Ruinet – Head of APAC Program Delivery, Public Safety & Security, Airbus Defence & Space	Designing for urgency: Lessons from deploying cell broadcast early warning systems in the Pacific Molly James – Service Delivery & Roaming Manager, Omnitouch Network Services	Selecting the correct PTP solution for you application Eddie Stephanou – Technical Manager, Cambium Networks	
2.45pm	The importance of rapid response during critical emergency events Inspector Kerei Gray – Business Change Leader, PSN Program, New Zealand Police Dylan Earle – Customer Solutions Manager, Tait Communication	Al & mission-critical comms – current trends, complexities, applications & opportunities Ashwin Dinkar – VP Defence & International Business, Eventide Communications	Cell on Wheels & shared infrastructure Matthew Schultz – Partner, Gravelroad Group	
3.15pm	PANEL: Satellites, space and secure critical comms – a current reality check and future possibilities Moderator: Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS Panellists: Luke Coleman – CEO, Australian Telecommunications Alliance; Frank Savaglio – Senior Technology Specialist, Telstra Networks; Ashley Neale – Head of Space & Wireless Operations, Vocus; Hamish Duff – President, ARCIA; Neil Jamieson – Group CEO, Hypha			

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