

6.30pm

PROGRAM GUIDE 2025

MELBOURNE MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE 15-16 OCTOBER

Wednesday, 15 October

Day 1 Conference Program

8.50am	Welcome and opening remarks Geoff Hird – Events Director, Comms Connect, and MC, Chris Stevens				
9.00am	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				
9.30am	Australian PSMB progress update Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority				
10.00am	PANEL: International Public Safety Fireside Chat Panelists: Tero Pesonen – Vice Chair & Board Director, TCCA; Sara Olsson – Project Manager, MSB (Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency); Superintendent Fredrik Ryberg – Head of Operation RG2, Swedish Policy Authority				
10.30am		Morning Break — Exhibition Hall			
11.15am	Public Safety – Theatre 1 P25 global update Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA)	Technology – Theatre 2 The future of LMR in Australia and USA Moderator: Andrew Maxymillian – President, GWTCA; Panelists: Hamish Duff - President, ARCIA; Dr David Lund – Project Coordinator, EUCCS Preparation; Public Safety Communication Europe	Industry – Theatre 3 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; Panelists: Iain Russell – Industry CTO, Telstra; Frank Savaglio – Senior Technology Specialist, Telstra Networks; Nancy MacDonald - VP, International Sales, Comtech Solacom; Dhananjaya Ponnamperuma – CTO - Telstra KA, Ericsson	PANEL: Addressing the LMR Wireless Workforce crisis Moderator: Andrew Maxymillian – President, GWTCA / Panelists: Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA); Hamish Duff - President, ARCIA	Energy company responding to a cyclone James Lowe – Network Engineer, Ergon Energ		
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	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	Developing technically innovative solutions for public safety and disaster resilience Genie Tan – Chief Operating Officer, Connectivity Innovation Network	Keeping communities connected with rapidly deployable connectivity when it matters mos Shane Fitzsimmons – Managing Director, SAF Leading Advisory; Rania Wannous – Executive Director, Emergency Management, NSW Telco Authority; Darren Cooley – Head of Sales & Marketing, Pivotel Satellite		
2.15pm	Providing a pathway for the future of the critical link between the community and first responders – NECWG white paper Matt Wormald – Commander Operational Communications, 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 David Potter – Senior Manager – Capability, Life Saving Victoria; Sebastian Walker-	Cyber risk management in P25 and LMR environments – insights from recent large- scale projects Harry Brown– Cyber Security Consultant,	NGX & MCX – two sides of the same coin Manuel Hintermayr – Global Head of Public Safety, Frequentis Martin Rampl – Managing Director, Frequenti		
	Staalkjaer – Communications Supervisor, Emergency Management Capability and Response	Phronesis Security; Barry Grek – GRC Director, Phronesis Security	Australasia		
3.15pm	Emergency Management Capability and	· · ·	Australasia		
3.15pm 3.45pm	Emergency Management Capability and	Director, Phronesis Security			
	Emergency Management Capability and Response Mission-critical console deployment integrates multiple vendor tech for interoperability	Afternoon Break — Exhibition Hall 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 ogress with purpose ommercial, Private and Emergency Services, Tels al Communications Forum; Genie Tan – COO, Co	How Public Safety agencies optimised critical comms during the Paris Olympics Brad Welch – GM, TPL Systems tra nnectivity Innovation Network; Cheryl Giggetts –		

ARCIA ANNUAL INDUSTRY GALA DINNER – Sofitel Melbourne on Collins





MELBOURNE MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE 15-16 OCTOBER

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	FirstNet from concept to reality: a standards-based approach to building the US 3GPP Public Safety Broadband Network Ryan Burchnell – CEO, Emergent and past Area Vice President, FirstNet; David Deacon – CEO, Etherstack	

10.30am	Morning Break — Exhibition Hall				
	Public Safety – Theatre 1	Technology - Theatre 2	Industry – Theatre 3		
11.15am	New Zealand's new Cellular Network Visibility service – boosting emergency services capabilities Steve Lawrence – Chief Technical Director, NGCC Sam Newton – Enterprise Architect, Hourua	LEO Satellite market update – resilient connectivity for remote & mission critical operations Ashley Neale – Head of Space & Wireless Operations, Vocus	Australia's first 5G mmWave community - a new era in wireless connectivity Carly Irving-Dolan – Executive Director, Prospecta Utilities		
11.45am	Intelligence at the Edge: AI & IoT for Ultra-Early Fire Detection Sohan Domingo – VP Sales & Operations, Dryad Networks	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 – <i>Sponsored by Radlii</i>	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, L3Harris		
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 your application Eddie Stephanou – Technical Manager, Cambium Networks		
2.45pm	AI & mission-critical comms – current trends, complexities, applications & opportunities Ashwin Dinkar – VP Defence & International Business, Eventide Communications Group	Evolution Of Critical Infrastructure Security Bhuvneshwar Tyagi – APAC Presales Leader, Nokia Australia	Cell on Wheels & shared infrastructure Matthew Schultz – Partner, Gravelroad		
			re nossibilities		
3.15pm		•	glio – Senior Technology Specialist, Telstra		

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