

Tuesday, 15 October Pre-Conference Workshops

(Additional fee applies – limited availability. Book with one- or two-day conference packages or individually. Prices are ex-GST.)

Stream 1: With conference package - \$449; Workshop only - \$499. **Stream 2:** With conference package - \$249; Workshop only - \$299.

Stream 3: Morning w/conference package - \$249; Workshop only - \$299; Afternoon w/conference package - \$299; Workshop only - \$349

ARCIA Stream 1 – Morning, 9.30am-1.00pm Introduction to P25 Standards and Systems

This course introduces the student to the P25 digital land mobile radio standard. Modules include a high-level overview of the P25 digital radio standard as a transmission medium including the TIA standards, modulation, vocoders and channel access.

An introduction to the P25 standard will be covered, including Phase 1 & 2, conventional and trunked systems, encryption and system components (eg, RFSS, ISSI, CSSI, etc). The information is introductory in nature and designed for all audiences; however, a basic understanding of radio communications would be beneficial.

Presenter: Chris Stevens – Managing Director CartGIS and Vice-President ARCIA

ARCIA Stream 2 – Morning, 9.30am-1.00pm The TAK Imperative: Why Australian Mission Operations will embrace this unifying common operating picture

Join an international line-up of TAK experts as they deep dive into a technology that delivers an interoperable unified common operating picture (COP) based on non-proprietary, open-source software developed and continuously updated by the US Department of Defense.

Australian public safety agencies and emergency management organisations can embrace the civilian TAK stream as a unified operational picture that fits in the hands of remote emergency workers, which is also available to benefit private-sector users such as park operations, marathon organisers, festivals and other large public events.

Presenters: Ken Rehbehn – Principal Analyst, CritComm Insights; **Jared VandenHeuvel** – Innovation & Data Office, Texas Dept of Public Safety; **Charles Laird** – First Responder Program, North Carolina Dept of IT; **Neil Jamieson** – Group CEO, Hypha

ARCIA Stream 1 – Afternoon, 1.30pm-5.00pm Private LTE/5G – The Fundamentals of the Technology and System Designs

This course will provide students with the skills to be able to outline the key elements and components of a typical wireless broadband communication system. Students will be able to develop the block diagrams and system elements for designing a basic system and demonstrate the expected requirements and outcomes of such a system, both in basic and extended formats.

On completion students will be able to understand and identify the various elements associated with system design, including the relevant spectrum sectors that are associated with wireless broadband, and understand the potential outcomes that are relevant to all options that are applicable.

Presenter: Simon Lardner – Head of Wireless Business, Vocus

ARCIA Stream 2 – Afternoon, 1.30pm-5.00pm P25 Standards, Systems & Governance used in Public Safety networks

This workshop will build upon the success of the P25 panel held at Comms Connect in 2023 and welcomes once again the P25 Technology Interest Group's (PTIG) Director, Ms Cheryl Giggetts.

As the past 12 months have proven, despite predictions by government bureaucrats and industry pundits over past years regarding the imminent demise of land mobile radio (LMR) used by Australia's public safety agencies and its replacement by public safety mobile broadband (PSMB) networks, LMR remains the key technology platform for mission-critical voice communications used by agencies and will remain so for the foreseeable future. The workshop will be a valuable forerunner to a presentation to be made by Ms Giggetts about the P25 standard during Comms Connect, followed by a panel session which will discuss the current and future use of the P25 standard in Australia and New Zealand.

Presenter: Cheryl Giggetts – Director PTIG & Principal Consultant, CTA Consultants

ACCF Stream 3 – Morning, 9.00am-12.30pm From narrowband to broadband critical networks – “Connection is the lifeline” - How do we make this journey work?

This workshop will cover topics from narrowband to broadband critical networks, where connection is the lifeline, and how the LMR/broadband industry makes this journey work. This is your opportunity to hear and discuss the most pressing topics and share the challenges and solutions we are all facing where critical connectivity is the lifeline.

Presenters: Alan Seery - ACCF; **Kevin Graham** - ACCF; **Daniel Hill** - Motorola Solutions, **Darren McLeod** - Vertel; **Rhys Clare** - Airbus Defence and Space; **Phil Retsas** - Sepura; **Dion Stevenson** - Tait Communications; **Prashant Valayam** - Radlink Communications; **Terence Wong** - GSMA

ACCF Stream 3 – Afternoon, 1.00pm-5.00pm Learning from International mission-critical LMR/Broadband Deployments and Roll-out of Networks

This workshop will concentrate on global mission-critical LMR/broadband deployments and roll-out of networks of government, public safety/ civil defence internationally and Australia and New Zealand. This is your opportunity to hear and discuss the most pressing topics and share the challenges and solutions we are all in facing globally where critical connectivity is the lifeline.

Presenters: Kevin Graham – TCCA, **Tero Pesonen** – TCCA/CCBG; **Brian Hobson** – FirstNet Authority; **Dennis Alvord** – FirstNet Authority; **Lincoln McKay** – Hourua; **Brad Creevey** – NEMA; **Terence Wong** – GSMA; **Gosta Kallner** – 450 MHz Alliance, **Ellen Ryan** – PSCR NIST

Wednesday, 16 October
Day 1 Conference Program

Plenary/Theatre 1			
8.50am	Welcome and opening remarks Geoff Hird – Events Director, Comms Connect, and MC, Chris Stevens		
9.00am	KEYNOTE: FirstNet Investment for Network Evolution and the importance of collaboration Dennis Alvord – Deputy Executive Director for External Affairs, First Responder Network Authority		
9.30am	Driving Innovation across TasGRN, Qld GWN and PSEC Luke Marchant – General Manager, Industry & Customer Advisory, Telstra Enterprise; Tim Rutherford – CTO, TAS Dept of Police, Fire & Emergency Management; Craig Stolte – Superintendent, Operational Communications Unit, Queensland Fire Department		
10.00am	The future of an Australian PSMB Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority and Brad Creevey – Assistant Coordinator General, PSMB Taskforce, NEMA		
10.30am MORNING BREAK – Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by Micro Connect			
	Public Safety – Theatre 1	Critical Comms – Theatre 2	Industry – Theatre 3
11.15am	P25 global update Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA)	No honour among thieves: Cyber threats targeting critical comms systems Vanessa Leite – Cyber Security Specialist, CyberCure	Digital LMR & location services – battle of the titans David Ross – Senior Software Engineer, Omnitratics
11.45am	AI Intelligence & real-world applications – machine learning for advanced public safety communications Ellen Ryan – Deputy Division Chief, NIST PSCR; Stephanie Layman – UAS Prize Challenge Specialist, NIST PSCR; Monika Bochert – Emerging Tech Research Analyst, NIST PSCR	Transitioning from Narrowband Communications to Hybrid PTToc and Broadband Technologies David Deacon – CEO, Etherstack	Next-gen command centres & interoperability between networks, states and agencies Martin Rampl – Managing Director, Frequentis Australasia
12.15pm	NSWTA: the challenge of managing one of the world's largest P25 networks Khalid Salim – A/Director Engineering, NSW Telco Authority	The impact of 5G on AI/XR/loT for digital transformation in industries Terence Wong – Head of APAC 5G Industry & loT, GSMA	Wireless Technologies – making the best technology decision for your use case Justin Wyatt – Principal ICT Consultant, Titan ICT
12.45pm LUNCH BREAK – Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by Radlink Communications			
1.45pm	How the Finnish ecosystem is addressing the challenges of transition to mobile broadband Tero Pesonen – Coordinator, Critical Communications Finland Elina Avela – CEO, Beaconsim Finland	Strategic framework for integrating FRMCS in existing railway infrastructures Bahador Nayebifar – Principal Rail Engineer, Mott MacDonald	Spectrum for wireless broadband – an update Andrew May – Executive Manager, Spectrum Engineering Australia
2.15pm	Commercial Carrier & Mobile Networks do fail – are you prepared? Moderator: Duncan Swan – Chief Operation Officer, British APCO Panellists: Geoff Spring – Senior Industry Advisor, University of Melbourne, Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety; Garry Kerr – Director, Frontline Communications & Response, Qld Police Service; Peter Sharman – Support Officer, Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria; Dawn Hartog – Captain, Toolangi Fire Brigade Victoria	The new frontier Underground LTE for mining – a customer success story Rodney Nebe – ICT Infrastructure Manager, Goldfields Australia Mal Jones – Principal Consultant, Vocus	5G Broadcast for emergency warning systems, navigational positioning & OTA connectivity Nils Ahrens – APAC Manager, Broadcast & Media, Rohde & Schwarz
2.45pm		Finding purpose-built UAS innovation for Public Safety through a US Government competition series Stephanie Layman – UAS Prize Challenge Specialist, NIST PSCR; Ellen Ryan – Deputy Division Chief, NIST PSCR; Monika Bochert – NIST PSCR	5G for critical communications Nick Bromhead – CTO and Head of Network Solutions, Ericsson Australia & New Zealand
3.15pm AFTERNOON BREAK – Exhibition Hall			
3.45pm	Saving lives with GIS – Using GIS for situational awareness to display narrow-band locational services Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS	Failsafe connectivity in remote Australia Mark Tate – Technology Operations Manager, SA Power Networks	Innovative use of multiple technologies for resilient systems Jim Nelson – President & CEO, Prism-IPX
Theatre 1			
4.15pm	PANEL: Global & local challenges and opportunities for critical comms via emerging technologies Moderator: Ken Rehben – Principal Analyst, CritComms Insights Panellists: Brian Hobson – Senior Director Roadmap Development Division, FirstNet Authority; Vaughan Matthews – General Manager, Hourua; Monika Bochert – Emerging Tech Research Analyst, NIST PSCR; Luke Marchant – General Manager, Industry & Customer Advisory, Telstra Enterprise; Terence Wong – Head of APAC 5G Industry & loT, GSMA; Hamish Duff – President, ARCIA		
5.00pm NETWORKING DRINKS – Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by Hypha			
6.00pm ARCIA ANNUAL INDUSTRY GALA DINNER – Melbourne Room 1, MCEC			

**Thursday, 17 October
Day 2 Conference Program**

Plenary/Theatre 1			
8.55am	Welcome and opening remarks Chris Stevens – MC, Comms Connect		
9.00am	KEYNOTE: Satellites and the future of critical comms Natalie Kolodziej – Group Owner - Commercial, Private and Emergency Services Networks, Telstra		
9.30am	Improving the reliability of satellite-based positioning systems in Australasia with SouthPAN Dr Martine Woolf – Branch Head, Space Division, Geoscience Australia		
10.00am	Terrestrial vs Non-Terrestrial Networks – Pros, cons and synergies Moderator: Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS Panellists: Lincoln Mackay – Head of Technology, Hourua; James Pickens – CTO, NSW Telco Authority; Ellen Ryan – Deputy Division Chief, NIST PSCR; Tero Pesonen – Vice Chair, TCCA and Chairman, CCBG; Brad Creevey – Assistant Coordinator General, PSMB Taskforce, NEMA; Brett Pearson – Radio & Electronic Services, WA Police		
10.45am MORNING BREAK – Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by Micro Connect			
	Public Safety – Theatre 1	Critical Comms – Theatre 2	Industry – Theatre 3
11.15am	Improving radio & accessory design for firefighters Tony Hine – Operational Communications Systems Officer, Fire & Rescue NSW	Satellite direct to device – disruptive technology? Mark Sprey – Senior Comms Engineer, Nova Systems; Phillip Conder – Senior Comms Engineer, Nova Systems	Precision in rail coverage simulation: Utilising 3D high-resolution maps for superior prediction and issue detection Farhad Sedghi – Spectrum & Technology Specialist, ATDI South Pacific
11.45am	Qld Police radio comms maintenance & enhancement plan Garry Kerr – Director, Frontline Communications & Response, Qld Police Service	Advancing interoperability in public safety communications Paul Elmes – Managing Director APAC, Tait Communications	Tomorrow's digital ecosystem Grant Smith – Telco Head, Prospecta Utilities; Andrew Coulter – Marketing Director, GemLife
12.15pm	Surf Life Saving NSW – Resilient mission-critical voice backhaul across challenging coastal terrain Andrew Ugarte – Communication Systems Manager, Surf Life Saving NSW	Leveraging public assets for network expansion (rail industry) Matt Schultz – Partner, Gravelroad Group	Designing resilient microwave networks for mission-critical communications Eddie Stephanou – Regional Technical Manager, Cambium Networks
12.45pm LUNCH BREAK – Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by Radlink Communications			
1.45pm	PANEL: What is TAK and why aren't we using it? Moderator: Ken Rehbehn – Principal Analyst, CritComms Insights Panellists: Jared VandenHeuvel – Chief Innovation Officer, Texas Dept of Public Safety; Charles Laird – Technology Specialist, NCDIT – FirstTech Program; Neil Jamieson – Group CEO, Hypha	mmW wireless for Public Safety – the Fort Myers USA story Luke O'Kelly – Head of Private Networks APEI, Ceragon Networks	Converged devices extending communication coverage, security & safety of today's public safety personnel Don Griffith – Principal Product Manager, L3Harris Corporation
2.15pm		The game-changing LEO satellite landscape Ashley Neale – Head of Operations Vocus Space & Wireless, Enterprise & Government, Vocus	An integrated traffic signal priority solution for Northern Territory emergency vehicles in Darwin Jamie Smith – Strategic Business Development Adviser, Micro Connect
Theatre 1			
2.45pm	PANEL: P25 for the future – applications, capabilities, technology enhancements and more Moderator: Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS Panellists: Cheryl Giggetts – Board Member, Project 25 Technology Interest Group (USA); Callum Noon – National Product & Service Delivery Manager, Next Generation Critical Comms NZ; Tony Hine – Operational Communications Systems Officer, Fire & Rescue NSW; Dylan Earle – Business Solutions Manager - APAC, Tait Communications; Garry Kerr – Director, Frontline Communications & Response, Qld Police Service		
3.30pm CONFERENCE CLOSES			

To view the full program, visit melbourne.comms-connect.com.au. Change of program content: WF Media (Comms Connect) will endeavour to ensure that this conference program is correct at the time of the event. We may need to alter the program prior to the event and reserve the right to do so without notice.