

PROGRAM GUIDE 2025

MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE 15-16 OCTOBER

Wednesday, 15 October

Day 1 Conference Program

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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
	Steve Ferguson – Director, NGCC; Sam Newton – Enterprise Architect, Hourua; Steve Lawrence – Chief Technical Director, NGCC; Inspector Kerei Gray – NZ Police
9.30am	Australian PSMB progress update Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority; Bradley Creevey – Assistant Co-ordinator General, PSMB Taskforce, NEMA
10.00am	Critical Communications – an eye on the horizon Luke Marchant – General Manager Customer & Advisory Services Telstra Enterprise + emergency services customer 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	International Public Safety Fireside Chat Panellists – TBC	The hybrid future – weaving public, private and virtual networks for critical communications Julian Gorman – Head of APAC, GSMA	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	Network sensing for flood monitoring and prediction Jay Guo – Distinguished Professor, UTS	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 — I	Exhibition Hall — Sponsored by Radlink	Communications
1.45pm	Seamless connectivity & next gen critical	Sharing multimedia data between	Keeping communities connected with

·	communications at NZ Police Inspector Kerei Gray – Business Change Leader, PSN Program, NZ Police	agencies, securely in real time Genie Tan – COO, Connectivity Innovation Network	rapidly deployable connectivity when it matters most 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 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	

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3.45pm	Mission-critical console deployment integrates multiple vendor tech for interoperability Leslie Scott – Systems Manager, Zetron	Al voice recording in operations centres Speakers – TBC	How Public Safety agencies optimised critical comms during the Paris Olympics Brad Welch – GM, TPL Systems
4 15nm	PANEL: Women in Critical Comms - nathy	ways, challenges and opportunities	

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

5.00pm	NETWORKING DRINKS — EXHIBITION HALL — sponsored by Hypha
6.30pm	ARCIA ANNUAL INDUSTRY GALA DINNER – Sofitel Melbourne on Collins



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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	10.00am International presentation TBC	

Morning Break — Exhibition Hall			
Public Safety – Theatre 1	Technology – Theatre 2	Industry – Theatre 3	
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 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, Living Gems	
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	Presentation under review	
Powering public safety with 5G – secure, resilient, cyber-ready Enrique Garcia – Head of Mission-Critical Networks, Ericsson	Digital transformation in mission-critical comms – enabling seamless transitions from legacy to PTToC solutions 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	
Beyond interoperability – designing mission-driven networks for emergency response & defence Leith Mudge – Senior Systems	k — Exhibition Hall — Sponsored by Radlin Cell on Wheels & shared infrastructure Matthew Schultz — Partner, Gravelroad Group	What has changed to allow broadband- first in mission-critical communications Lee Mason – Public Safety Leader, L3Harris	
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	AI & mission-critical comms – current trends, complexities, applications & opportunities Ashwin Dinkar – VP Defence & International Business, Eventide Communications	Presentation under review	
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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