

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 Australian Government representative		
9.30am	Public Safety Communications – an agency perspective Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority		
10.00am	Together connects emergency services 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	ACMA Update Speaker TBC
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? David Montilet – Senior Solution Architect, Airbus Defence and Space	Private wireless networks for underground mining Kaine Mulder – Technical Product Manager, RFI Technology Solutions	ARCIA's role in a modern critical communications ecosystem Hamish Duff – President, ARCIA
2.45pm	PANEL: From network rollout to mission adoption – Lessons learnt on successful agency adoption Mark Roworth – Public Sector Lead, Capgemini Other panellists TBC	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 Jeff Robertson – President, 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: Connected, informed and ready – the future of situational intelligence 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 Alnuami – ICT Advisor, Abu Dhabi Police GHQ		
9.30am	The AI shift that's rewiring emergency communications Louise Francis – NZ Country Manager, Ecosystm		
10.00am	Collaboration is driving Innovation in Critical Communications Shane Fitzsimmons AO AFSM – Board Chair, Connectivity Innovation Network (CIN)		
10.30am	Morning Break — Exhibition Hall		
	Public Safety stream	Technology stream	Industry stream
11.30am	Together builds safer communities 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
12.00pm	AI for drowning prevention — groundbreaking tech from Surf Life Saving NSW Matt Ingersole – CIO, Surf Life Saving NSW	Converging LMR, Satellite, NTN and PTT technologies in a real-life water utilities case study Don Griffiths – Public Safety Market Manager, L3Harris Technologies	Advances & best practice for natural disaster Response Dylan Earle – Business Solutions Manager, Tait Communications
12.30pm	Geospatial Intelligence for Mission Critical Operations: Integrating Location Services, Mapping and Radio Networks Arslan Nizami – Engineer, Tait Communications	VaaN and Large Area WiFi technology advances – Academia, Agencies and Services collaboration Speakers TBC	Delivering critical communications on one of the world's most remote islands Molly James – Service Delivery & Roaming Manager, Omnitouch Network Services
1.00pm	Lunch Break — Exhibition Hall – Sponsored by TCCA/ACCF Communications		
1.45pm	Space and Terrestrial bonded connectivity for European emergency and critical services Simon Hill – CTO, Excelerate Technology Matt Wroughton – 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
2.15pm	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
2.45pm	When the vehicle calls for help: Is Australasia ready for eCall? Neal Richardson – Director, Otalise 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
3.15pm	PANEL: AI in Critical Comms – insights from local and global leaders Moderator: Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS Panellists: Dayle Stevens OAM – AI Executive, Telstra, Matt Ingersole – CIO, Surf Life Saving NSW, David D'Souza – ICT & Operational Technology Leader, Powercor, Craig Parnham – Executive Director, Digital Technology & Innovation, NSW Telco Authority, Louise Francis – NZ Country Manager, Ecosystm, Dan Winson – Founder & CEO, Zetifi		
4.15pm	CONFERENCE CLOSES		

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