

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 and 3:** With conference package - \$249; Workshop only - \$299

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 media including the TIA standards, modulation, vocoders, channel access.

An introduction to the P25 standard will be covered including Phase 1 & 2, conventional and trunked system, encryption, system components (e.g., 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.

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 Defence.

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, that is available to benefit private-sector users too, such as park operations, marathon organisers, festivals and other large public events.

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 a relevant to all options that are applicable.

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 return of P25 Technology Interest Group (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.

Cheryl Giggetts – Director PTIG & Principal Consultant, CTA Consultants

ACCF Stream 3 – Morning, 9.30am-12.30pm Topics and Speakers TBC

ACCF Stream 3 – Afternoon, 1.30pm-4.30pm Topics and speakers TBC

Wednesday, 16 October

Day 1 Conference Program

8.50am	Welcome and opening remarks: Geoff Hird — Events Director, Comms Connect, and MC, Chris Stevens
9.00am	KEYNOTE: Public Safety comms – a global best practice view Richard Carrizzo – Board Chair, FirstNet Authority
9.30am	Driving Innovation across TasGRN, Qld GWN and PSEC Luke Marchant – General Manager, Customer & Advisory Services, Telstra Enterprise Tim Rutherford – CTO, TAS Dept of Police, Fire & Emergency Management
10.00am	The future of an Australian PSMB Kylie De Courteney – Managing Director, NSW Telco Authority

10.30am Morning Break — Exhibition Hall

	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 comm systems Vanessa Leite – Cyber guru, CyberCure	Digital LMR & location services – battle of the titans David Ross – Senior Software Developer, Omnitronics
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 Australia
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 Engineer, 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
2.15pm	Commercial Carrier & Mobile Networks do fail – are you prepared? Moderator: Duncan Swan – Chief Operation Officer, British APCO Panellists: Craig Anderson – Director - Public Safety Communications Program, Queensland Police Service, Geoff Spring – University of Melbourne, Centre for Disaster Management and Public Safety	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 Ellen Ryan – Deputy Division Chief, NIST PSCR, Stephanie Layman – UAS Prize Challenge Specialist, NIST PSCR, Monika Bochert – Emerging Tech Research Analyst, NIST PSCR	5G for critical communications Nick Bromhead – CTO, Ericsson Australia & New Zealand

3.15pm Afternoon Break — Exhibition Hall

3.45pm	Mapping the Public Safety future. GIS for situational awareness @ PSN & GRN Chris Stevens – Managing Director, CartGIS	Failsafe connectivity in remote Australia Mark Tate – IT Operations Manager, SA Power Networks	Innovative use of multiple technologies for resilient systems Jim Nelson – President & CEO, Prism-IPX
4.15pm	PANEL: Global & local challenges and opportunities for critical comms via emerging technologies Moderator: Ken Rehben – Principal Analyst, CritComms Insights Panellists: Brian Hobson – Director of Innovation, FirstNet Authority; Vaughan Matthews – General Manager, Hourua; Monika Bochert – Emerging Tech Research Analyst, NIST PSCR; Luke Marchant – GM Govt Centre of Excellence, Telstra Defence & Public Sector; 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

8.55am	Welcome and opening remarks Chris Stevens, MC, Comms Connect		
9.00am	KEYNOTE: Satellites and the future of critical comms Natalie Kolodziej – Head of Enterprise & Government Radio Networks, Telstra		
9.30am	Improving the reliability of satellite-based positioning systems in Australasia with SouthPAN 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 – CTO, Hourua; James Pickens – CTO, NSW Telco Authority; Ellen Ryan – Deputy Division Chief, NIST PSCR; Tero Pesonen – Chairman, TCCA Broadband Group; Bradley Creevey – Assistant Coordinator General, Operational Capability Branch, NEMA		
10.45am	Morning Break — Exhibition Hall		
	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: Utilizing 3D high-resolution maps for superior prediction and issue detection Farhad Sedghi – Spectrum & Technology Specialist, ATDI
11.45am	QLD Police radio comms maintenance & enhancement plan Garry Kerr – Assistant Director, Frontline Communications & Response, QLD Police	Advancing interoperability in public safety communications Paul Elmes – APAC Managing Director, 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 – 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? Panellists: Ken Rehbehn – Principal Analyst, CritComms Insights; 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, Ceragon APEI	Converged devices extending communication coverage, security & safety of today’s public safety personnel Don Griffis – Principal Product Manager, L3Harris Corporation
2.15pm		The game changing LEO satellite landscape Ashley Neale – Satellite & Infrastructure Manager, Vocus	TBC
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, Tait Communications; Garry Kerr - Assistant Director, Frontline Communications & Response, QLD Police		
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.