

RadComms08 conference agenda released—Minister to deliver keynote speech

The Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy, will deliver a keynote address at RadComms08, ACMA's second annual conference on the management of the radiofrequency spectrum. RadComms08 will be held in Melbourne from Wednesday 30 April to Friday 2 May.

The Chairman of ACMA, Chris Chapman, will also deliver an important address to the conference.

The full conference agenda has now been released (see pp. 5–7) and features a mix of industry and government speakers traversing a wide range of hot issues in radiocommunications.

Government spectrum users have been invited to give their perspectives on the *Independent Review of Government Spectrum Holdings* report (now available at <www.acma.gov.au>), while Tony Warren, Telstra's General Manager, Regulatory Affairs and Julie Flynn, Chief Executive Officer of Free

representatives, who will cover a range of related issues including digital TV switch-over, digital radio, land mobile and intelligent transport systems.

The conference will enable participation by a wide range of stakeholders and foster discussion on future trends and overall spectrum requirements for new and existing services. This will help ACMA to develop regulatory policies on emerging and evolving issues.

To complement the annual conference approach, industry update seminars and workshops on particular topics will be held in the future, as they are needed.



SENATOR THE HON. STEPHEN CONROY, MINISTER FOR BROADBAND, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

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TV Australia, will provide critiques of ACMA's Spectrum Management Principles and Five-year Spectrum Outlook (now available at <www.acma.gov.au>).

There will also be significant time devoted to Q&A panel sessions to promote extended discussion about these and other new initiatives.

The three-day event, which is being held at the Sofitel Melbourne, will also include a number of presentations from industry and government

The RadComms08 Conference Dinner will be held on Thursday 1 May, featuring what promises to be an entertaining address from Dr Fred Watson, the Astronomer-in-Charge of the Anglo-Australian Observatory at Coonabarabran, NSW.

The inaugural RadComms conference was held in December 2006. Following the success of that event, ACMA decided to conduct the forum annually, with the aim of communicating

its work plans and key objectives.

An equally important goal is to engage the broader constituency of industry and government experts on a regular basis.

The conference, however, is not intended as a substitute for formal stakeholder consultation. ACMA's stakeholder engagement processes on specific planning matters will continue as before.

Registration details for RadComms08 are available on the ACMA website at <www.acma.gov.au/radcomms08>.

For further information email Bridget Lally at Bridget.Lally@acma.gov.au or telephone (02) 6219 5203.

Day 1

AUDITORIUM

8.30-9.00	<i>Registration and arrival, tea and coffee, Auditorium and Promenade 1st Floor</i>
9.00	Introduction from Conference MC, Malcolm Long Part-time Member, ACMA
9.05	Address from Chris Chapman Chairman, ACMA
9.30	Address from Senator the Hon. Stephen Conroy Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
10.00-10.30	<i>Morning tea, Sofi's</i>
Session 1	Spectrum strategies Chair: Chris Cheah Acting Deputy Chairman, ACMA
10.30	Spectrum management principles Giles Tanner General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, ACMA
11.00	Five-year spectrum outlook Andrew Kerans Executive Manager, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA Christine Allen Principal Policy Advisor, Policy and Research Section, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA
11.30	Critique from industry representatives Tony Warren General Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Telstra Julie Flynn Chief Executive Officer, Free TV Australia
12.00	Question and answer session Tony Warren General Manager Regulatory Affairs, Telstra Julie Flynn Chief Executive Officer, Free TV Australia
12.30-1.55	<i>Lunch, Sofi's</i>
Session 2	Responding to emerging spectrum demands Chair: Giles Tanner General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, ACMA
1.55	Introduction from session chair, Giles Tanner
2.00	Government developments Keith Besgrove First Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications, Network Regulation and Australia Post Division, Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
2.30	Industry perspective on spectrum demand for wireless services James Evans General Manager - Radio, Ericsson Australia and New Zealand
3.00	Defence perspective on spectrum demand Brigadier Michael Milford Director General, Information Policy and Plans Branch, Department of Defence
3.30-4.00	<i>Afternoon tea, Sofi's</i>
4.00	Panel session 1 Panel Chair: Chris Cheah Acting Deputy Chairman, ACMA Giles Tanner General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, ACMA Andrew Kerans Executive Manager, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA Tony Warren General Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Telstra Julie Flynn Chief Executive Officer, Free TV Australia Keith Besgrove First Assistant Secretary, Telecommunications, Network Regulation and Australia Post Division, Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy James Evans General Manager - Radio, Ericsson Australia and New Zealand Brigadier Michael Milford Director General, Information Policy and Plans Branch, Department of Defence
4.55	Closing remarks from Conference MC, Malcolm Long Part-time Member, ACMA
5.00-7.00	<i>Welcome reception, Sofi's</i>

Day 2
PERTH ROOM

8.30-9.00	<i>Arrival tea and coffee, Promenade 1st floor</i>
Session 3	Future developments in spectrum Chair: Graeme Samuel Chairman, ACCC and Part-time Associate Member, ACMA
9.00	International developments in spectrum management reform Geoff Luther Luther Consulting
9.30	TBA Google
10.00	The digital switch-over Andy Townend Deputy Secretary, Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
10.30-11.00	<i>Morning tea, Sofi's</i>
Session 4	Government spectrum Chair: Giles Tanner General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, ACMA
11.00	Independent review of government spectrum holdings Chris Hose Manager, Government Planning Section, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA
11.30	Government user perspective on spectrum Tony Gates Chair, National Coordinating Committee for Government Radiocommunications Bob Waites Assistant Commissioner, Operational Communications and Information Command, NSW Police
12.00	A spectrum-dependent future for earth observations Sue Barrell Assistant Director, Observations and Engineering, Australian Bureau of Meteorology
12.30-2.00	<i>Lunch, Sofi's</i>
Session 5	New technologies Chair: Johanna Plante Part-time Member, ACMA
2.00	Digital radio Joan Warner Chief Executive Officer, Commercial Radio Australia Richard Morris Head of Engineering, Commercial Radio Australia
2.30	New technologies Andrew Kerans Executive Manager, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA
3.00	Issues for fixed services Geoff McMillen Manager, Spectrum Engineering Section, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA
3.30-4.00	<i>Afternoon tea, Sofi's</i>
4.00	Panel session 2 Chair: Giles Tanner General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, ACMA Rebecca Burdon Manager, Economics Research, Sector Analysis and Reporting Branch, ACMA Chris Hose Manager, Government Planning Section, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA Andrew Kerans Executive Manager, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA Geoff Luther Luther Consulting Bob Waites Assistant Commissioner, Operational Communications and Information Command, NSW Police Tony Gates Chair, National Coordinating Committee for Government Radiocommunications Colonel Lewis Coyle Director Operating Support, Information Policy and Plans Branch, Department of Defence
4.55	Closing remarks from Conference MC, Malcolm Long Part-time Member, ACMA
7.00-7.30	<i>Pre-dinner drinks, Sofi's</i>
7.30 onwards	<i>Conference dinner, Grand Ballroom</i>

Day 3

PERTH ROOM

8.30-9.00	<i>Arrival tea and coffee, Promenade 1st floor</i>
Session 6	Land mobile Rod Shogren Part-time Member, ACMA
9.00	Replanning the 400 MHz bands Andrew Stewart Senior Engineer, Government Planning Section, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA
9.30	Industry view on land mobile Andrew Findlay Director, Vertel
10.00	The future of land mobile for government use Robert Hockings Team Leader, Planning and Support, Strategy and Architecture, ICT Services, Queensland Department of Emergency Services
10.30-11.00	<i>Morning tea, Sofi's</i>
Session 7	Emerging technologies Chair: Gerrard Anderson Part-time Member, ACMA
11.00	Emerging business trends in the mobile sector Chris Althaus Chief Executive Officer, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association
11.30	Telecommunications for energy monitoring and control Andrew Deme Manager, Wholesale Telecommunications, Ergon Energy
12.00	Future bandwidth requirements for intelligent transport systems Dennis Walsh Executive Director, Planning Design and Operations, Department of Main Roads, Queensland
12.30-1.55	<i>Lunch, Sofi's</i>
Session 8	Regulatory initiatives Chair: Mark Loney Executive Manager, Pricing and Policy Branch, ACMA
1.55	Introduction from session chair, Mark Loney
2.00	ACMA reform agenda-licensing and compliance Erik Lensson Chief Engineer, National Licensing and Allocations Branch, ACMA Allan Major Executive Manager, Regulation and Compliance Branch, ACMA
2.30	Developments in allocation methodologies Louise Collis Senior Economist, Economics Research, Sector Analysis and Reporting Branch, ACMA
3.00	The New Zealand experience Chris Perera Auction 9 Manager, Radio Spectrum Policy and Planning, Ministry of Economic Development, New Zealand
3.30-4.00	<i>Afternoon tea, Sofi's</i>
4.00	Panel session 3 Chair: Giles Tanner General Manager, Inputs to Industry Division, ACMA Andrew Kerans Executive Manager, Spectrum Planning Branch, ACMA Mark Loney Executive Manager, Pricing and Policy Branch, ACMA Erik Lensson Chief Engineer, National Licensing and Allocations Branch, ACMA Andrew Deme Manager, Wholesale Telecommunications, Ergon Energy Chris Perera Auction 9 Manager, Radio Spectrum Policy and Planning, Ministry of Economic Development, New Zealand Robert Hockings Team Leader, Planning and Support, Strategy and Architecture, ICT Services, Queensland Department of Emergency Services
4.50	Closing remarks from Conference MC, Malcolm Long Part-time Member, ACMA
5.00	<i>Conference concludes</i>