

18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

HARNESSING NATIONAL INTERESTS THROUGH SPACE

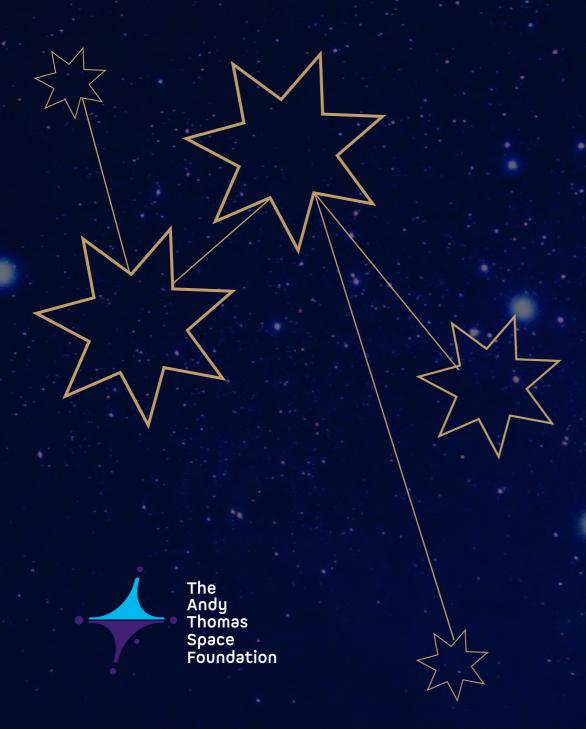
15-16 JULY 2025 • ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

PROGRAM HANDBOOK 2025



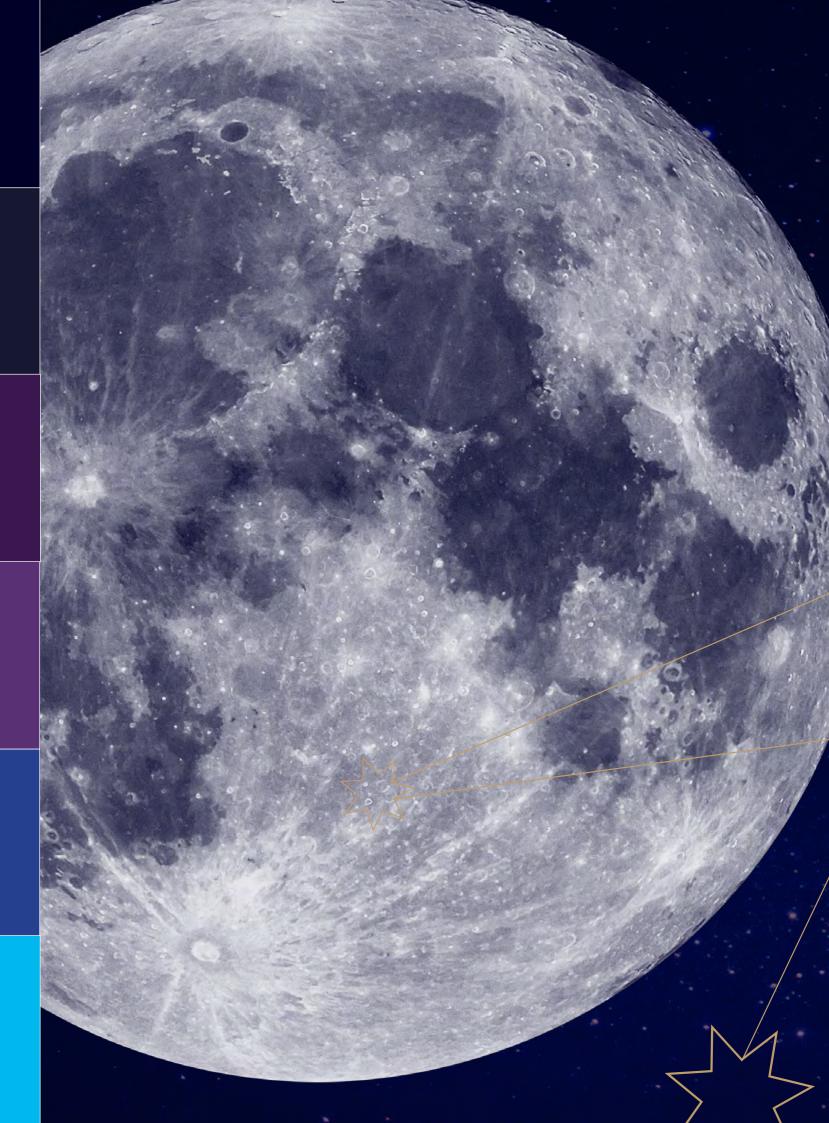
18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM



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PROGRAM

MAPS

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SPEAKERS

SPONSORS + EXHIBTORS

SPACE WEEK



WELCOME FROM THE ANDY THOMAS SPACE FOUNDATION



Michael Davis AO

Chair

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation





Welcome to the 18th Australian Space Forum from Michael Davis AO, Chair of The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

On 3rd July 2025 the Andy Thomas Space Foundation celebrated its fifth anniversary.

Our core mission at the Foundation has always been to advance space education in Australia, to contribute to the public awareness of space and to promote the growth and capability of the national space sector.

Since the beginning, our main platform for promoting the growth and capability of our sector has been the Australian Space Forum. We are proud of what we have achieved in five years and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

Proceeds from the Australian Space Forum help to fund our other programs. Thanks to this support, each year the scale and national reach of our programs and events has increased. We estimate that in the past five years we have invested more than \$1.5 million in space education programs in schools involving over 30,000 teachers and students from schools around Australia. We have also awarded more than \$160,000 in scholarships and prizes and more than 6,500 industry members, supporters and members of the public will have participated in our public events, including this 18th Australian Space Forum.

Our success has been due to the dedication and hard work of our founders, our Board and our small executive team. We have also greatly benefited from the advice and support of our principal sponsor, the Government of South Australia through the South Australian Space Industry Centre, as well as from the Australian Space Agency and all of our Government and industry sponsors, service providers and individual supporters.

Our motto Human Progress is in Space Exploration continues to inspire us. With your support, we remain committed to the task of building and strengthening Australia's space industry capability and contributing to the peaceful and cooperative use of outer space.

Michael Davis AO

Chair

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation



WELCOME 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM



Peter Nikoloff

Executive Director

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation



Darcey Watson

Executive Officer

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation





Welcome to the 18th Australian Space Forum. It is with great pride and optimism that we welcome you to Adelaide for Australia's premier space industry event. Run by industry for industry.

This year's Forum marks a significant milestone as we gather for two full days of knowledge exchange, collaboration, and inspiration. With Australia's most engaged space exhibition hall and hundreds of delegates from across the nation and globe, the Forum continues to spark opportunity and celebrate the sectors continued growth. It's a place where ideas take flight, partnerships are forged, and the next generation of space leaders find their place in space.

Importantly, the 18th Forum also serves as a key lead-up event to the 76th International Astronautical Congress (IAC 2025), taking place in Sydney from 29 September to 3 October. As Australia prepares to host the world's largest space gathering, this Forum provides a national platform to showcase our capabilities, strengthen our networks, and align our ambitions with the global space community.

Supported by the Australian Space Agency, South Australian Space Industry Centre, and a range of industry sponsors, this year's program features a dynamic mix of keynotes, panels, and technical sessions. With a rich program of multi-track sessions, delegates will explore everything from emergency management through space, microgravity research, lunar mobility, biosecurity, hypersonics, and defence cooperation—each reflecting the depth and diversity of Australia's space ecosystem.

Beyond the Forum, the Andy Thomas Space Foundation is proud to host Australian Space Week, a celebration of space innovation and outreach. With 14 events across South Australia, the week opens the door to space for all-from students and educators to researchers and entrepreneurs.

We also continue to champion education through our Space Passport Program, welcoming students to engage directly with industry. This year, our partnership with the Children's University expands the reach and impact of this initiative, helping to inspire the future workforce that will shape Australia's space future. Their curiosity and enthusiasm are a reminder of why we do this work and why your participation matters.

Thank you for joining us. Your presence supports a thriving, inclusive, and connected space sector. Together, we are building momentum—not just for this Forum, but for Australia's role on the world stage at IAC 2025 and beyond.

Welcome to the 18th Australian Space Forum. Let's make it unforgettable.

Peter Nikoloff and Darcey Watson

Executive Director and Executive Officer The Andy Thomas Space Foundation





DOWNLOAD THE 18ASF APP





We encourage all face-to-face delegates to download the Forum app.

You can connect to the app through your relevant app store. Please scan the QR Code, use the download links below, or search for *The Event App by EventsAIR* and download.

Once downloaded, open the app and enter the event code 17ASF. Please sign in using your email address and your pin number to access all features. Your pin number can be found in your pre-conference email.

Alternatively, pleasesee the staff at the registration desk for assistance.



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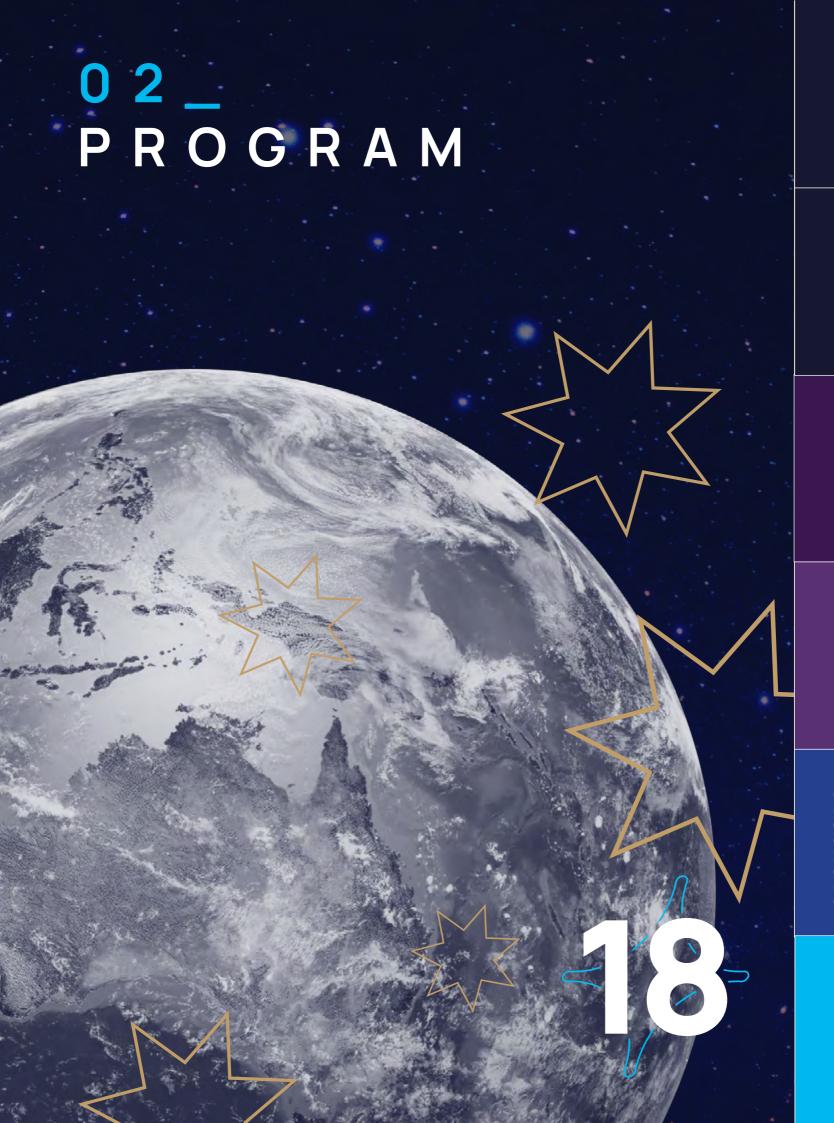




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DAY 1

PROGRAM

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GRAM AY





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DAY 2 / STREAM 3

WELCOME

DAY_01

DAY 1 DAY 2 STREAM 1 STREAM 2 STREAM 3

8:00	Registration O	pens		Main Foyer	
			MC: Hannah Ashford Managing Director Karman Project		
8:30			Aunty Elaine Magias - Welcome to Country		
			Michael Davis AO Chair The Andy Thomas Space Foundation		
	Opening Session		Hon. Susan Close MP Deputy Premier South Australian Government		
			Enrico Palermo Head Australian Space Agency		
			Professor Andy Koronios Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre	Plenary Hall	
9:15	International A	Agency Keynote	Ina Koji (Virtual) Manager, Strategic Planning Division, Space Strategy Fund Department Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)	(Hall L)	
9:25	Australian Def	ence Science Keynote	Andrew Seedhouse Chief of Space, Intelligence, National Security and Cyber (SINC) Division Defence, Science and Technology Group		
9:35	International [Defence Keynote	Major General Samuel Keener Director, Joint Exercises and Training US Space Command		
9:45	International I	ndustry Keynote	Vanessa Wyche (Virtual) Acting Associate Administrator National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)		
10:00	Morning Tea			Exhibition Hall	
10:30	State of Space: Government Perspective		Enrico Palermo Head Australian Space Agency		
10:45	Australian Space Now	State of Space: Defence Perspective	Air Commodore Chris Robson Commander Space Forces Group Space Command	Plenary Hall (Hall L)	
11:00		State of Space: Industry Perspective	Dan Lloyd Chief Executive Officer Space Industry Association of Australia (SIAA)		

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11:15 **Lisa Vitaris** IAC 2025: Maximising this generational Director, IAC 2025 Sydney opportunity Space Industry Association of The world's leading space congress is coming Australia (SIAA) to Australia. Are you prepared to make the most of global space agencies, top space companies, **Dr Annie Handmer** and the brightest space minds all being on IPC Co-Chair your doorstep? Hear from key members of the IAC 2025 IAC 2025 Sydney Local Organising Committee about the opportunities for Australian industry, and why this isn't just another conference. 11:30 **Catherine Wood** International Defence and Government (Moderator) **Director Space Capability Cooperation Panel** Australian Defence Force Examining the strategic importance of Plenary Hall Air Commodore Chris Robson international defence and government (Hall L) Commander Space Forces Group cooperation in shaping the future of space security and resilience. Representatives from Space Command allied nations will share insights into joint Major General John Olson (Ret.) operational frameworks, capability sharing, and Special Government Employee multilateral space governance. The discussion Defence Innovation Unit will spotlight initiatives that enhance interoperability, safeguard critical assets, **Dr Kate Brand** Manager - Australian Space Weather Foreand foster collective response to evolving casting Centre threats in the space domain. With a focus on Bureau of Meteorology building trust and aligning strategic objectives, this session will highlight how collaborative **Dr Catherine Grace** defence and government partnerships are Director, Civil Space Policy strengthening both national and global space Australian Space Agency capabilities. **Exhibition** Lunch 12:30 Hall 13:45 Health in Orbit: Katherine Bennell-Pegg The microgravity opportunity Australian Astronaut Australian Space Agency Australian astronaut Katherine Bennell-Pegg will share her insights on the benefits of microgravity for health and medical research and its real-world applications. Our orbit is a testbed for microgravity studies. There is untapped opportunity for Australian Plenary Hall researchers and space-adjacent industries (Hall L) to look to orbit for experimentation and advancement of Australia's role in the fields medical and health sciences. Drawing on her astronaut training experience, Katherine will highlight the potential for Australia to conduct microgravity research, including how its researchers and industries can best pursue this opportunity and help improve life on Earth.

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14:00	Panel: Space Innovation at the Speed of Relevance As global tensions rise, the need to rapidly innovate space capabilities has never been more urgent. This session explores how accelerating innovation across defence, industry, government, and academia is critical to ensuring strategic advantage and resilience in the space domain. Join leading experts as they discuss emerging challenges, collaborative models, and pathways to deliver timely, sovereign space solutions.	Andrew Seedhouse Chief of Space, Intelligence, National Security & Cyber Division (SINC) Defence Science and Technology Group Christopher Hewett General Manager Australian Space Agency Group Captain Patrick Del Guidice Director Capability Strategy Australian Defence Force Dr Kimberley Clayfield Space Research Program Director CSIRO Major General John Olson (Ret.) Special Government Employee Defence Innovation Unit Rajat Kulshrestha Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer Space Machines Company	Plenary Hall (Hall L)
15:00	Announcements	Darin Lovett Executive Director iLAuNCH Trailblazer Nick Leake Head of Satellite & Space Optus	
15:15	Afternoon Tea		Exhibition Hall
15:45	International Space Program Update: Roover Mission Understand the latest technical and progress updates from Australia's exciting Roover Mission. Providing insights into the rover's design, capabilities, and primary mission objectives. Discussions will highlight advancements in autonomous navigation, sensor technology, and data collection strategies. Key engineering challenges and solutions will also be addressed, providing a comprehensive overview of the project's current status and future directions.	Ben Sorensen Director ELO2 and Roo-ver Mission	Plenary Hall (Hall L)

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DAY 1 STREAM 3 DAY 2 STREAM 1 STREAM 2

16:00 Panel: Australian Academics -Collaborating to a brighter future

> Representatives from universities across Australia will highlight their evolving space capabilities and collaborative endeavours. The discussion will explore how Australian academic institutions will contribute to future space missions, develop cutting-edge research, and train the next generation of space professionals.

Emphasis will be placed on how universities collaborate with each other, industry, and government to build a stronger, more integrated space ecosystem. Panelists will share plans for upcoming joint initiatives, infrastructure sharing, and education programs that will accelerate innovation and ensure Australia remains competitive in the global space arena.

Hannah Ashford

Managing Director Karman Project

Dr Milica Symul

Chief Operating Officer iLAuNCH Trailblazer

Gary Hale

Director, NRAS **Curtin University**

Ryan McClenaghan

Director: Defence & Space Enterprise Partnerships Unit University of South Australia

Dr Kate Ferguson

Associate Director Strategic Projects Australian National University Institute For Space

Plenary Hall (Hall L)

(Moderator)

Peter Nikoloff Executive Director

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation



16:50 Closing Session: Day 1

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DAY 1

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DAY 2 / STREAM 3







STREAM_01

8:00	Registration Opens		Main Foyer
8:30	Research and Development for Impact Explore cutting-edge research with real-world potential in this session spotlighting projects poised for commercial impact. Presenters will share insights into innovations that bridge academia and industry, revealing opportunities for investment, partnership, and product development. Transitioning Australian Research and Development into meaningful impact, strengthens sovereign capability underpinning National Security, environmental management and economic growth.	Dr. Sarah Cannard (Moderator) Industry Director SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre Dr Anne Bettens CEO and Co-Founder Deneb Space Dr Kimberley Clayfield Space Research Program Director CSIRO Dr Sebastian Ng PNT Program Lead QuantX Byron Riessen Partner Deloitte	Plenary Hal (Hall L)
10:00	Morning Tea		Exhibition Hall
10:30	Emergency Management: The role of Space in the Cyclone Alfred response Explore how space data played a critical role in supporting emergency management during Cyclone Alfred across Queensland and New South Wales. This session highlights how satellite imagery and geospatial data informed response efforts by government, industry, and emergency services. Learn how timely access to space-based insights enabled better coordination, risk assessment, and decision-making. A compelling case study demonstrating the value of space capabilities in protecting communities and enhancing national resilience.	Dr Jackie Craig AM FTSE Non-Executive Director/Adjunct Professor at the College of Science and Engineering SmartSat CRC and Flinders University Craig Earl-Spurr Senior Meteorologist - Tropical Cyclones Bureau of Meteorology Juan Debastian Ossa-Morena Account Manager Floodmapp Dr Anthony Rea Principal Meteorite Global Consulting Sue Streit Principal Planner in the State Disaster Coordination Centre Queensland Police	Plenary Hal (Hall L)

DAY 2 / STREAM 1

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DAY 1 DAY 2 STREAM 1 STREAM 2 STREAM 3

11:30 Funding Space Business

Explore cutting-edge research with real-world potential in this session spotlighting projects poised for commercial impact. Presenters will share insights into innovations that bridge academia and industry, revealing opportunities for investment, partnership, and product development. Transitioning Australian Research and Development into meaningful impact, strengthens sovereign capability underpinning National Security, environmental management and economic growth.

Aude Vignelles

Founder

Vignelles Space

Ben Cade

Chief Executive Officer
Myriota

Flavia Tata Nadini

Co-Founder/Chief Executive Officer Fleet Space Technologies

Jo Chaturvedi-Durant

Senior Investor/ Venture Partner VU VP Fund

Omar Pimentel

Space Policy and Strategy Lead Defence Innovation Unit

Guy Reypert

Head of Equities

National Reconstruction Fund

Plenary Hall (Hall L)

(Moderator)

13:45 Sector Achievements:

Lunch

12:30

Moments of national pride and lessons learnt

Celebrate Australia's growing impact in space as industry leaders, universities, defence, and government showcase key achievements across the sector. This session highlights innovative missions, cutting-edge research, and strategic initiatives that are driving national capability and international partnerships. Gain insight into the collaborative efforts shaping Australia's space future and discover opportunities to connect, contribute, and lead in this dynamic and rapidly evolving domain

Tim Parsons

Entrepreneur-in-Residence National Space Industry Hub

Herve Astier

Chief Executive Officer
Neumann Space

Dr Craig Benson

Director and Chief Innovation Officer Skykraft

Karla Vincent

Space Mission Analyst HEO

Dr David Lingard

Group Leader Space AutonomyDefence Science and Technology Group

Patrick Oppel

Waratah Seed/The University of Sydney
The University of Sydney

Jennifer Williams

Chief Operating Officer

Stratoship

Exhibition

Hall

(Moderator)

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Plenary Hall (Hall L)

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ROGRAM > TOTH AUSTRALIAN SPACE

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STREAM 2

STREAM 3

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15:15	Afternoon Tea		Exhibition Hall
15:45	Future Space Capabilities/Architectures Join a forward-looking panel exploring the future of space architectures and capabilities designed for resilience and redundancy in the face of threats and the harsh space environment. Featuring perspectives from defence, industry, researchers, and government, the discussion will examine emerging technologies, strategic approaches, and whether multi-role systems are the way forward. Gain insights into how Australia can build robust, adaptive space infrastructure to support national interests and strengthen global partnerships. Closing Remarks	Peter Kerr Defence & National Security Coordinator SmartSat CRC Chris Blackerby Group Chief Operating Officer Astroscale Holdings Veronica Bainton Director Satellite - Governance & Industry Engagement Optus David Ball Regional Director Australia New Zealand Lockheed Martin Space Dr Damian Hall Program Leader I Space Defence Science and Technology Group Air Commodore Peter Thompson Director General Space Capability Australian Defence Force Peter Nikoloff Executive Director The Andy Thomas Space Foundation	Plenary Hall (Hall L)
17:00	Networking Drinks		Exhibition Hall





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STREAM_02

8:00	Registration Opens		Main Foyer
8:30	Space Domain Awareness and unpacking the JCO Discover how Australia is advancing Space Domain Awareness (SDA) and how your organisation can engage in the growing global SDA ecosystem. This session provides an overview of U.S. Space Force's Joint Commercial Operations (JCO), participation pathways, and highlights Australia's SDA capabilities. Learn how collaboration between government, industry, and international partners enhances space security and operational resilience.	Campbell Pegg Director, Space South Australian Space Industry Centre Wing Commander Adam Carroll Commanding Officer 1 Space Surveillance Unit Major General John Olson (Ret.) Special Government Employee Defence Innovation Unit Nick Carter Space Research CSIRO Dr Jason Held Chief Executive Officer Saber Astronautics	City Room 1/2 (C1/C2) Upper Level
10:00	Morning Tea		Exhibition Hall
10:30	Hypersonics: What role can Australia play? Delve into Australia's growing capabilities in Hypersonics research, development, and testing. This session showcases contributions from industry, universities, and defence stakeholders driving innovation in high-speed flight technologies. Learn about cutting-edge facilities, collaborative programs, and strategic initiatives positioning Australia as a key player in the global Hypersonics landscape. An essential discussion for those interested in the intersection of advanced aerospace, national security, and space technology development.	BJ Martin Space Safety & Mission Assurance Lead Nova Systems Reg Carruthers Director Advanced Test and Training Environment Air Warfare Centre Dr Michael Smart Chief Technology Officer / Co-Founder Hypersonix Dr Vince Wheatley Co-Director, Centre for Hypersonics University of Queensland Omar Pimentel Space Policy and Strategy Lead Defence Innovation Unit	City Room 1/2 (C1/C2) Upper Level

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DAY 1 DAY 2 STREAM 1 STREAM 2 STREAM 3 11:30 Julia Dreosti (Moderator) International Space Policy **Board Member** Explore the pivotal role of international policy The Andy Thomas Space Foundation in shaping opportunities within the global Philip Citowicki space sector. Examine how nations can Strategy & Business Development Lead for strategically collaborate to drive innovation, secure access to vital space resources, and Lockheed Martin Australia enhance their space capabilities. Discussions City Room will focus on policy frameworks that underpin Dr Kathryn Robison 1/2 successful international ventures, ensuring all Lecturer / Senior Research Fellow participants remain key players in the evolving (C1/C2) United States Studies Centre space landscape. Unpacking the complexities **Upper Level** of balancing national interests with the Hannah Ashford Managing Director collaborative spirit essential for advancing Karman Project space exploration and utilisation **Christopher Hewett**

General Manager Australian Space Agency Exhibition 12:30 Lunch Hall 13:45 Byron Riessen (Moderator) Space and transforming critical business systems Partner Deloitte Space-based technology has quietly become the silent engine behind the systems we Katie Hulmes Head of Innovation Ecosystem rely on daily. Further, Australian enterprises underpinned by regional and remote assets are increasingly looking for new forms of Frank Maio business intelligence where satellite-enabled Manager Asset Information platforms investment is key. Insights derived ElectraNet from satellites and other remote sensing Ben Owen platforms unlock economic growth, community Chief Strategy Officer and benefits and sustainable development through General Manager, Home & Energy applications like climate change monitoring, RAA City Room infrastructure management underpinning 1/2 energy transition, transport and housing development, national security, improving (C1/C2) resource management and preparing and **Upper Level** responding to emergencies. This segment will explore the profound and underappreciated application of space in some of Australia's important enterprises. Join industry leaders as they explore how space capabilities are transforming the nation. This panel will highlight why investing in and understanding space technologies is not only strategic, but essential. Hear how space technology is enabling smarter strategies, stronger outcomes, and a more competitive Australian economy.

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SPEAKERS

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14:45	International Space Cooperation Examine Australia's strategic engagement in the global space sector by exploring current and prospective collaborations with international partners, advancing Australia's national interests, capabilities and standing as an international player. Discussions will focus on leveraging these partnerships to bolster domestic capabilities, foster innovation, and secure a competitive edge in the evolving space landscape. Attendees will gain insights into building robust, mutually beneficial international alliances.	Michael Davis Chair The Andy Thomas Space Foundation Dr Jane Kaczmarek Senior Operations Scientist SKAO Professor Robert Sharp Head of Instrumentation Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics Australian National University	City Room 1/2 (C1/C2) Upper Level
15:15	Afternoon Tea		Exhibition Hall
15:45	Future Space Capabilities/Architectures Join a forward-looking panel exploring the future of space architectures and capabilities designed for resilience and redundancy in the face of threats and the harsh space environment. Featuring perspectives from defence, industry, researchers, and government, the discussion will examine emerging technologies, strategic approaches, and whether multi-role systems are the way forward. Gain insights into how Australia can build robust, adaptive space infrastructure to support national interests and strengthen global partnerships.	Peter Kerr Defence & National Security Coordinator SmartSat CRC Chris Blackerby Group Chief Operating Officer Astroscale Holdings Veronica Bainton Director Satellite – Governance & Industry Engagement Optus David Ball Regional Director Australia New Zealand Lockheed Martin Space Dr Damian Hall Program Leader I Space Defence Science and Technology Group Air Commodore Peter Thompson Director General Space Capability Australian Defence Force	Plenary Hall (Hall L)
16:45	Closing Remarks	Peter Nikoloff Executive Director The Andy Thomas Space Foundation	
17:00	Networking Drinks		Exhibition Hall

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STREAM_03

8:00	Registration Opens		Main Foyer
8:30	Space for All: Building an inclusive, skilled and future-ready workforce Accessibility, diversity, inclusion, and belonging are critical to the future success of the space sector. As we build sovereign capability, we must ensure the people behind our missions reflect the diversity of the communities we serve. Embedding inclusion isn't just ethically right—it's a strategic imperative that unlocks performance, fosters innovation, and drives sustainable outcomes. When we lack diversity, we miss critical insights and create solutions that fall short. Inclusive and accessible teams are better equipped to anticipate real-world needs and deliver impactful results. At the same time, Australia's space ecosystem needs people with both technical and transferable skills—data, Al, systems engineering, project management, and regulatory knowledge. There's opportunity for career-changers, graduates, and underrepresented groups to shape the next decade of space. By widening the talent pipeline and removing barriers to participation, we build a stronger, more inclusive space industry for all.	Chair Australian Space Diversity Alliance Christian Maskey Founder SpaceBridge Zamara Rodriguez Optus Industry Fellow & Capability Database Coordinator Space Industry Association of Australia Mori Hajizadeh Aviation Industry Engagement Manager Industry Skills Australia	City Room
9:00	Space Qualification - What you need to know Gain a high-level overview of the mission assurance process for space systems and supporting ground segments in this informative session. Considerations will include the importance of sound planning, space standards, testing requirements, and the role of qualification in ensuring mission success. The session will also spotlight Australian test facilities and capabilities that support space system and ground segment qualification.	Joshua Rohan-Gould Mission Design Lead Saber Astronautics Mike Petkovic Senior Space System Engineer Nova Systems Dr Andrew Guidi Senior Systems Engineer Nova Systems Senior Professor Michael Lerch Senior Professor & EIS Assoc. Dean Of Research University of Wollongong Dr Stefania Peracchi Accelerator Scientist - Space Radiation Specialist ANSTO Dr Sandra Elizabeth Saji Research and Industry Engagement Officer Heavy Ion Accelerators Associate Professor Eduardo Trifoni Director of Space Test Program and Head of National Space Test Facility	3/4 (C3/C4) Upper Leve

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10:00	Morning Tea		Exhibition Hall
10:30	Bush to the Stars: The legal basics of Australians operating in space This session, presented by the Australian Space Agency's Office of the Space Regulator, is designed to equip participants with an understanding of Australian space regulation, focussing on the deployment and operation of objects in space. The session will also feature insights from industry participants who have successfully navigated the regulatory journey. It's an essential primer for anyone seeking to understand how regulation supports safe, responsible, and successful space operations.	Christopher De Luis General Manager Office of the Space Regulator Australian Space Agency Jasmin James Senior Engagement Officer - Regulatory Engagement Australian Space Agency Bron Hughes Senior Space Operations Assessor Australian Space Agency Edward Robinson Founder and Chief Executive Officer Robinson Aerospace Systems Simon Barraclough Deputy Chief Engineer Skykraft	City Room 3/4 (C3/C4)
11:30	Launch Infrastructure & Capabilities Deep dive into a comprehensive overview of Australia's expanding launch capabilities and their strategic significance for national sovereignty. Discussions will focus on advancements in technology and infrastructure that are driving growth in the domestic launch sector. Attendees will explore the implications for national security, economic development, and international partnerships. The session will address key challenges and opportunities as Australia aims to establish itself as a competitive and reliable provider of launch services on the global stage.	Shena Howell Space Lead and Senior Systems Engineer Shoal Group Dr Michael Jones Group Chief Executive Officer Equatorial Launch Australia Lloyd Damp Chief Executive Officer Southern Launch	Upper Level
12:30	Lunch		Exhibition Hall

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STREAM 3

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15:15

Afternoon Tea

13:45 Microgravity Economy **Peter Nikoloff** (Moderator) **Executive Director** Gain an understanding of microgravity's pivotal The Andy Thomas Space Foundation role in future space endeavors. Discussions Katherine Bennell-Pegg centered on leveraging this unique environment for groundbreaking research and development. Australian Astronaut From accessing the environment to utilisation, Australian Space Agency delegates will explore how to capitalise on **Professor Heike** City Room microgravity environments to drive technological Ebendorff-Heidepriem 3/4 advancements, foster international collaborations, Deputy Director, Institute for (C3/C4) and contribute to the expanding space economy. Photonics and Advanced Sensing Upper Level The University of Adelaide Dr Karyn Jarvis Senior Research Engineer Australian National Fabrication Facility Benjamin Wannan Founder & Chief Executive Officer **Egress Space** 14:45 **Darcey Watson** Biosecurity: Earth and Space (Moderator) **Executive Officer** Exploring the critical importance of biosecurity for The Andy Thomas Space Foundation both terrestrial and extraterrestrial environments. Experts will discuss strategies to prevent biological Dr Davina White contamination during space missions, protecting GIS Lead City Room other planets and our own. Attendees will further CSIRO 3/4 learn the importance of protecting our terrestrial Kiara Wilson (C3/C4) environments through space-based technologies, Director (A/g) supporting mitigation and prevention efforts **Upper Level** Department of Agriculture, Fisheries for natural disasters and other environmental and Forestry conditions. Promoting a deeper understanding of the ethical and scientific considerations essential for preserving the integrity of Earth and space.

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15:45 Future Space Capabilities/Architec-**Peter Kerr** (Moderator) Defence & National Security tures Coordinator Join a forward-looking panel exploring the SmartSat CRC future of space architectures and capabilities **Chris Blackerby** designed for resilience and redundancy in **Group Chief Operating Officer** the face of threats and the harsh space Astroscale Holdings environment. Featuring perspectives from defence, industry, researchers, and Veronica Bainton government, the discussion will examine Director Satellite - Governance emerging technologies, strategic approaches, & Industry Engagement and whether multi-role systems are the way Optus forward. Gain insights into how Australia can **David Ball** Plenary Hall build robust, adaptive space infrastructure Regional Director Australia New Zealand to support national interests and strengthen (Hall L) Lockheed Martin Space global partnerships. **Dr Damian Hall** Program Leader I Space Defence Science and Technology Group Air Commodore Peter Thompson **Director General Space Capability** Australian Defence Force **Peter Nikoloff** 16:45 **Closing Remarks Executive Director** The Andy Thomas Space Foundation Exhibition **Networking Drinks** 17:00 Hall

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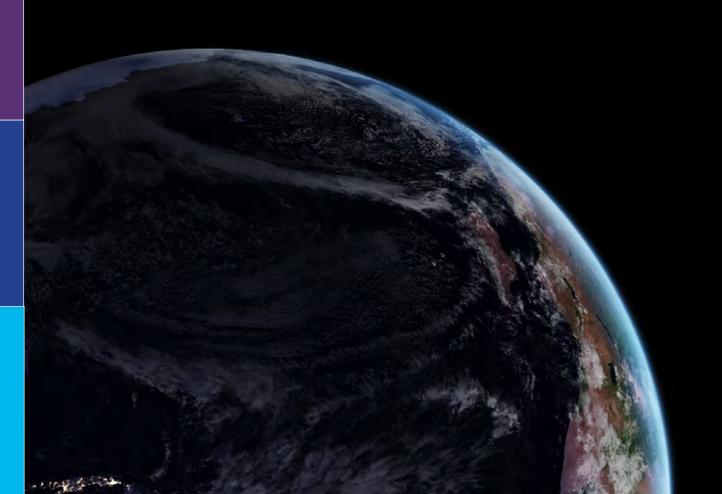






EGRESS SPACE

LAUNCH.
RETURN.
LEARN.
REPEAT.



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EXHIBITION + VENUE MAPS > 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

18ASF_ EXHIBITOR MAP





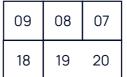
EXHIBITION HALL (HALLS M/N/O)

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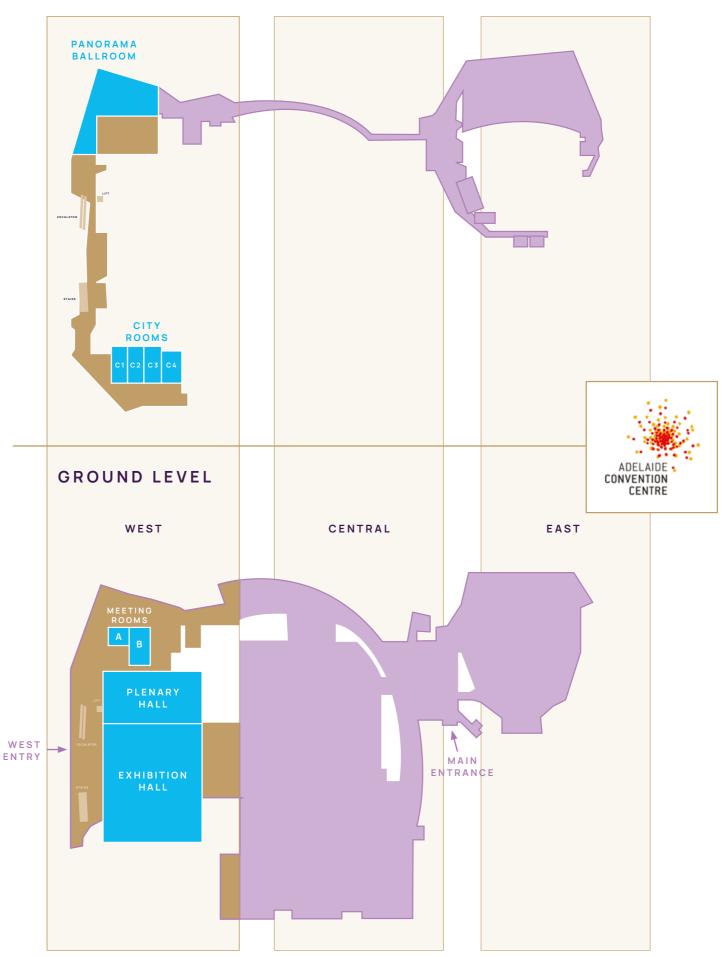




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EXHIBITOR NAME	воотн
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AMDA Foundation Limited	17
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EXHIBITION + VENUE MAPS > 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM



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Pete Nikoloff is the Executive Director of The Andy Thomas Space Foundation, the Executive Director and Co-founder of Nova Systems, and the Industry Director of the SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre.

Peter Nikoloff

Committee Chair

Executive Director

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

Pete is a strong advocate for growing the space industry in Australia.

He is a member of the South Australian Space Advisory Council and supported numerous government and industry initiatives to build the sector.

Pete's role at the SmartSatCRC includes the Mission Director for South Australia's Kanyini satellite. He obtained an Aeronautical Engineer degree from RMIT in 1986 and has 35 years' experience supporting Defence and Space projects including operations at Woomera and Test & Evaluation for F/A-18 and related weapon systems.

Space is one of Nova's fastest growing areas supporting Defence's Military Satcom, Geospatial Information Systems and Satellite ground stations. Pete is also the Chapter president of the International Test and Evaluation Association Southern Cross Chapter.





Michael Davis AO is the inaugural Chair of the Andy Thomas Space Foundation and a former Chair of the Space Industry Association of Australia.

Michael Davis AO

Chair



The Andy Thomas Space Foundation



He has qualifications in law and space studies and he has been actively involved in arranging and teaching in graduate space education programs in Australia, including the International Space University/University of South Australia Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program, conducted in Adelaide since 2011.

His home city of Adelaide was chosen as the host of the International Astronautical Congress in 2017, and he chaired the Congress Local Organising Committee for that event. He was also a leading advocate for the establishment of the Australian Space Agency, an Australian Government decision announced at the Congress

Julia Dreosti



Board Member

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The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

Ms Dreosti is a Partner at Clifford Chance, one of the world's largest law firms with 33 offices in 22 countries. She is actively involved in the space sector in her role as one of the firm's global space sector leads. As a lawyer she specialises in project management and risk minimisation across various industry sectors, and all forms of dispute resolution. She is a former State President of the French-Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

She holds a Masters in French Law and European Community Law from the Sorbonne in Paris and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She is the mother of children aged 12, 14, and 16, and is keen to inspire and support the awareness and potential pursuit of careers of young Australians in the space sector.

Professor Andy Koronios



Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director

SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre



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Professor Andy Koronios is the CEO and Managing Director of the SmartSat CRC. He is also an Emeritus Professor at the University of South Australia.

Andy has previously held the positions of Dean: Industry & Enterprise at the University of South Australia and Head of the School of Information Technology & Mathematical Sciences at the University of South Australia.

Andy is a Professor of information systems and holds academic qualifications in Electrical Engineering, Computing and education as well as a PhD from the University of Queensland.

He has extensive experience in both commercial and academic environments and his research areas include data quality, information management & governance, data analytics and the strategic exploitation of information.

Andy has led the establishment of a number of research concentrations, labs and research centres. He served as the Research Program Leader for System Integration & Interoperability in the CIEAM CRC. He is internationally known for his work in data quality, he has been an adjudicator for the European Corporate Data Quality Awards for several years and Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Information Quality.

Andy has worked both as a consultant as well as a professional speaker on IT issues in Australia and South East Asia and has over thirty years' experience in the academic environment. He is a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society, a Founding Fellow of the International Institute of Engineering Asset Management, a Distinguished Speaker of the ACM.

SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) is a consortium of industry and research organisations developing game changing satellite technologies to catapult Australia into the global space economy. Andy was the lead in the successful bid for the SmartSat CRC which was established in 2019.



Thomas Lewis

Assistant Director, Communications and Events

Australian Space Agency



Thomas Lewis is the Assistant Director, Communications and Events at the Australian Space Agency.

Commencing with the Agency in 2020, Thomas has played a key role in raising Australia's space profile globally and promoting the work of the Agency through its Community Engagement division alongside a dedicated team of agents.

Prior to the Australian Space Agency, Thomas worked in various communications roles across state government and the private sector. This experience has seen Thomas collaborate with major national and global companies to tell their stories and bring their brands to life through his strong expertise across all facets of communications - media, events, content, and campaign

Thomas has a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Adelaide and a postgraduate qualification in Communications from the University of South Australia.





Campbell Pegg

Director, Space



South Australian Space Industry Centre



Campbell Pegg joined SASIC as Director, Space in April 2025, and is responsible for supporting the development of South Australia's space ecosystem, leading industry and economic development activities for the state and guiding the development of South Australia's space sector strategy.

With a distinguished career spanning over 15 years across five countries, Campbell has played a critical role in numerous international and national space missions. He has held leadership positions across government, commercial and startup sectors, combining deep technical expertise in spacecraft engineering with strategic insight into policy business development, and cross-sector collaboration.

Prior to joining SASIC, Campbell was Assistant Director for Satellite Engineering at Optus, and he has also held leadership positions at Fleet Space Technologies, and at the Australian Space Agency as Program Manager for the Moon to Mars Initiative.

Campbell's international experience includes 12 years abroad, including at Airbus Defence and Space in Germany where he was technical manager for the European Service Module of the Orion program, supporting NASA's efforts to return humans to the moon.

He holds four degrees including a Bachelor of Engineering (First-Class Honours) in Aeronautical Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Advanced Physics and Mathematics from the University of Sydney. He furthered his expertise with a Master of Science in Astronautics and Space Engineering from Cranfield University (UK) and a Master of Science in Space Technology from Luleå Technical University (Sweden).

Catherine Roberts AO CSC

Board Member

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

in

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Air Vice-Marshal (retired) Cath Roberts AO CSC has dedicated her career to innovation and stretching boundaries. She was Australia's first Space Commander (2021-2023) and brings over 40 years of experience serving in the Royal Australian Air Force as an Aerospace Engineer. She is committed to developing Australian industry and innovation and her major Defence contributions were through the Jericho Disruptive Innovation program, initiating the development of the Ghost Bat UAV and minor projects testing Australian Space capabilities. Cath has been known to go to extraordinary levels to test innovations, including parachuting out of an aircraft at 10,000 feet to test a new satellite communication system.

Cath's experience in Defence includes space operations, capability analysis, project management, governance, airworthiness, contracting, diplomatic postings and collaborating across defence, government, industry and academia - domestically and internationally. She has a passion for diversity in STEM working with the Andy Thomas Space Foundation and mentors in both the IMNIS and Superstars of STEM programs.

She holds a Master's Degree in Management and Defence Studies from University of Canberra and a Bachelor's Degree in Aerospace Engineering from RMIT. She is a Fellow of Engineers Australia, Member of Australian Institute of Company Directors, Member of Defence SA Advisory Board, Member of Australia's Economic Accelerator Board and works with Curtin University on the National Resilience and Security Advisory Board.

In recognition of her achievements, Cath was awarded a Conspicuous Service Cross for her contribution to Aviation Safety in 2004 and appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2022 for her service as Head Aerospace Systems Division and Head of Air Force Capability.

Darcey Watson

Executive Officer



The Andy Thomas Space Foundation



Darcey Watson is an established space industry professional, specialising in education, engagement and innovation strategies for the sector. She holds qualifications in Molecular and Biomedical Sciences from the University of Adelaide as well as Space Studies from the International Space University.

Darcey serves as a committee member with the International Astronautical Federation on their Space Education and Outreach committee as well as the Workforce Development – Young Professionals Programme committee, a National Point of Contact for Australia for the Space Generation Advisory Council, a committee member for the International Space University Australia and New Zealand Alumni Committee and is the Co-Founder of CoLab Society Podcast.

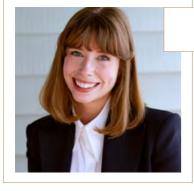
Darcey is currently a delegate in the Australian American Young Leadership Dialogue and has previously been an International Visitors Leadership Program delegate with the US Department of State. Darcey is passionate about raising awareness of non-traditional STEM careers, specifically in the Space sector.



SPEAKERS



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Hannah Ashford

Managing Director

The Karman Project



Hannah Ashford is a non-profit leader and lawyer working to unite global decision-makers and drive collaborative action for a sustainable, peaceful future in space.

As Co-Founder & Managing Director of The Karman Project, Hannah works with public and private sector space leaders from over 70 nations, facilitating forums for strategic dialogue and projects to accelerate international cooperation. She leads the foundation's strategic growth, including its flagship Fellowship program and United Nations policy efforts, while cultivating an extensive network of global partners.

To further advance the sector, Hannah serves on the Advisory Councils for King Charles III's Astra Carta, the University of Oxford's Space Initiative, and The Exploration Company. In 2025, she was awarded the 'Young Space Leader' honour by the International Astronautical Federation and continues in her role as a mentor with the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience.

With a background in law, journalism, and innovation, Hannah began her career practising as a lawyer in Australia before spending five years in the European ecosystem, where she notably led Product & Innovation at Factory Berlin. A graduate of the University of Queensland and the International Space University, she brings a multidisciplinary perspective to space diplomacy - bridging sectors, fostering trusted collaboration, and amplifying underrepresented voices in global leadership.





Herve Astier

Chief Executive Officer



Neumann Space



A qualified engineer and successful entrepreneur with an international commercialisation background, Herve had nearly two decades of experience in large U.S. high-tech companies, before moving to Australia.

Herve first worked with the South-Australian government, identifying high-potential start-ups, helping them secure funding to pursue initial development.

In 2019 he joined Neumann Space and led the business from a low Technology Readiness Level experimentation to an award-winning sovereign space-technology company. Developed by a fantastic team of engineers and scientists, their product, the Neumann Drive® is a flight proven in-space electric propulsion system for spacecraft using solid metal as propellant. Neumann Space established their Manufacturing, Assembly, Integration and Test facility in Adelaide, including a certified 160sqm Class 8 clean-room, TVAC and multiple vacuum chambers. Supported by passionate and committed investors, Neumann Space is now scaling up and is already exporting propulsion systems to a constellation owner and satellite manufacturer.

Herve holds engineering and business degrees. He is also a graduate of the Harvard Business School Launching New Ventures & Foundation of Private Equity and Venture Capital programs, the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the DTC Defence Industry Leadership Program, and the International Space University Executive Space Course.

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As Director Governance & Industry Engagement Veronica is responsible for risk, supply chain and procurement, audit, security, DISP and PMO, as well as industry engagement (including university engagement) within the Optus Satellite & Space Systems business unit. Veronica also holds a number of non-executive board director roles – iLAuNCH Advisory Committee and Chair of the NSW Space Research Network. She was previously Deputy Chair of the Space Industry Association of Australia.

Veronica Bainton

Director Satellite - Governance & Industry Engagement

M

Optus



Prior, Veronica held a number of roles with Raytheon Australia, will responsibility for contracts management and Australian Industry Capability within the Business Development function. She also held senior corporate and Papua New Guinea-based Commercial, Compliance and Contractor Management roles with Newcrest Mining. In this capacity she provided legal and commercial advice in complex matters spanning the full spectrum of the contract management process, as well as setting up and managing a flagship vendor pre-qualification program.

Veronica holds a Bachelor of Arts / Law (Hons) from the University of Sydney and is admitted to the Supreme Courts of NSW and NT. She has also earned a Master of Business Administration (Strategic Planning) from the Edinburgh Business School, Heriot-Watt University (Scotland), a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice, and a Diploma in Marketing (Public Relations).

Her portfolio included stakeholder identification and management and balancing multiple agendas and priorities to obtain and retain the company's social licence to operate with an emphasis on supply chain localisation and sovereign capability development to meet Defence Program requirements. Veronica also has extensive experience in research, writing and policy development, with published works on subjects such as Supply Chain Management, Corporate Social Responsibility, and Indigenous Engagement. She has worked for the Judicial Commission of NSW, the Queensland Resources Council, University of Queensland's Sustainable Minerals Institute, and the UN Global Compact.





David is the Regional Director

Martin Space, representing the space portfolio of capabilities and

services in the region. Prior to

Australia New Zealand for Lockheed

joining Lockheed Martin, David was the Chief Executive Officer of the

Space Environment Research Centre

in the Space Industry Association

of Australia (SIAA) for more than a

Chair of the SIAA during 2020.

decade, culminating in his tenure as

(SERC), and also held leadership roles

David Ball

Regional Director, Australia/New Zealand



Lockheed Martin Space

With over 25 years of experience in the space, communications and defence sectors David has spent a significant portion of his career specialising in satellite communications and has held senior positions with several commercial satellite communications operators, including Intelsat and PanAmSat. David's previous roles encompassed sales management, business development, customer service engineering, space systems design and spacecraft and launch vehicle acquisition.

David has also had significant involvement in satellite frequency coordination activities, spacecraft insurance placement and capital raise processes.

Earlier in his career David was an electronics engineering officer in the Royal Australian Air Force and was responsible for the engineering management of Defence communications systems with his final posting focused on military satellite communications systems.

David holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree (Communications Engineering), a Graduate Diploma in Business Management and a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance. David is a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Simon Barraclough

Position Title

in

A spacecraft engineer with 28 years of experience in spacecraft systems, bid and study management, thermal and mechanical engineering. Simon has had lead roles for a wide range of mission types and project sizes, from cubesats to ESA Earth Observation and Exploration missions as well as lead roles in the developing Australian spacecraft engineering sector.

Simon's experience includes time at Airbus Defence and Space as Thermal Group Leader for the thermal control systems on 15+ ESA missions, including Rosetta, LISA Pathfinder and Solar Orbiter as well leading the development of a harpoon to capture space debris. Since returning to Australia Simon joined UNSW Canberra for the Buccaneer Risk Mitigation Mission, and as lead systems engineer for the RAAF M1, M2PF and M2 CubeSats, then University of Melbourne with the role of engineering manager for the SpIRIT nanosatellite project, followed by a role as the Director System Engineering within the Australian Space Agency. In 2023 Simon moved to Skykraft to be Head of Systems Engineering, and later Deputy Chief Engineer, leading to the delivery of the Sky5 spacecraft stack for launch.









Katherine Bennell-Pegg is the first person qualified as an astronaut under the Australian flag.

Katherine Bennell-Pegg

Australian Astronaut

Australian Space Agency

in

Katherine works for the Australian Space Agency, where she has contributed to growing Australia's space capability as technical lead on scoping the nation's first Moon rover mission, in addition to applying her knowledge and expertise to grow the nation's space industry and capitalise on its strengths. She has more than a decade of experience developing space programs and strategies, technologies, and missions across Europe, the UK, the US and

Katherine graduated from astronaut training with the European Space Agency in 2024 and is now eligible for missions to the International Space Station and beyond.

Now back in Australia, one of Katherine's key responsibilities is to also open more doors for the national space sector by showcasing its potential to the world as well as bringing her knowledge, connections and insights home.

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SPEAKERS > 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

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Dr. Craig Benson

Director and Chief Innovation Officer

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SkyKraft

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Dr Craig Benson is co-founder and Chief Innovation Officer at Skykraft where he is deeply involved in designing and building Skykraft's Air Traffic Management constellation. Craig has a PhD in Electrical Engineering, and when not building satellites is a keen runner and triathlete.





Dr. Anne Battens

CEO and Co-founder

Deneb Space

in

Dr Anne Bettens holds a PhD in Vision-Based Autonomous Navigation for Space Exploration. She has worked in both academia and industry, conducting research projects at Thales Alenia Space in France and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Bettens is the CEO and co-founder of Deneb Space, a deep tech startup focused on revolutionising satellite automation.

Chris Blackerby

Group Chief Operating Officer

Astroscale Holdings



Chris Blackerby is Group Chief Operating Officer for Astroscale Holdings, the global leader in developing on-orbit satellite servicing solutions to secure the safe and sustainable development of space.

Prior to joining Astroscale, Chris was NASA Attaché in Asia based at the U.S. Embassy Tokyo from 2012-2017. In that capacity he identified opportunities for cooperation, served as strategic space advisor to the U.S. Ambassador, and negotiated agreements and resolved disputes with

Chris began working for NASA as a Presidential Management Fellow in 2003. From 2005-2007 he was Executive Director of the NASA Advisory Council, a group of senior officials that provides feedback to the NASA Administrator.

Chris received a B.A. in History and Education from the University of Richmond (Va.) in 1995 and an M.A. in International Relations from the University of Rhode Island in 2002. In 2009 Chris earned an MBA from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University.









Dr. Kate Brand

Manager, Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre

Bureau of Meteorology



Dr Kate Brand is the manager of the Australian Space Weather Forecasting Centre (ASWFC) within the Bureau of Meteorology's National Security & Space Program in Adelaide, South Australia.

With a background in geophysics, she oversees 24/7 monitoring of solar activity and its potential impacts on Earth and in the near-Earth space. Her team plays a vital role in safeguarding Australia from the disruptive effects of geomagnetic storms, solar radiation storms and solar flares, and their potential impacts to critical infrastructure and national security. She also oversees the Bureau's Australian Spaceflight Weather Service, which combines terrestrial and space weather services for the space sector - supporting launch, returns and satellite operations.

Kate is an advocate for public engagement in science, recently completing Science & Technology Australia's Superstars of STEM program, which aims to increase representation of women and non-binary people in STEM.

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Keegan Buzza is Director, Community Engagement at the Australian Space Agency and leads the Agency's efforts across media, marketing, strategic communications, education and

community outreach.

Keegan Buzza

Director Of Community Engagement

Australian Space Agency

Since joining the Agency in 2021, Keegan has overseen several major projects including the G'Day Moon campaign, the Agency's standalone website, Adelaide Fringe festival activation, large-scale Team Australia presences at international events and the competition to name Australia's first Moon rover. He's also responsible for the Australian Space Discovery Centre in Adelaide's CBD, as well as preparations for Australia hosting the world's largest space event, the International Astronautical Congress (IAC) later in 2025.

Before the Agency, Keegan was the senior media adviser to a Federal cabinet Minister – working across the Industry, Science, Technology and Home Affairs portfolios.

Keegan's career began in radio, working for more than a decade as a journalist, newsreader and presenter – starting on the Gold Coast before a senior role at 2UE and then as a newsreader and presenter on Sydney's top rating Jonesy and Amanda breakfast show on WSFM.

With appearances on TV as a social commentator, Keegan draws on his background in communicating with people every day to excite and educate Australians about space, and all the ways it improves our lives.

Keegan completed a Bachelor of Journalism at Griffith University on the Gold Coast, after growing up in country Queensland.



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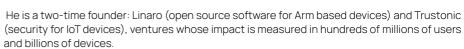
Ben is an engineer and serial entrepreneur, passionate about productising deep-tech innovation in ways that deliver tangibly better outcomes for society.

Ben Cade

Chief Executive Officer



Myriota



As CEO of Myriota, Ben leads a proudly Australian business that uses advanced communications and space based infrastructure to address truly challenging problems and in

so doing, changes lives, livelihoods and environmental outcomes for the better.

Dr. Sarah Cannard

Industry Director



SmartSat CRC



Dr Sarah Cannard is an experienced Senior Engineer and Project Manager with over a decade of demonstrated history working for Nova Systems in the defence and space industry. Dr Cannard has a degree in Mechanical Engineering, a Bachelor of Science (Physics) and holds a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from the University of Adelaide.

She is also a Fellow with Engineers Australia, an Amelia Earhart Fellow (Zonta International), a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and is currently completing her Master's in Business Administration (MBA). Dr Cannard is also the Program Director and Project Manager for Australian Remote Operations for Space and Earth (AROSE.org.au). She has been involved with many complex defence, space and civil programs including the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Hayabusa I Spacecraft re-entry, hypersonic rocket launches, Woomera Test Range trials and activities, the Joint Navy/Defence Science and Technology Autonomous Warrior 18 activity, and the Hunter Class Frigate Program.

Dr Cannard has a deep passion for space and growing a sovereign Australian industry through cross-sector collaboration. She is also passionate about STEM and creating opportunities for future generations.









Wing Commander Adam Caroll

Commanding Officer

1 Space Surveillance Unit

Wing Commander Adam Carroll joined the Royal Australian Air Force in 2001, graduating the Australian Defence Force Academy with a Bachelor of Aeronautical Engineering (Honours) in 2004. Wing Commander Carroll has served across numerous operational engineering posts within Air Combat Group, and completed multiple operation tours of the Middle East.

Wing Commander Carroll's staff appointments have included Director Advanced Capabilities - Air Force, ADF Space Liaison Officer to Canada, and Chief Engineer Special Purpose Aircraft. He is the first non-Canadian to be awarded the Canadian Armed Forces Space Specialist Skill qualification, and was additionally recognised for his leadership of multi-lateral space control initiatives and emerging missile defence research by the Commander of the Royal Canadian Air

In December 2024, Wing Commander Carroll had the privilege of being appointed Commanding Officer of Number 1 Space Surveillance Unit. Wing Commander Carroll holds master's degrees in: Aerospace Engineering, International Relations, Space Operations, and Strategic Studies. Wing Commander Carroll is a Distinguished Graduate of the USAF Air War College, where he was a member of the selective space strategy concentration. Owing to his time in Canada, WGCDR Carroll is now a very average ice hockey player, but a very passionate Ottawa Senators supporter.

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Reg Carruthers

Director Advanced Test and Training Environment

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Air Warfare Centre

Reg Carruthers is the Director of the Advanced Test and Training Environment in the Air Warfare Centre which includes responsibility for the Woomera Test Range.

Reg joined the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) in 1981, graduating from the RAAF Academy in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science. After graduating as a Navigator, he flew 5000 hours as the tactical coordinator on the P3C Orion completing numerous operations and exercises nationally and internationally.

He completed a three-year exchange program flying the CP140 Aurora in Canada, and completed numerous commands including 28 active reserve squadron, three years as officer commanding 92 Wing detachment in Butterworth Malaysia, 10 Squadron RAAF Edinburgh and the AP3C Operational Task Group on active duty in the Middle East Area of Operations.

Reg's last military command was as Commander of the Aerospace Operational Support Group (now Air Warfare Centre) responsible for electronic warfare, cyber, intelligence, aviation medicine, aviation publications and flight test, weapons and engineering squadrons, as well as the Woomera Test Range. Reg was also the Director of the Woomera Test Range for four years, overseeing the upgrade of the range systems and creating a new RAAF Base and organisational structure.

Reg completed 8 years working for the South Australian government in Defence SA as Executive Director Defence and Space responsible for the economic development of both sectors in SA with strong links to industry, academia and federal and state government agencies.

Reg is a graduate of the Australian Staff Course and a Distinguished Graduate from the US National War College conducted in Washington DC, and has Masters Degrees in Defence and Strategic Studies and International Relations.





Nick Carter

Space Research



CSIRO

Nick has worked in Space and Astronomy technology for 17 years.

He's been privileged to work on a wide variety of spacecraft including telecommunication and defence satellites, as well as large and small science missions such as BepiColombo, Sentinel 5P and ExoMars.

Nick has been at CSIRO since 2017, and currently leads the Space Research Group, focussing on utilising space assets to support Australian science, and translating terrestrial technology into the space domain. They draw on CSIRO-wide R&D expertise for projects in a variety of space domains including SDA, ISRU & robotics, optical systems, sensing and novel materials.

Jo Chaturvedi-Durant is a private market and VC investor with over 16 years' experience in the investment management industry across the Asia Pacific and North America.

Jo Chaturvedi-Durant

Senior Investor/ Venture Partner

VU VP Fund



Her experience includes global investment managers like Morgan Stanley, J.P. Morgan, VU Venture Partners and most recently SA's homegrown Eastend Ventures. She also volunteers on the investment committees for impact funds and university venture funds. She invests in traditional and alternative asset classes across stages, geographies and sectors with a focus on deep-tech opportunities where frontier technologies meet impact. She has experience with executive as well as and non-executive board roles, investing in and supporting portfolio companies across frontier tech such as Space, biotech, agtech, defence and robotics.

Jo's academic background is in international business law, business management and narrative economics. She has authored thought pieces on macro and behavioral economics, retirement investing, asset allocation trends and impact of innovative technologies on the economy. She has extensive experience advising governments, founders, accelerators, universities, FRDCs and Not for profits.









Philip Citowicki is the Strategy & **Business Development Lead for Space** at Lockheed Martin Australia. Prior to this role, he was the Executive Officer/ **Director of Operations at Space** Industry Association of Australia (SIAA), Australia's peak industry body for the space sector. He is an Adjunct Fellow of the University of Adelaide and a Director of the Space Law Council of Australia and New Zealand.

Philip Citowicki

Strategy & Business Development Lead for Space

Lockheed Martin Australia

Philip's career has spanned across government and industry domains, including six-years in the Australian federal government. He served as an advisor to Australia's Foreign Minister, the Hon Julie Bishop MP, and also acted as the Personal Political Aide to Australia's High Commissioner in the United Kingdom. Philip's diverse experience in these roles has solidified his reputation as a respected authority in foreign affairs and government policy.

He has contributed to numerous respected publications, television programs, and academic institutions, on foreign policy, defence policy, and space sector policy.

Philip's extensive networks spans across federal and state politics, the public service, and industry. His standing has also earned him recognition from international bodies, including Pacific Forum, U.S State Department, Hoover Institute, and the Australian American Leadership Dialogue.

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Dr Kimberley Clayfield is Director of

CSIRO's Space Research Program,

including oversight of the CSIRO

Centre for Earth Observation and

program of space science and technology activities, including space object tracking, space weather, small spacecraft technologies

(such as imaging sensors, power systems and materials), robotics and remote operations, in situ resource utilisation, and space life sciences.

the AquaWatch Australia initiative, and a multi-disciplinary research

Dr. Kimberley Clayfield

Space Research Program Director

CSIRO

Dr Clayfield holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons I) and PhD in mechanical engineering, a Master of Business Administration (Cum Laude) from the International Space University, and additional graduate qualifications in space science and public policy.

In 2014 Kimberley became the first Australian to receive the prestigious Lawrence Sperry Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. She has also served as Chair of Engineers Australia's National Committee on Space Engineering, and is a member of the Australian Academy of Science's National Committee for Space Science. In 2025 she received the Australian Space Award for Female Space Leader of the Year - Enterprise.





Susan Close is the Deputy Premier

of South Australia and the Minister

and Population Strategy.

for Climate, Environment and Water; Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science; and Minister for Workforce

Hon. Susan Close MP

Deputy Premier

South Australian State Government

Susan has been the Member for Port Adelaide since 2012.

Before entering parliament, Susan was an executive in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and played a key role in the establishment of the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary as a community advocate. She previously worked at the University of Adelaide managing student services and holds a PhD from Flinders University.

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Dr. Jackie Craig AM FTSE

Non-Executive Director / Adjunct Professor at the College of Science and Engineering

SmartSat CRC / Flinders University



Jackie was a Defence scientist for 36 years in the UK and Australia. She has expertise in electro-optics, unmanned aerial systems, spacebased and GIS systems, ISR and cyber and electromagnetic warfare.

She has led large 5-eyes R&D programs and has received several national and international awards for scientific leadership from the Defence and Intelligence S&T community. She currently chairs the Research Investment Committee of SmartSat and is an adjunction Professor at Flinders University.

She has been a member of the State Emergency Service for 8 years in an operations role, including crew leader. She has deployed four times into disaster areas performing a number of operational roles including Rapid Damage Assessment, Storm Crew and Ground Observer.









Lloyd Damp

Chief Executive Officer

Southern Launch

Lloyd Damp is CEO of Southern Launch and is at the forefront of the space industry in Australia.

He founded Southern Launch in 2017 and the company conducted the first commercial space launch from Australian soil in 2020 and Australia's first commercial space return in 2025. Today, Southern Launch employs 30 people and operates two licensed space launch and return facilities in Koonibba and Whalers Way on the Eyre Peninsula of South Australia. These multiuser space launch facilities have been used by domestic and international customers with the Koonibba Test Range hosting the launch of the first high-powered rocket under Australian legislation.

Lloyd leads a team dedicated to developing world-class space launch and return facilities in South Australia and providing bespoke solutions for customers. Lloyd's vision is to build a connected space industry centred around domestic launch and return capabilities to establish Australia as the next global space hub.

Prior to starting Southern Launch, Lloyd spent over 12 years working for the Australian Government specialising in complex program design and delivery. While there Lloyd also played a small part in helping Australia undertake regular rocket launches into space from Woomera.

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Michael Davis AO is the inaugural Chair of the Andy Thomas Space Foundation and a former Chair of the Space Industry Association of Australia.

Michael Davis AO

Chair

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The Andy Thomas Space Foundation



He has qualifications in law and space studies and he has been actively involved in arranging and teaching in graduate space education programs in Australia, including the International Space University/University of South Australia Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program, conducted in Adelaide since 2011.

His home city of Adelaide was chosen as the host of the International Astronautical Congress in 2017, and he chaired the Congress Local Organising Committee for that event. He was also a leading advocate for the establishment of the Australian Space Agency, an Australian Government decision announced at the Congress





Christopher (Chris) De Luis is General Manager Office of the Space Regulator and a member of the Australian Space Agency Executive. He leads a team responsible for safety assurance and national security oversight of the rapidly growing Australian civil space sector.

Christopher De Luis

General Manager, Office Of The Space Regulator





This includes space ports, orbital and sub-orbital launch and returns. The role works closely across international and domestic jurisdictions including the States and Territories. Chris also has responsibility for implementing the Australian Government's obligations under the United Nations space treaties.

Chris is an experienced leader and manager in complex technical environments.

Before joining the Australian Space Agency Chris was Head of Airworthiness Engineering at the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) where he was responsible for airworthiness standards and assurance of the design, certification and production industry.

Prior to this Chris worked as a civilian aerospace engineer in acquisition and sustainment of military aircraft for the Royal Australian Air Force and the Department of Defence in various roles across Australia.

Chris earned a Master of Business Administration from Melbourne Business School, Master of Government and Commercial Law from the Australian National University and Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering with First Class Honours from the University of New South Wales. Chris is a Chartered Professional Engineer and Fellow of Engineers Australia.

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Patrick is the Director of Capability

Strategy in Space Capability Branch,

in Joint Capabilities Group of the ADF. Patrick is Canadian-born, having

completed 12 years in the Canadian

Forces before joining the RAAF in

October 1996. He retired from the

his current role as a reservist.

RAAF in March 2024 and undertakes

Group Captain Patrick Del Guidice

Director Space Capability Strategy

Australian Defence Force



Patrick has a strong background in satellite communications having executed roles in capability development, operations management, and acquisition and sustainment across Defence.

His accomplishments have been formally recognised through awards such as the US Meritorious Service Medal in 2014 for his work with the US in the WGS program; a Chief of the Defence Force Commendation in 2017, and the Conspicuous Service Cross on King's Birthday

Patrick has a Bachelor of Engineering and Master in Strategy and Management. He is a Graduate and Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and a Fellow and Chartered Professional Engineer of Engineers Australia. He is also the Deputy President of the Returned and Services League in the ACT. Patrick and Helene will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary this August, and in his spare time Patrick enjoys road cycling, fly-fishing and attending rugby games in Canberra.









Ms Dreosti is a Partner at Clifford Chance, one of the world's largest law firms with 33 offices in 22 countries.

Julia Dreosti

Board Member

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

She is actively involved in the space sector in her role as one of the firm's global space sector leads. As a lawyer she specialises in project management and risk minimisation across various industry sectors, and all forms of dispute resolution. She is a former State President of the French-Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

She holds a Masters in French Law and European Community Law from the Sorbonne in Paris and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She is the mother of children aged 12, 14, and 16, and is keen to inspire and support the awareness and potential pursuit of careers of young Australians in the space sector.

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Craig Earl-Spurr Senior Meteorologist - Tropical Cyclones Bureau of Meteorology

Craig has worked as an operational meteorologist since first joining the Bureau in 2011. After gaining several years of experience in tropical weather, he then moved into the Bureau's Severe Weather team in Western Australia, focussing on thunderstorms, fire weather and tropical cyclones, and working closely with the Bureau's emergency service partners.

Since 2021, Craig has been a Senior Meteorologist in the Bureau's Tropical Cyclone team. The team's responsibilities include monitoring tropical cyclone development off the coast of northern Australia. and providing forecasts and warnings for tropical cyclones forming off the coast of northern Australia.

Given the formation of tropical cyclones at sea, and the Bureau's responsibilities extending from the Indian Ocean right across to the Coral Sea, satellite data is an integral tool for monitoring tropical cyclone development across this vast region of sparse direct observations.





Professor Heike Ebendorff-Heidepriem

Deputy Director of the Institute for Photonics and Advanced Sensing (IPAS)





Heike Ebendorff-Heidepriem is Professor in Photonic Materials and Optical Fibres and Deputy Director of the Institute for Photonics and Advanced Sensing (IPAS) at Adelaide University. She is also Director of the Optofab Adelaide Hub at the Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF). She received the Ph.D. degree in 1994 at the University of Jena, Germany. She was 1988-2000 with the University of Jena, Germany; 2001-2004 with the Optoelectronics Research Centre in Southampton, UK; and since 2005 with the University of Adelaide, Australia. In 2023, she was awarded a South Australian State Government Future Making Industry Fellowship and an ARC Laureate Industry Fellowship on "Breaking through the manufacturing 'glass ceiling' for ZBLAN glass fibres". Her research focuses on the development of novel optical glasses and specialty optical fibres for laser and sensing applications.

Dr. Kate Ferguson

Associate Director Strategic Projects

ANU Institute For Space



Dr Kate Ferguson is the Associate Director Strategic Projects at the **Australian National University** Institute for Space (InSpace) where she builds linkages between the space and research communities to develop the next space missions using space technology to solve society's challenges back on Earth.

As part of this role, she is managing the partner engagement for the ANU-led Future of Space CRC bid, targeting Round 27 submission. The Future of Space CRC is taking advantage of the reduced cost of access to space to accelerate economic opportunities across diverse sectors such as pharmaceuticals and semiconductors to drive new impacts that benefit life on Earth. Kate also led the stakeholder engagement, project development and contract negotiations for the ANU portfolio for the iLAuNCH Trailblazer program, with 13 projects active and developing advanced space manufacturing products. She was awarded her PhD in 2016 from the Australian National University during which she developed quantum communication hardware for long range quantum networking.









Dr. Catherine Grace

Director, Civil Space Policy

Australian Space Agency



Dr Catherine Grace is a thought leader in the areas of: Defence, Space, Medicine and Disruptive Technologies. She is a registered physician who has held international roles in clinical research, partnership engagement and strategy development.

A graduate of the International Space University, she has also studied Archaeology & Human Biology and holds Post Graduate qualifications in Research, Defence and Leadership.

Catherine was previously the Director Space, at the South Australian Space Industry Centre, and is currently Director Civil Space Policy for the Australian Space Agency. An enthusiastic speaker and multilingual orator, Catherine has also been recognised with awards for contributions to the space sector and medical research.

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Dr Andrew Guidi is a Satellite **Engineering and Space Specialist with** Nova Systems having been with the company for 15+ years.

Dr. Andrew Guidi

Senior Systems Engineer

Nova Systems



Andrew did his bachelor degree studies in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and bachelor degree studies in Physics at the University of Adelaide. After several years employed in the telecommunications industry he then completed a PhD in Information Technology at the Institute for Telecommunications Research at the University of South Australia. For the past 20 years Andrew has worked on both military and commercial satellite communications systems in both Australia and the United Kingdom.

Andrew previously worked for Airbus on the UK Skynet5 program and in the 15+ years he has been with Nova has been involved in delivering major Defence acquisition SATCOM projects. Andrew has an extensive technical breadth having been involved in the development of software defined radio's for Defence applications as well as delivery of large strategic earth stations. In one of his current roles within Nova, Andrew is responsible for overseeing the Nova Systems Space Precinct situated in Peterborough South Australia.





Mori Hajizadeh is the Aviation Industry Engagement Manager at Industry Skills Australia, the newly established Jobs and Skills Council for the Transport and Logistics sector, including aviation and space logistics and transport.

Mori Hajizadeh

Aviation Industry Engagement Manager

Industry Skills Australia



He has extensive experience in Vocational and Educational Training (VET), aviation industry research, data collection, data analysis, and workforce development. His responsibilities include consulting with government and industry stakeholders and drafting an annual Workforce Plan, which identifies the training needs and priorities of the aviation industry. This plan is updated annually and submitted to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

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Gary Hale is the Director of the

National Resilience & Security

Program Office (NRAS) and Chief

Security Officer (CSO) at Curtin

In this role, he is responsible

for leading Curtin's efforts to

defence and space strategies, grow the defence workforce, drive

technological innovation, and advance cutting-edge research in

shape national and international

University.

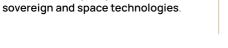
Gary Hale

Director, NRAS

Curtin University

His work also focuses on fostering strategic partnerships, engaging communities to build support for national resilience initiatives, and overseeing the Defence Industry Security Program (DISP) at Curtin University. With extensive leadership experience in cybersecurity and defence, Gary previously served as CEO & Managing Director of SC8 Limited (now Sapien Cyber) and as Cisco's strategic cybersecurity advisor for the Asia-Pacific & Japan region.

Gary's 20 years of service in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) included leading high-value aerospace capability development programs. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Communications) from Curtin University and a Master of Science (Space Operations) from the US Air Force Institute of Technology. Gary's expertise spans space, defence, digital, and cyber domains, supporting Curtin's mission to develop resilient, innovative, and secure solutions that benefit Australia's national security and economic prosperity.









Dr. Damian Hall

Program Leader I Space

Defence Science and Technology Group

Damian Hall joined the Australian Defence Science and Technology Organisation in 1998 as a research scientist in the Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Division after completing a PhD with the Australian Antarctic Division in University of Tasmania on comic ray astronomy and then a short academic career on satellite observations of Antarctica.

From 2002 to 2018 he led research into distributed electronic warfare, specifically the development of distributed EW systems with autonomous platforms and electronic warfare battle management concepts. He led in a number of collaborative EW programs with North American defence organisations and his team managed the successful development of EW planning and decision aid tools for the EA-18G Growler program and other Army, and Joint EW acquisition projects.

From 2018 to 2021 he was DSTG's Counsellor-Defence S&T in the Australian Embassy in Washington DC, responsible for strengthening Australia's Defence S&T cooperation within the Defence, industry, and innovation sectors across North America.

Damian was the S&T Program Lead for Army ISREW after returning to Australia in 2021 and has been the Program Leader for Space since July 2022.

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Annie is an Honorary Affiliate at the University of Sydney's Faculty of Science, in the School of History and Philosophy of Science.

Dr. Annie Handmer

PC Co-Chair

A IAC 2025

Annie served as the International Astronautical Federation's International Programming Committee Co-Chair for the International Astronautical Congress 2024, Milan, and is also the current Co-Chair for IAC 2025, Sydney.



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Dr. Jason Held

Chief Executive Officer

Saber Asronautics

Global Access Partners, NSI, and the Economist.

Dr. Held lectured for the IRS Space Station Design Workshop, University of New South Wales, and International Space University. He led a research expedition in the high Canadian Arctic and co-founded the University of Sydney space engineering laboratory, the Delta-V SpaceHub, and the Wolfpack Space Hub. He currently is on advisory committees for space startups in the US and Australia, chairing many. The Australian government selected Dr Held for the "Expert Reference Group" to design their Space Agency. He also advised international think tanks

At Saber, Dr Held led the growth of the company from founding to 50+ staff members located in the USA and Australia. Key programs include the Responsive Space Operations Centre (RSOC) which develops the next generation spacecraft control, and machine learning diagnostics for spacecraft. Saber now sells operations services and products to both US and Australian DoD, NASA, the Australian Space Agency, and a growing list of commercial flight customers worldwide.

Prior to founding Saber Astronautics, Dr. Held was a US Army Major for US Space Command and deployed internationally in support of military missions.

He was a lead instructor at the Interservice Space Fundamentals Course and an engineer at Army Space and Missile Command Battle Lab. He conducted flight software for the Wide Field Camera 3 of the Hubble Space Telescope and testing for the International Space Station.

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Christopher Hewett

General Manager

Australian Space Agency

The Space Policy branch provides policy advice and analysis on the space sector. The branch works across government policy domains, programs and capability development to facilitate decision making and

outcomes in the national interest.

Chris previously held Senior Executive Service roles at the Department of Defence and the Department of Finance. Chris' career in government began in national security, where he built and lead teams that designed, delivered and used space technologies for 15 years.

Chris' education includes masters degrees in strategic policy and space operations, and an honours degree in ancient history from the University of Sydney.







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Shena Howell

Space Lead and Senior Systems Engineer

Shoal Group

R&D for diverse space projects.

Since joining Shoal, Shena has become the Space lead, working with a team of Systems Engineers, physics-based modelling and simulation analysts, and various specialist subject matter experts to deliver capability definition, design support, launch and return support, and

Shena has worked various engineering and project management roles in the USA, Australia, the UAE, and South Korea. Shena is also a Certified Export Controls Officer.

She is passionate promoter of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths), especially for girls and women, and hopes to continue to engage the next generation of space professionals.

Shena Howell is a Senior Systems Engineer at Shoal Group. She has more than 15 years of experience, primarily working in space and autonomous aerial systems.

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Bron Hughes commenced with the Australian Space Agency in 2022 as a Senior Engagement Officer in the Officer of the Space Regulator before transferring into the role of Senior Space Operations Assessor in 2024.

Bron Hughes

Senior Space Operations Assessor

Australian Space Agency

As a Space Operations Assessor Bron assesses applications for licences, permits and authorisations under the Space (Launches and Returns) Act 2018.

Bron started her career in the public service in 2002 and has worked in various roles and Commonwealth agencies since then. Bron has extensive experience within the regulatory space, primarily undertaking regulatory functions on behalf of the Commonwealth for the majority of her career.







Head of Innovation Ecosystem

BHP

Katie proudly represents a more than 20-year Engineering and Mining Career with diverse roles as a Field Engineer, Environmental Scientist, Exploration Hydrogeologist, Approvals Manager, Scoping Study Manager, Group Environmental Lead, Project Engineer, Head of Technical Services and her current role heading up and growing the innovator Ecosystem at Think & Act Differently.

In 2018, Katie was awarded South Australia's Inaugural 40 Under 40 Young Entrepreneurs Award for her contribution to the Minerals Sector and continues to charter new paths for the industry and her peers. She has shown that through partnerships and transparency you find opportunity. Katie can proudly point to initiatives that have emerged under her leadership with value created in community groups, with traditional owners, conservation organisations, research bodies, technology companies and start-ups.

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Jasmin James

Senior Engagement Officer, Regulatory Engagement Team Office of the Space Regulator

💢 Australian Space Agency

Jasmin James is a Senior Engagement Officer at the Australian Space Agency. As a member of the Office of the Space Regulator's Regulatory Engagement Team, Jasmin joined the Australian Space Agency in 2022 after working in the legal sector and the Australian Public Service.

Jasmin earned a Bachelor of Law, Bachelor of Arts (Majoring in Sociology) and Graduate Certificate in Australian Migration Law and Practice from Griffith University and a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from Queensland University of Technology. Jasmin attended the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program in 2025 administered by the International Space University in Partnership with the University of South Australia.

Jasmin and her colleagues are responsible for ensuring confidence in the Australian Space Agency as a regulator including:

- Providing platforms enabling collaboration and information sharing between the Office of the Space Regulator and space sector stakeholders.
- Facilitating the regulatory process for applicants seeking to undertake space activities in Australia.
- Educating stakeholders about regulatory requirements and international obligations.
- Promoting the work of the Office of the Space Regulator.
- Providing platforms that enable collaboration and information sharing.
- Predicting and acting on the Office of the Space Regulator's needs regarding information sharing, consultation and engagement.
- Assisting the Office of the Space Regulator to harmonise activities with other regulators to achieve better regulatory outcomes including establishing clear operational scopes, sharing intelligence and providing guidance.
- Collecting, sharing and utilising space sector insights.



Dr. Karyn Jarvis is a Senior Research Engineer at the Australian National Fabrication Facility (ANFF), managing their Biointerface Engineering Hub at Swinburne University of Technology.

Dr. Karyn Jarvis

Senior Research Engineer

Australian National Fabrication Facility

With a background in surface modification, characterisation and thin film deposition, she brings extensive experience in engineering tailored surface properties for targeted applications. She also oversees ANFF's suite of microgravity reactors with a particular focus on simulating space

conditions to optimise biological experiments for a variety of biotech applications.

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Dr. Michael Jones

18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

Group Chief Executive Officer **Equatorial Launch Australia**



Michael Jones is the Group CEO of Equatorial Launch Australia (ELA). ELA owns and operates the Australian Space Centre™ - Cape York - a worldclass, commercial spaceport the NewSpace launch vehicle market, located at 12o South of the equator.

Observatory (SKAO) in Perth, leading science readiness for SKA-Lowsoon to be the world's largest low-

frequency radio telescope.

An experimental test pilot and experienced businessman with background in Investment Banking, Aerospace and Professional Sport, Michael has over 30 years' experience holding numerous C-Suite roles including CEO of Raytheon Australia. Michael is the Founder and ex-Chairman and CEO of REX Airlines. Michael has also held senior advisory and technical appointments with Boeing, Airbus, IPTN/CASA and Alenia Aeronautica.

A highly distinguished graduate of the Royal Military College Duntroon and Empire Test Pilots' School UK, Michael is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, a Member of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots and a member of Financial Services Institute of Australasia.

At ELA, Michael has overseen significant growth of the company including spaceport development and construction, gaining a Launch Facilities Licence and Launch Permits from the Australian Space Agency for three launches with NASA in 2022, and completing Series A and B capital raises. Under Michael's leadership, ELA is developing its spaceport into a multi-user, high-cadence commercial launch facility.





Dr. Jane Kaczmarek

Senior Operations Scientist - SKAO



CSIRO

Previously Senior Systems Scientist at CSIRO's Parkes Observatory, she has held roles in Australia and Canada focused on research infrastructure and telescope operations. With a PhD from the University of Sydney, her career bridges world-class science and national Dr Jane Kaczmarek is the Senior capability, enabling next-generation discovery through global collaboration. Operations Scientist at the SKA



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Major General Samuel Keener

Director, Joint Exercises and Training

US Space Command



Maj. Gen. Samuel C. Keener serves as the Director, Joint Forces Development and Training (J7), **Headquarters United States Space** Command. US Space Command is one of 11 Unified Combatant Commands under the Department of Defense and is responsible for deterring conflict and defending U.S. and Allied freedom of action in Space.

Maj. Gen. Keener graduated from University of Tennessee and received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1992. His operational experience includes the Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missile, the early warning Solid State Phased Array Warning System and the Space Surveillance AN/FPS-17, -79 radars. He has deployed in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM.

Maj. Gen. Keener also served as Senior Space Planner, International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Joint Command (IJC), Kabul, Afghanistan. Prior to his current position, Maj. Gen. Keener was the Deputy Director of Space Operations, National Guard Bureau, the Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia





Peter Kerr

Defence & National Security Coordinator

SmartSat CRC



Peter Kerr has been the Coordinator for Defence and National Security within the SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre since November 2019.

This role is focused on ensuring SmartSat CRC research is aligned to Defence technology priorities and supports industry development across the space value chain.

Prior to this he spent 34 years working within the Defence Science and Technology Group and defence industry. His early career from 1985 to 1992 focussed of HF RADAR and included 2 years with AWA at the Jindalee Facility Alice Springs (JFAS) which coincided with the major evaluation trial in 1986 and the first procurement phase for the Jindalee Operational RADAR Network (JORN).

His S&T career has focused on the fields of Radio Frequency (RF) sensors and RF communications, predominantly satellite communications. He was the Principal S&T Advisor to Defence for Military Satellite Communications from 2000 until 2010, a period of time which covered the introduction to service of the Optus C1 satellite, the development and implementation of the Wideband Global SATCOM MoU between Australia and the USA and the decision to fund a hosted UHF SATCOM payload on the Intelsat IS-22 satellite. This also included time as the Defence S&T lead for the CRC that built, launched and operated FEDSAT from 1998.

He has held corporate positions in international engagement, covering the UK, Europe and NATO, and as a Scientific Advisor to the Joint Capabilities Group and to the Chief of Joint Operations (CJOPS)

He played a key role in reforming the Defence innovation system following the release of the 2016 Defence Industry Policy Statement, both within Industry Policy Division and DST Group and has a long-standing interest in productive research collaboration and effective research translation

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Ina Koji

Manager, Strategic Planning Division, Space Strategy Fund Department



JAXA

Koji Ina has been assigned from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan (METI) since 2024 as Manager of Strategic Planning Division, Space Strategy Fund Department of JAXA. He also serves as Advisor to Director (international affairs), Business Development and Industrial Relations Department.

After acquiring Bachelor of Degree in Physics Engineering at Kyoto University, he joined METI in 2011. He received Master's Degree in Information Security Policy & Management at Carnegie Mellon University in 2018.

During his METI days, he joined Cyber Security Division in 2018 as Deputy Director. After that, he joined Space Industry Office, Manufacturing Industries Bureau, in 2020 as Deputy Director, and he had served as Director there since 2022.







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Professor Andy Koronios

Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director

SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre

Professor Andy Koronios is the CEO and Managing Director of the SmartSat CRC. He is also an Emeritus Professor at the University of South Australia.

Andy has previously held the positions of Dean: Industry & Enterprise at the University of South Australia and Head of the School of Information Technology & Mathematical Sciences at the University of South Australia.

Andy is a Professor of information systems and holds academic qualifications in Electrical Engineering, Computing and education as well as a PhD from the University of Queensland.

He has extensive experience in both commercial and academic environments and his research areas include data quality, information management & governance, data analytics and the strategic exploitation of information.

Andy has led the establishment of a number of research concentrations, labs and research centres. He served as the Research Program Leader for System Integration & Interoperability in the CIEAM CRC. He is internationally known for his work in data quality, he has been an adjudicator for the European Corporate Data Quality Awards for several years and Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Information Quality.

Andy has worked both as a consultant as well as a professional speaker on IT issues in Australia and South East Asia and has over thirty years' experience in the academic environment. He is a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society, a Founding Fellow of the International Institute of Engineering Asset Management, a Distinguished Speaker of the ACM.

SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) is a consortium of industry and research organisations developing game changing satellite technologies to catapult Australia into the global space economy. Andy was the lead in the successful bid for the SmartSat CRC which was established in 2019.

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Rajat is a Co-founder and the Chief Executive Officer of Space Machines Company, which is building a "Roadside Assist in Space" capability to service and protect critical space infrastructure and ensure their availability to enable key on-earth capabilities.

Rajat Kulshrestha

Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer

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Space Machines Company



In March 2024, Optimus, the first demonstrator spacecraft and the largest single Australian-designed and built satellite, launched on the SpaceX Transporter-1 O Mission.

Rajat is also the founding partner of 11 point2, delivering entrepreneurial innovation to major corporations in sectors such as energy and resources. The firm is dedicated to innovating solutions for complex challenges, with a strong commitment to environmental sustainability, energy transformation, and public welfare. 11 point2 collaborates exclusively with partners focused on making a positive impact on climate change, decarbonization, national security, and health

Throughout his diverse career, Rajat has held various roles, including investor, advisor, founder, director, and executive across technology-driven sectors. He trained as an aerospace engineer and his professional experience spans from a senior technology, product, and research leader at Microsoft to being an early senior executive and co-founder of 3 start-ups. He has managed businesses across multiple international markets to drive growth and profitability. His leadership extends beyond corporate roles, serving as an advisor for digital health and cybersecurity platforms.





Nick leads the teams responsible for the Optus Satellite Fleet; engineering and testing of satellite products; launch support for global and regional operations; sales; marketing, and the procurement, as well as delivery, of

new satellites and programs.

Nick Leake

Head of Satellite & Space

Coptus

Nick also led the end-to-end RFI, RFT and acquisition program that will bring the first software-defined satellite to the Asia Pacific region, and when launched in 2023, will expand Optus' satellite fleet to become the largest in the company's and Australia's history.



Michael was awarded a PhD (solid state physics) in 1998 and then an Australian NHMRC Postdoctoral Fellow from 1999 to 2003. Since 2004 he has held an academic position in the School of Physics at the University of Wollongong (UOW) and is now a Senior Professor.

Senior Professor Michael Lerch

Senior Professor & EIS Assoc. Dean Of Research

University of Wollongong



Michael is currently the Engineering and Information Sciences (EIS) Faculty Associate Dean of Research and Deputy Director of the UOW Centre for Medical Radiation Physics (CMRP). Michael's field of research is in the development and clinical translation of novel, solidstate based detectors and instrumentation for applications in radiation medicine. He is also interested in the optimization of radiation medicine created by the physical and semiconducting properties of engineered nano-structured ceramics.

Michael has published over 250 scientific peer reviewed journal articles and has supervised more than 45 higher degree research students to completion. He is currently an elected member of the IEEE NPSS Radiation Instrumentation Steering Committee as well as the International Solid State Dosimetry Organisation.









David Lingard has worked at Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG) in Edinburgh, South Australia for over 29 years. Currently he is the Group Leader Space Autonomy with responsibility for leading DSTG's small satellite experimentation and the

development of trusted autonomy in

Space systems.

Dr. David Lingard

Group Leader Space Autonomy

Defence Science and Technology Group

David attained a PhD in Physics from the University of Queensland in the 1990s. Earlier in his career, he supported a number of Defence projects related to airborne surveillance and reconnaissance, including leading the assessment of the Mariner Demonstrator Medium Altitude Long Endurance Uncrewed Aerial Vehicle in 2006.

One of David's previous roles was to coordinate DSTG's participation in the 11-nation Responsive Space Capabilities Memorandum of Understanding. Later he led a team that developed a simulation of the Buccaneer small satellite mission to better understand the requirements for the space segment. David was the DSTG Project Manager for the successful Buccaneer Risk Mitigation mission conducted in partnership with the University of NSW Canberra in 2018. Since then his group led development of the follow-on Buccaneer Main Mission that launched in March 2025, and is now leading operation of the satellite in low Earth orbit.

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Dan Lloyd

Chief Executive Officer

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Space Industry Association of Australia

Dan Lloyd is CEO at the Space Industry Association of Australia and brings extensive global and Australian executive, board and government experience across communications, technology, infrastructure, digital transformation and Al. Dan's executive leadership experience spans government and media, legal, strategy, wholesale and retail P&L leadership and growth, innovation and

Dan has served as Vodafone Group's Public Policy Director for Africa, Middle East and Asia Pacific based in London; Head of Regulatory of Vodafone India based in Mumbai; Chief Strategy Officer and Corporate Affairs Director of Vodafone Australia; Senior Adviser to the Communications Minister; and Senior Associate at leading Asia-Pacific technology law firm Gilbert + Tobin Lawyers.

Dan has lived, worked or studied in 13 countries and brings extensive experience in international policy and business including as a Director of the UK-India Business Council and GSMA's Chief Regulatory Officers Group. Dan is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD), and has Chaired the Vodafone and TPG Telecom Foundations and the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA). Dan is currently a Non-Executive Director of Infoxchange.org which delivers leading-edge IT, cyber-security and AI hardware, services and training to over 38,000 not-for-profits throughout Australia and the Asia-Pacific.





Darin is an experienced director who

has over 30 years of experience in

defence, space, international and political studies, and large-scale

transformation projects both in

Australia and the United States.

Darin Lovett

Executive Director

As the Executive Director of iLAuNCH Trailblazer, Darin is responsible for a \$180m program that will build Australia's sovereign space capability by addressing critical gaps and accelerate the development of space launch manufacturing.

Darin most recently was a Director of Space for the South Australian Space Industry Centre (SASIC) which saw him formulate and execute the State's space strategy to build an enduring space industry for South Australia, and he is a non-executive director for the Space Industry Association of Australia (SIAA).

Aunty Elaine Magias

Welcome To Country

Elaine offers a powerful Welcome to Country that will leave you with a greater understanding of the importance of acknowledging Country & place.







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With an extensive background in Utilities Information and Systems, Frank brings extensive expertise in Leadership, Operations Management, and Application & Data Governance.

Frank Maio

Manager Asset Information

ElectraNet

Frank's proficiency spans across Enterprise Asset Management Systems (EAM), Energy Management Systems (EMS), SCADA systems, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS). Frank has a deep understanding of Information Management Frameworks which are used to support new techniques in Visualisation, Predictive, and Decision Support Systems.

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BJ Martin

Space Safety & Mission Assurance Lead

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Nova Systems

Formerly Nova's global Capability Lead for Safety and Certification covering all of Nova's multi domain regulatory exposure – he has led a number of new technology safety advisory projects. BJ hails from a military aviation safety & certification background from several acquisition projects including a number of early large UAS introductions to service.

Since the time of formation of the ASA, BJ and his team have parlayed their history from managing range safety for Woomera's previous era of hypersonics launch activity, to providing expert regulatory support services to new Space Agency regulators. The team is comprised of former military flight and weapons test expertise plus significant contemporary commercial space safety experience. Currently delivering in Australia, Australian Defence, New Zealand and Norway. As well as some specialist industry 'how-to' advice for new entrants.

BJ is motivated to contribute to constructive progress of contemporary safe and pragmatic regulation for new space industry and government agencies to advance sustainable access to space.





BJ Martin is currently Nova's Space

Responsible for developing capability

and business, and governing quality

Safety & Mission Assurance Lead.

delivery of 'Access to Space' SME

support offerings in launch/return safety assessment & implementation,

regulatory requirements and flight safety modelling & analysis.

Christian Maskey

Founder

SpaceBridge

Christian is a First Nations Gamilaraay, Gumbaynggirr, and Ngarabal person and the founder of SpaceBridge, a passion project that connects First Nations histories, perspectives, and science with the space sector through educational workshops and advisory.

He is committed to supporting long-term collaborative and co-designed projects between the Australian space sector and First Nations communities to help remove systemic barriers in the industry.

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Ryan McClenaghan is responsible for the strategic leadership and coordination of the University of South Australia's (UniSA) engagement with the defence and space sectors, with a focus on national capability development, international collaboration, and initiatives aligned with the AUKUS security partnership.

Ryan McClenaghan

Director: Defence & Space

University of South Australia



In his role, Ryan drives cross-university research collaboration, curriculum development, and strategic partnerships to ensure UniSA is a leading contributor to Australia's growing space ecosystem. His work spans the creation of industry relevant education and training programs, the pursuit of joint research initiatives, and the establishment of long-term relationships with government and industry to support sovereign space capability.

Ryan brings over two decades of experience in advanced manufacturing, global business development, and technology commercialisation. Prior to joining UniSA, he was Director: Business Development, Defence & National Security at Fleet Space Technologies, where he shaped growth strategy, and built strategic relationships across the defence and space

He has led business development activities across Australia, the United States, Europe, the UK, and the MENA region, with deep expertise in US Government and Department of Defence engagement. He has also played a lead role in AUKUS related initiatives, including program delivery and bilateral government relations.

A committed leader and mentor, Ryan is passionate about developing Australia's next generation of space professionals. He is a trusted contributor to strategic defence and space initiatives, committed to fostering collaboration that ensures Australia's global competitiveness in the space domain.





Chair



Australian Space Diversity Alliance



Katie Mouser is Chair of the Australian Space Diversity Alliance Committee and a passionate advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion in STE(A)M.

Since entering the space sector in 2021, she's championed initiatives supporting women, First Nations perspectives, and underrepresented communities. Katie is an alumna of Melbourne Business School Women's Leadership Program, a mentor for young women in space, and a vibrant presence known for her space-themed style and genuine connection-building. She believes space needs everyone—and leads with heart, intention, and a touch of cosmic flair.

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Dr. Sebastian Ng is the PNT Program Lead at QuantX Labs, developing precision timing products, including resilient time synchronization networks and optical atomic clocks.

Dr. Sebastian Ng

PNT Program Lead

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Quantx

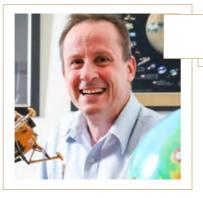


technology and adaptive optics for gravitational wave detectors. With over a decade of teaching experience, he has authored 60+ peer-reviewed papers with 15,000+ citations while contributing to commercial laser systems for agriculture, defence, and manufacturing.

He leads the Kairos-1 Mission, demonstrating sovereign precision timing in low Earth orbit.

Previously, as a researcher at the University of Adelaide, he chaired the Quantum Technology Program at the ARC Centre of Excellence in Gravitational Wave Discovery, advancing laser





Pete Nikoloff is the Executive Director of The Andy Thomas Space Foundation, the Executive Director and Co-founder of Nova Systems, and the Industry Director of the SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre.

Peter Nikoloff

Executive Director

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The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

Pete is a strong advocate for growing the space industry in Australia.

He is a member of the South Australian Space Advisory Council and supported numerous government and industry initiatives to build the sector.

Pete's role at the SmartSatCRC includes the Mission Director for South Australia's Kanyini satellite. He obtained an Aeronautical Engineer degree from RMIT in 1986 and has 35 years' experience supporting Defence and Space projects including operations at Woomera and Test & Evaluation for F/A-18 and related weapon systems.

Space is one of Nova's fastest growing areas supporting Defence's Military Satcom, Geospatial Information Systems and Satellite ground stations. Pete is also the Chapter president of the International Test and Evaluation Association Southern Cross Chapter.

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Dr. John Olson is a Special Government Employee Civilian with the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) for the United States Department of Defense based in Silicon Valley.

Major General John Olson (Ret.)

Special Government Employee

Defence Innovation Unit

He is a visionary strategic leader, bold pioneer, and effective senior executive with world-class programmatic, technical, and operations success in aerospace, energy, defense, and outdoor systems; technology, innovation, data, Al, cybersecurity, and quantum; and advanced manufacturing proven through sustained superior results in 36 years of Air Force, White House, and NASA public service. He is a retired General Officer and former Senior Executive Service member with 12 years at the Pentagon, nearly a decade at NASA, and two years as the Assistant Director for Space and Aeronautics at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Major General Olson led the standup of the United States Space Force as the Mobilization Assistant to the Chief of Space Operations, the Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, and the Space Operations Lead for Combined Joint All Domain Command and Control, while also serving as the first Department of the Air Force Chief Data and Al Officer. Dr. Olson has five engineering degrees; speaks five languages; is a graduate of the US Air Force Test Pilot School with experience in 83 aircraft; and served as the Airborne Emergency Action Officer on the Airborne Nuclear Command Post. Dr. Olson is an experienced industry executive, entrepreneur, and commercial operator with 14 years of successful leadership as a Chairman, CEO, President, Vice President and General Manager in public and private companies.







Matt Opie

Chief Executive

Defence SA

Matt Opie commenced as Chief Executive of Defence SA in April 2024. Matt's priority is to support and grow the defence and space sectors in South Australia to contribute to the state's prosperity and national defence capability. His role also encompasses Chief Executive of the South Australian Space Industry Centre and responsibility for the Defence Innovation Partnership and Veterans SA.

An Australian Defence Force Academy and Royal Military College Duntroon graduate, Matt has held senior defence positions across government, industry and academia over the course of his 35-year career.

He served as an officer in the Royal Australian Corps of Signals in Australia, Europe and the

Matt has worked on high technology defence projects in the Asia-Pacific, US and Europe with defence forces, governments, research organisations and the private sector.

Prior to joining Defence SA, Matt served as Director Defence and Space at the University of South Australia, where he was responsible for the university's research strategies and engagement with the defence and space sectors. Previously he has also held various roles at Saab and BAE Systems in program management, business development and industry engagement.

Matt has a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Business Administration.

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Patrick Oppel

Waratah Seed / The University of Sydney

The University of Sydney



Patrick Oppel is a Satellite Systems Engineer with CUAVA at the University of Sydney.

Since joining the team in 2021 he has been a vital part in the development, integration and operation of the CUAVA-2 and Waratah-Seed 1 spacecraft, focusing primarily on software, communications and operations.





Juan Sebastian Ossa-Moreno

Account Manager

Floodmapp



Juan Ossa is a flood risk specialist with over 10 years of experience across research, consulting, and startup environments. He currently drives customer success and business development at FloodMapp, working with government, insurance, and utility sectors across Australia. Juan combines deep technical expertise with a strong focus on stakeholder engagement, helping organisations identify how real time flood intelligence can improve emergency response and reduce disaster impacts.

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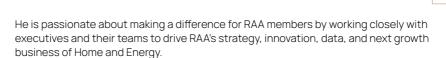
Ben Owen joined RAA in January 2023 as Chief Strategy Officer (CSO) and General Manager Home & Energy.

Ben Owen

Chief Strategy Officer and General Manager, Home & Energy



RAA



With nearly 20 years' experience in senior leadership roles across the financial services sector, Ben has a successful track record in formulating, developing, and executing enterprise-wide strategy, business planning, innovation, and transformation. He has led scale teams across some of Australia's largest banks and, prior to joining RAA, Ben was State General Manager, Consumer and Business Banking at BankSA and Westpac SA & NT.



Enrico has led the Australian Space Agency since January 2021. Since his commencement, Enrico has proudly led a diverse team of space agents that have achieved a number of major milestones.

Enrico Palermo

Head



Australian Space Agency

Under his leadership the Agency has reached an agreement with NASA for an Australian designed, built and operated rover to be included in a future mission to the Moon, secured the first launch permits and launch facility licenses under the Australian Space (Launches and Returns) Act, and seen the first commercial spaceflights from Australia.

Before joining the Agency, Enrico spent 14 years in various roles at Virgin Galactic, including establishing and leading a vertically integrated aerospace manufacturing and testing operation for Mach 3, crewed commercial spaceships. From there Enrico was part of the team that launched the New York Stock Exchange listed public company and was appointed Chief Operating Officer.

A Perth native, Enrico graduated from the University of Western Australia with a Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Physics and Applied Mathematics. He also studied at the International Space University in Strasbourg.

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Tim Parsons

Entrepreneur-In-Residence

National Space Industry Hub

An experienced tech executive and a space angel investor, Tim has been helping to build the Australian space ecosystem since 2014. Leveraging 25 years in aerospace, digital and systems engineering, today Tim coaches space start ups, volunteers on space industry growth associations, and consults for space agencies, space companies and deep techfocused organisations worldwide.





Campbell Pegg joined SASIC as Director, Space in April 2025, and is responsible for supporting the development of South Australia's space ecosystem, leading industry and economic development activities for the state and guiding the development of South Australia's

space sector strategy.

Campbell Pegg

Accelerator Scientist - Space Radiation Specialist

ANSTO



With a distinguished career spanning over 15 years across five countries, Campbell has played a critical role in numerous international and national space missions. He has held leadership positions across government, commercial and startup sectors, combining deep technical expertise in spacecraft engineering with strategic insight into policy business development, and cross-sector collaboration.

Prior to joining SASIC, Campbell was Assistant Director for Satellite Engineering at Optus, and he has also held leadership positions at Fleet Space Technologies, and at the Australian Space Agency as Program Manager for the Moon to Mars Initiative.

Campbell's international experience includes 12 years abroad, including at Airbus Defence and Space in Germany where he was technical manager for the European Service Module of the Orion program, supporting NASA's efforts to return humans to the moon.

He holds four degrees including a Bachelor of Engineering (First-Class Honours) in Aeronautical Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Advanced Physics and Mathematics from the University of Sydney. He furthered his expertise with a Master of Science in Astronautics and Space Engineering from Cranfield University (UK) and a Master of Science in Space Technology from Luleå Technical University (Sweden).



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shielding materials, and astronaut

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Dr. Stefania Peracchi

Accelerator Scientist - Space Radiation Specialist

ANSTO

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Dr. Stefania Peracchi is a nuclear physicist and accelerator scientist at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), where she specialises in space radiation effects on electronics,

Originally from Italy, she holds a Master's in Nuclear Engineering from Politecnico di Milano and research experience at the French Institute for Radiological Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN) in Paris. Her PhD in Nuclear Physics at the University of Wollongong contributed to the development of a novel detector for space radiation monitoring and to innovative shielding solutions for spacecraft.

Dr. Peracchi's research bridges nuclear physics, radiobiology, and radiation protection, with applications in both space exploration and cancer treatment. Stefania has been internationally recognized through numerous awards, including being named a Global Australian Award Finalist in 2023 and receiving the Italian Bilateral Scientific Cooperation Medal in 2024 from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. A passionate science communicator and strong advocate for the next generation of scientists, Dr. Peracchi is deeply committed to fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration and she continues to engage national and international audiences, inspiring awareness and action around the responsible and sustainable access and use of space.



Mike Petkovic

Senior Space System Engineer

Nova Systems

Mike is a senior systems engineer with Nova Systems with applied space project & quality management, assembly, integration & test execution spanning a career of 40+

years.

He has worked on many space and terrestrial instrument missions both in Australia, and overseas, leading all phases of the integration & verification process from test requirement design through to test execution and deployment.

Mike has been instrumental in the design and build of key AIT facilities in Australia and has developed processes and procedures to ensure the integrity and auditability of space hardware & software test programs.

Mike has a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering.

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Space Policy and Strategy Lead

Defense Innovation Unit



Omar Pimentel is a space business and policy strategist at the intersection of commercial and national security innovation. He serves as the Policy and Strategy Lead for the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) Space Portfolio, helping align the Department of Defense with the fast-moving commercial space sector. Under DIU's new mandate reporting directly to the Secretary of Defense, he leads efforts to remove regulatory friction and unlock access to nextgeneration capabilities.

Omar works closely with the FAA, FCC, and NOAA to ensure federal regulators stay ahead of dual-use space technologies, allowing faster adoption and reducing burdens on innovators. His work enables the DoD to benefit from commercial advancements without bearing the full cost of development. He also leads DIU's international space collaboration with Australia, advancing bilateral priorities.

Previously, Omar served at NASA's Office of Technology Policy and Strategy and advised multiple committees in the U.S. House of Representatives. He holds a Master's in International Policy from Stanford University and a B.A. in Economics and Political Science from Florida State University.





Dr. Anthony Rea

Principal



Meteorite Global Consulting



Dr. Anthony Rea is an internationally recognised expert, advisor, and consultant in weather, water, and climate, specializing in Earth observation and international data exchange, processing, utilization, and policy.

From 2019 to 2023, Dr. Rea served as the Director of the Infrastructure Department at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), where he led global coordination of observations, data exchange, and modelling across weather, climate, water, oceans, and the cryosphere.

Dr. Rea is an Adjunct Industry Associate professor at RMIT University and have a PhD in Satellite Meteorology (RMIT) and a Master's in Public Administration (ANZSOG). Prior to his role at WMO, he held various positions within the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, including Chief Data Officer, General Manager of the Observations Program and a number of corporate and executive roles.

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> 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM





SPEAKERS

Byron is a Partner in Deloitte's space sector advisory practice with 30 years' experience in the space, information and communications technology

sectors.

Byron Riessen

Partner



Deloitte



space capability including mining & energy resources, utilities, agriculture, transport and insurance, universities, and high growth potential tech companies.

Prior to Deloitte, Byron co-founded, grew and exited several high growth tech ventures.

Byron leads Deloitte's global space & geospatial tech accelerator program, the GRAVITY Challenge, an initiative assisting downstream end user organisations better leverage space capability to solve their high value business challenges. He led Deloitte's role in partnering with Saber Astronautics to build and design Australia's space mission control facility.

A passion topic for Byron is the resilience of space systems, reflected in his role serving on the board, of US non-for-profit, the space-ISAC, along with other global space executives.

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SPEAKERS > 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM



Edward founded Robinson Aerospace with a mission to inspire students to pursue careers in STEM, by providing the most exciting hands-on experiences.

Edward Robinson

Chief Executive Officer

Robinson Aerospace



Robinson Aerospace delivers RASCube, a flatpack satellite kit that enables school students to build a satellite and conduct in-class experiments. In June 2025, Robinson Aerospace launched their first payload into space, carrying student-built experiments to orbit.



Dr Kathryn Robison is a Lecturer at the United States Studies Centre and a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Centre for Space Governance (ACSG). She holds a PhD and MA in Political Science from the University of Alabama, a BA in American Studies from Youngstown State University, and a dual BA in Anthropology and Near Eastern Studies from the University of Arizona.

Dr. Kathryn Robison

Lecturer / Senior Research Fellow

United States Studies Centre



Kathryn specialises in the role of political communication in the formation and dissemination of US space policy at both the domestic and international level. Kathryn also has expertise in the areas of political communication, behaviour, and public opinion. Together with her colleagues at the ACSG, published the first comprehensive survey of Australian public opinion on space.

Kathryn is passionate about mentoring and giving back. She actively volunteers in the space sector, currently serving as the Co-Chair of the Workforce Development Subcommittee for the International Astronautical Federation's (IAF) Workforce Development/Young Professionals Programme and Space Education and Outreach Committees. Kathryn is part of the UN's Space4Women Network, the Launchpad Mentorship Programme at IAF, and was recognised as IAF Young Space Leader after being nominated by NASA in 2021. She is also a regular contributor to the Talking Space podcast.

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Air Commodore Chris Robson is an Air Combat Officer with 32 years of experience in the Air Force across all areas inclusive of operations, planning and capability management. His experience in the Space Domain spans across his entire career.

Air Commodore Chris Robson

Commander Space Forces Group

Space Command

Some career highlights have selection in 2009 as the RAAF exchange officer at Vandenberg AFB in the 614th AOC as the Chief of Strategy Guidance under Commander Joint Force Component Command Space. During this period he was both the US and Australian operational lead for the development of the Combined Space Operations CSPO concept. He returned to Australia in 2013 as the Chief of the Australian Space Operations Centre at Headquarters Joint Operations (HQJOC).

Air Commodore Robson was selected as the Commanding Officer of No 1 Radar Surveillance Unit in December 2014 where he introduced into service new Space surveillance capabilities and training systems, and delivered an enduring workforce plan to guide the establishment of a core of Space operators.

Over 2019-20, he served as Director Defence Space within Joint Capabilities Group and Director Space Control within Air Force Headquarters. He was promoted to Air Commodore in January 2022 and posted to US Pacific Command, Hawaii, where he filled the role of J5 Deputy Director Regional Assistance.

In December 2024, he returned to Australia as the Commander Space Forces Group/Joint Forces Space Component Commander based out of HQJOC and Space Command - Fairbairn.







Optus Industry Fellow & Capability Database Coordinator

Space Industry Association of Australia

Zamara Rodríguez is the Optus Industry Fellow at the Space Industry Association of Australia (SIAA), where she leads national workforce development initiatives and coordinates the Australian Space Industry Capability Database. Her work is focused on strengthening talent pipelines and enhancing industry visibility across the Australian space ecosystem.

With a background in international law and diplomacy, Zamara has contributed to workforce and capability-building efforts through partnership with academic, not-for-profit, and international organisations. She is actively involved with the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC), supporting projects in youth engagement, skills development, and inclusive leadership in the space sector.

Zamara also volunteered as a Program Manager for the Astra Program and has participated in community-focused NGO work in Tanzania and Nepal, reflecting her commitment to support communities.

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Joshua Rohan-Gould is Mission
Design Lead at Saber Astronautics,
where he spearheads both the
development and product leadership
of the Mission Design and Analysis
Toolkit (MDAT)—a comprehensive
software suite for mission planning
and analysis—and the delivery of
complex mission design services for a
diverse portfolio of space projects.

Joshua Rohan-Gould

Mission Design Lead

Saber Astronautics



In this role, Joshua oversees everything from technical solution architecture and operational management to client engagement and end-to-end project execution, driving innovation and operational excellence throughout the mission design lifecycle.

Joshua's has been responsible for launching a new business department at Saber Astronautics, developing novel space mission design tools, and scaling service delivery to make space more accessible for everyone. His background also includes founding a technology startup, as well as hands-on biomedical engineering roles at Vestech and Device Technologies, where he contributed to medical device design, quality systems implementation, and mechatronic solutions for healthcare applications.



Dr. Sandra Elizabeth Saji

Research and Industry Engagement Officer

Heavy Ion Accelerators



Dr Sandra Elizabeth Saji is the Research and Industry Engagement Officer at the Heavy Ion Accelerators. With a PhD in Materials Chemistry, she leads activities on the Space Irradiation Beamline, supporting radiation testing for space applications. Sandra works closely with clients in the space sector to understand mission requirements and translate them into tailored experimental campaigns by planning and coordinating tests, advising on beam capabilities, and aligning technical needs with facility operations. She is also actively involved in outreach activities to promote the facility's capabilities and to foster strategic partnerships supporting space research and qualification.

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Andrew Seedhouse

Chief of Space, Intelligence, National Security & Cyber Division (SINC)

Defence Science and Technology Group

Andrew is currently the Chief of Space, Intelligence, National Security and Cyber (SINC) Division within the Defence Science and technology Group, a Group within the Australian Department of Defence.

He started this role in 2023 and is responsible for working with senior users in Defence to formulate the Innovation Science & Technology Programs for the Defence Capability areas of Intelligence and Cyber. He is responsible for the delivery of these programs of work to both the Defence users and the Chief Defence Scientist.

Andrew is also responsible for delivering Star Shots in Information Warfare, Agile Command & Control and Resilient Multi-mission Space. Andrew also leads DSTG contributions to AUKUS Pillar II Artificial Intelligence and Quantum Systems themes. The role also includes directing Defence support to the wider cross Government capabilities in National Security through the National Security Science and Technology Centre, which operates from within the Division.

Prior to this role Andrew was the Chief of three Divisions, also in DSTG, starting in 2017. In addition, to directing research in Intelligence, Surveillance and Space he was responsible for DSTG capability development in these areas. This included: Over the Horizon Radar, MMW Radar, Electro-optic Surveillance systems, Sensor exploitation, Space systems, intelligence architectures and information analytics.

Prior to 2017 Andrew worked with UK Ministry of Defence in the Defence Science & Technology Laboratory also working in the field of intelligence and surveillance, but also leading research teams delivering countermeasures and protection solutions. Andrew also enjoyed a period of time leading innovation in UK Defence, as the head of the Centre for Defence Enterprise.

Outside of work he enjoys building a home in the SA Barossa living off grid in the country side sharing the land with goats and dogs. He has six adult children split across two countries who he enjoys embarrassing as much as possible. Having arrived in Australia relatively recently he is enjoying exploring the outback with his wife in their FJ Cruiser "Rosie".





Professor Robert Sharp

Head of Instrumentation, Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics

Australian National University



Professor Sharp has 25 years of experience developing astronomical instrumentation for many of the world's leading international observatories.

He is principal investigator for the Giant Magellan Telescope Integral Field Spectrograph, a hyperspectral imager that will work with the adaptive optics system at the GMT to study distant galaxies and local star formation. He also leads the Earth observation program at the observatory, seeking to transfer instrumentation technologies and expertise from astronomy projects to enable key sensor components - such as high-performance focal plane arrays - for the Australian led remote sensing missions.

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Dr. Michael Smart

CTO and Co-Founder



Hypersonix

Dr Michael Smart is CTO, Director and Co-Founder of Australian aerospace company Hypersonix Launch Systems. Michael is a world leader in scramjet hypersonic engine design. He graduated with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from The University of Queensland in 1985 and completed a Masters of Engineering

Science in 1987 and a PhD at Brooklyn

Polytechnic in New York in 1995.

Michael spent 10 years as a research scientist in the Hypersonic Airbreathing Propulsion Branch at NASA's Langley Research Center. While at NASA he was involved in the design, analysis and testing of innovative hydrogen fuelled scramjet engines. He returned to Australia in 2005 to be a part of the UQ HyShot Program, which was pioneering a low cost means of flight testing scramjets.

Michael spent 15 years as a senior member of the UQ Centre for Hypersonics, being appointed Professor and Chair of Hypersonic Propulsion in 2007. From 2010 to 2017 he was one of the leaders of the HIFiRE Program which performed multiple hypersonic flight tests at Woomera in Australia and Andoya in Norway. In 2019 Michael co-founded Hypersonix Launch Systems to commercialise the SPARTAN scramjet engine with a vision to bring aircraft like capabilities to access to space.





Ben Sorensen

Director

ELO2 and Roo-ver Mission



Ben Sorensen is the Roo-ver Mission and ELO2 Consortium Director, leading Australia's collaboration between industry, research, and government to undertake Australia's Mission to the Moon.

The Roo-ver Mission is supported by the Australian Space Agency and will see an Australiandesigned and built lunar rover operate on the Moon later this decade. Through this mission, the ELO2 Consortium is strengthening Australia's space industry by developing and commercialising cutting-edge capabilities in cyber security, AI/ML, robotics, autonomous systems, and other critical national technologies.

Ben has served on boards and committees across public and private sectors, including as a Board Member of the Cybersecurity CRC and Commercial Director at CSIRO's Data61. At CSIRO, he led strategic collaborations in Enterprise, Defence, and National Security, including partnerships with Defence Primes, DSTG, and DARPA. In 2021, he and his team received the Eureka Prize for Safeguarding Australia.



Sue Streit is the Principal Planner

at the Queensland State Disaster

Coordination Centre, a role she

has held since July 2024. Before

experience as a logistics officer in the

Australian Army, she brings extensive operational expertise and a deep

joining the Queensland Police

commitment to public service.

Sue Streit

Principal Planner in the State Disaster Coordination Centre

Queensland Police

Service, Sue had nearly 30 years of

In Defence, Sue had five years experience as a Defence Liaison Officer to the State of Queensland with her first foray into State disaster response beginning just four days into that role during the 2019 Queensland cyclone and flood event—an experience that sparked her passion for disaster management.

Sue holds a Master's degree in Business from the University of NSW and has served in diverse leadership roles across Defence, honing skills in coordination, logistics, leadership and strategic planning. Now based in Brisbane, where she has lived since December 2011, Sue leads a dynamic team of planners and Whole-of-Government volunteers who play a critical role in shaping Queensland's disaster response.

Outside of work, Sue is married and mother to three amazing children. Sue enjoys sports and continues to play soccer. She has lived in most states and territories of Australia, but considers Queensland home.







Chief Operating Officer

iLAuNCH Trailblazer Program

Chief Operating Officer, iLAuNCH TrailblazerDr Milica Symul is an experienced Senior Manager with demonstrated achievements in the R&D and higher education sectors.

Dr Symul has a PhD in physics, and has led research and innovation capabilities across Australia, building her knowledge of strategic planning and commercialisation. As the Chief Operations Officer (iLAuNCH), Dr Symul will work alongside the executive team to design and implement business operations, establish policies that promote the Trailblazer vision, and oversee general operations, including financial governance.

She joins iLAuNCH from her previous role, as associate director of the RMIT Space Industry Hub, where she was responsible for the business development and growth of the Victorian space industry. Prior to RMIT, Dr Symul spent over 10 years at the Australian National University, (including the ANU Institute for Space) and the University of Canberra. She has successfully developed several joint ventures between academia and industry resulting in multi-million dollars of investments.

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Flavia Tata Nardini



Co-Founder and CEO



Fleet Space Technologies



Flavia Tata Nardini is Co-founder and CEO of Fleet Space Technologies, one of Australia's most exciting startups. As a real-life rocket scientist and former propulsion test engineer at the European Space Agency, Flavia holds two patents and has contributed to a broad range of innovative space projects.

Along with her team, she is working hard towards launching a constellation of small satellites to enable high-value, real-time applications in industries such as mining, exploration, and defence.

Flavia's recent achievements include her role as Board of Director at Austmine, Mission Chair of the 7Sisters Moon Mission, Chair of the Australian Space Agency Space Industry Leaders Forum, Vice Chair of AmCham SA Council of Governors, and Adjunct Professor of UniSA. She also recently graduated from the AICD Corporate Program. A strong advocate for women in STEM, Flavia regularly speaks at events and empowers the next generation of leaders.





Air Commodore Thompson is

encompassing Space Control,

Awareness lines of effort.

Director General Space Capability,

where he leads management of the Space Domain Capability Program,

Space Services and Space Domain

Air Commodore Peter Thompson

Director General Space Capability



Australian Defence Force



He joined Air Force as a pilot in 1996 and has held increasingly senior leadership and technical roles since then, initially as a qualified training instructor in Australia and the United States.

His career highlights include spending three seasons with the Roulette aerobatic team, serving as the Executive Officer of the Australian Air Component in the Middle East, and as Deputy Director of Global Operations in Military Strategic Commitments. Before taking responsibility for Space Capability Branch, he served as Director General Air Combat Capability.

Air Commodore Thompson has a Masters in Strategic Studies from the United States Air Force Air War College and has over 5000 flying hours spanning seven military platforms.

Associate Professor Eduardo Trifoni is Director of the Space Test Program and Head of the National Space Test Facility, the largest space testing infrastructure in Australasia.

Associate Professor Eduardo Trifoni

Director of Space Test Program and Head of National Space Test Facility



ANU- National Space Test Facility



He has over 25 years of experience carrying out independent research in technology frontier fields from Experimental Aerothermodynamics to Hydrogen Energy, with major breakthroughs in hypersonic and space testing, PEM fuel cells and electrolyzers and a track record of more than 100 publications and 4 international patents granted.

Eduardo has been instrumental in the experimental development of many space vehicles capable of operating in Low Earth Orbit and withstanding the hypersonic entry phase, including twenty-three spacecraft successfully sent into orbit in the last five years.







Aude Vignelles is the Director of Vignelles Space, providing expert professional services and solutions for space governments and industries across all aspects of space programs.

Aude Vignelles

Director



Vignelles Space

Until April 2024, Aude served as the inaugural Chief Technology Officer of the Australian Space Agency, where she was instrumental in developing the civil space strategy's technical roadmaps, scoping and managing the Agency's space programs and delivering on domestic and international activities.

Prior to this role, Aude was the Executive Manager of Satellite & Fixed Wireless Operations at NBN. Aude is a space and aeronautics engineer, graduating from ENSICA (now ISAE-SUPAERO) in Toulouse, and began her career at the European Space Agency (ESA) in the Netherlands. Having lived in Australia for the past 23 years, Aude has significantly contributed to the Australian space community and the establishment of the Australian Space Agency.

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SPEAKERS

18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

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Karla Vincent

Space Mission Analyst

HEO

in

Karla Vincent is a Space Mission Analyst at HEO, a Sydney based startup specialising in resolved non-earth imaging (NEI) and analytic services at scale.

In her role, Karla works closely with customers across the world to provide insights on space objects and is helping shape future teams of NEI analysts. With a Bachelor's degree in Physics and experience in analytical consulting, she is passionate about space sustainability and empowering young professionals to explore a career in the Australian Space Industry.





Lisa is Director, IAC 2025 Sydney at Space Industry Association of Australia, where she was also Interim CEO for eight months.

Lisa Vitaris

Director, IAC Sydney 2025

Space Industry Association of Australia



Lisa is an experienced business leader and is focused on harnessing the increasing amount of desire to partner with our Australian space industry. This can be attributed to our innovative industry and universities, geographical advantage, and the world's largest space event IAC 2025 Sydney, bringing up to 10,000 of our global space community to Australia.

Lisa was previously part of the Executive Leadership team and Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) and at two high growth companies, and her experience spans technology, telecommunications, financial services, automotive, and travel including brands such as amaysim (Optus), Tyro, CMC Markets, Hyundai, Tourism Tasmania, Volvo, and LG.

Lisa also serves on the Board of Engineers Australia, Australia's national engineering body, who champion their 130,000+ members, providing resources, connections, and growth for highvalue work in our communities.

In 2024, Lisa was awarded the Engineering Executive (EngExec), a credential that recognises pre-eminent individuals in executive positives who have shown exceptional leadership and talent and presents an opportunity to play a significant role in shaping the future of the Australian engineering profession.

Benjamin Wannan

Founder and CEO

Egress Space



Ben Wannan has been a driving force in technology entrepreneurship since his high school years. In 2000, he cofounded DTEX, a pioneering company in insider risk management software.

Building on this success, Ben ventured into the emerging field of drones and unmanned aerial systems, founding several companies that pushed the boundaries of innovation in the industry.

Today, Ben channels his entrepreneurial expertise into Egress Space, his latest venture dedicated to solving the challenges of frequent and reliable down-mass return from space. Egress Space is developing end-to-end solutions for microgravity research and manufacturing, including parabolic flights for experimentation and testing, precision return of sounding rocket payloads, on-demand microgravity sample return, and airlaunch capabilities.







Darcey Watson

Executive Officer





in

Darcey Watson is an established space industry professional, specialising in education, engagement and innovation strategies for the sector. She holds qualifications in Molecular and Biomedical Sciences from the University of Adelaide as well as Space Studies from the International Space University.

Darcey serves as a committee member with the International Astronautical Federation on their Space Education and Outreach committee as well as the Workforce Development -Young Professionals Programme committee, a National Point of Contact for Australia for the Space Generation Advisory Council, a committee member for the International Space University Australia and New Zealand Alumni Committee and is the Co-Founder of CoLab Society Podcast.

Darcey is currently a delegate in the Australian American Young Leadership Dialogue and has previously been an International Visitors Leadership Program delegate with the US Department of State. Darcey is passionate about raising awareness of non-traditional STEM careers, specifically in the Space sector.

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Professor Vincent Wheatley



University of Queensland

Professor Vincent Wheatley is co-Director of the Centre for Hypersonics at the University of Queensland. He obtained his PhD in Aeronautics from the California Institute of Technology in 2005. Vincent is an expert in the computational, experimental and theoretical modelling of supersonic gas and plasma flows.

His most significant research contributions have been on overcoming the challenges facing accelerator scramjets and the magnetic suppression of shock driven instabilities in fusion plasmas. Vincent has led experimental research projects in UQ's T4 Shock Tunnel ranging from fundamental experiments on porous fuel injection and boundary layer combustion to the testing of complex-geometry scramjet engines. In 2018, he was named Australia's Research Field Leader in Aviation and Aerospace Engineering. He also received the 2017 Australian Award for University Teaching - Award for Teaching Excellence (Physical Sciences and Engineering) and has supervised 14 PhD students to completion, with all moving on to research careers in industry, government or academia.





Dr Davina White has extensive experience in applied Earth Observation (EO) projects particularly in a South Australian (SA) context.

Dr. Davina White

GIS Lead

PIRSA

Most recently the SA EcoMap project with SmartSat CRC developing tools to assist natural capital assessments and forestry plantation planning and management for the Department of Primary Industry and Regions SA (PIRSA) and primary producers.

Chairing the EO working group at PIRSA as well as using a range of EO data to support the PIRSA Biosecurity Division and SA primary producers with decision support for Biosecurity related management and mitigation. Davina also made a significant contribution to the Geospatial component of a large federal and state funded project on Great Artesian Basin Springs monitoring

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Jennifer Williams is the Chief Operating Officer at Stratoship, Australia's only sovereign manufacturer and operator of

stratospheric airships.

Jennifer Wiliams

Founder and CEO

Griffith University.

Egress Space

Jennifer is Australia's first female high altitude pilot, operating Stratoship's remote airship during their recent record breaking flight. She brings her passion for space and experience in aviation together to break barriers and challenge what can be achieved in Australian innovation. Jennifer is also the Vice President of Women in Aviation Australia and a mentor at





Kiara Wilson

Acting Director

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

After completing a Bachelor of Science majoring in Animal Health and Disease, Kiara joined the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in 2019.

Kiara has conducted biosecurity risk assessments for the import and export of biological goods, coordinated responses to emerging animal diseases, travelled internationally auditing manufacturing facilities, and facilitated access for new trade markets.

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Catherine is the Director of Space Capability in Space Capability Branch, within Defence's Joint Capabilities Group.

Catherine Wood

Director Space Capability

Australian Defence Force



In this role, Catherine leads program management and strategy development for Defence's Space Domain Capability Program. With an increasing reliance on Space as an operational domain, combined with Australia's location within the volatile geo-political Indo-Pacific region, Catherine's role is crucial in identifying and acquiring future requirements to help secure Australia's interests.

Catherine has previously held other capability development roles across Defence, has experience as an operations and management consultant, and started her career as a financial adviser for private retail clients.

Catherine holds a Bachelor of Finance, multiple project and program management qualifications, and is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.





Vanessa E. Wyche is the acting

associate administrator of NASA.

She is the senior advisor to NASA

acting administrator Janet Petro. In

her role, Wyche leads the agency's 10

directorate associate administrators

at NASA Headquarters in Washington. She acts as the agency's chief

operating officer for more than 18,000

employees and an annual budget of

Previously, Wyche was the director

of NASA's Johnson Space Center in

International Space Station, Orion,

and Gateway programs, and its more

than 11,000 civil service and contractor

corps, Mission Control Center,

Houston, home to America's astronaut

more than \$25 billion.

employees

center directors as well as the mission

Vanessa Wyche

Acting Associate Administrator



NASA

Her responsibilities included a broad range of human spaceflight activities, including development and operation of human spacecraft and NASA astronaut selection and training.

Wyche also oversaw NASA Johnson's activities supporting the commercialization of low Earth orbit, supporting the agency's needs following the transition from the International Space Station in 2030, and led the center's programs supporting the exploration of the Moon and Mars, including surface system capabilities for human and commercial robotic missions, as well as simulated missions for crews on Mars.

During her 35-year career, Wyche has held several other leadership roles including Johnson's deputy center director, director of Exploration Integration and Science Directorate, flight manager of several Space Shuttle Program missions, and executive officer in the Office of the Administrator, as well as additional center-level technical and program organizations.

A native of South Carolina, Wyche earned a Bachelor of Science in Engineering and Master of Science in Bioengineering from Clemson University and was inducted into the Thomas Green Clemson Academy of Engineers and Scientists in 2019. She received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Coastal Carolina University in 2022 as well as an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Texas Southern University in 2024. Wyche is a member of the National Academy of Engineering. She has numerous awards and recognitions, notably the Presidential Rank Award, two NASA Outstanding Leadership Medals, two NASA Achievement Medals, and she is an AlAA Associate Fellow.

Wyche is a passionate promoter of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), and serves as a member of American Institute of Physics Foundation board of trustees, Clemson University's College of Engineering, Computing, and Applied Sciences advisory board, and is a past chair of the Space Center Houston board of directors.



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Adelaide Convention Centre

Venue Partner

Fresh from a \$397M redevelopment, the Adelaide Convention Centre (ACC) is one of the world's most modern, flexible and technologically advanced venues. A striking landmark on the city's Riverbank, the Centre features three distinct yet seamlessly integrated buildings offering superlative river views.

The ACC's facilities, which include a 3,000+ seat plenary, are complemented by creative menus, expert service and innovative technologies to deliver a premier event experience.

The ACC is located just 15 minutes' drive from the Adelaide International Airport and a stone's throw from South Australia's world-famous wine regions; Kangaroo Island; and the Flinders Ranges.

Contact



adelaidecc.com.au





AIAA Adelaide Section

Exhibitor

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is the world's largest technical society devoted to the aerospace profession. With 30 000 members in 90 countries, our network is second to none, enabling us to be the world's largest aerospace publisher.

We work to connect professionals across all sectors of the industry, and to foster professional and student development. Please drop by for a chat to see how we can help you in your journey.

Contact



Patrick Neumann paddy@neumannspace.com 0431 080 512

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AMDA Foundation Limited

Gold Sponsor

AMDA Foundation proudly supports Australian industry through its major events including the Avalon Australian International Airshow, Indo Pacific International Maritime Exposition, Land Forces International Land Defence Exposition, Indian Ocean Defence & Security conference and exhibition and the RotorTech Vertical Flight Exposition.

AMDA Foundation promotes Australian space industry capability by presenting Australia's largest industry expositions as engagement platforms for government, industry and defence.

Space is part of every AMDA event including Avalon 2025, where more than 900 participating companies exhibited, including the Australian Space Agency. The event itself attracted 60,000 industry visitors and more than 6,000 students.

It hosted the Space Industry Association of Australia Southern Space conference and welcomed Australian astronaut Katherine Bennell-Pegg and former NASA astronaut Mike Bloomfield.

Both Neumann Space and Robinson Aerospace Systems were awarded \$40,000 for winning a category each in the Avalon Innovation Program.

The 2025 event also saw The International Astronaut Al Worden Endeavour Scholarship be presented to four Australian students and a STEM educator, in conjunction with Kallman Worldwide



Contact



Justin Giddings jgiddings@amda.com.au 0477 441 844

amda.com.au



Contact



Mikhail Asavkin mikhail@ant61.com 0431 776 561

ant61.com

ANT61

Exhibitor

ANT61 is an Australian company advancing spacecraft resilience through state-of-the-art satellite hardware, designed to maximise mission assurance and minimise satellite risk. The in-orbit proven flagship product, the Beacon, provides real-time telemetry and independent command and control via inter-satellite communication, allowing for status reports and recovery manoeuvres, even in the event of primary system failure.

Reducing the risk of spacecraft loss by up to 65%, the Beacon is now mandated by a major satellite insurer for its rapid anomaly detection, constant connectivity, and post-failure recovery. The company partners with satellite operators and manufacturers globally to protect valuable assets and reduce operational risk.

ANT61 is committed to building infrastructure for a more sustainable, reliable, and resilient space industry because no mission should be left in the dark.



AMDA FOUNDATION PROMOTES AUSTRALIA'S SPACE INDUSTRY THROUGH MAJOR EXPOSITIONS CONNECTING GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY, AND DEFENCE

AVALON 2025 SHOWCASED:



INNOVATION PITCHFEST & AWARD PROGRAM Neumann Space won the Avalon 2025 Innovation Award & cash prize of \$40,000 and Robinson Aerospace Systems won Avalon 2025 Young Innovator Award & cash prize of \$40,000



AUSTRALIAN SPACE AGENCY EXHIBITED



THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUT AL WORDEN ENDEAVOUR SCHOLARSHIP

was awarded to four Australian students and a STEM educator, in conjunction with Kallman Worldwide

SPECIAL GUESTS: Australian astronaut Katherine Bennell-Pegg and former NASA astronaut Mike Bloomfield

THIS COULD BE YOU



Be part of Innovation Pitchfest & Awards at

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME EXPOSITION

SPACE IS PART OF EVERY AMDA EVENT











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Astute Electronics

Exhibitor

Global Component Distribution, Franchise Electronics and Through-Life support

Established in 1989, Astute is a global component distributor. Our core focus is on quality and customer support. With over 35 years of industry experience, we are a trusted partner whose customer needs remain our priority.

Our key focus is Design, Fulfilment & Support - from designing projects and providing engineering solutions, global sourcing and market intelligence

Contact



Nick Molloy nick.molloy@astutegroup.com 0477 991 126 • (03) 9705 8148

astutegroup.com





Australian Space Agency

Supporting Partner

The heart of space in Australia.

The Australian Space Agency works across government, industry and academia to boost Australia's position in the global space economy.

Through strong international partnerships, technical expertise and funding programs, the Agency is advancing the development of cutting-edge Australian technologies and facilitating worldwide collaboration. It also delivers initiatives to inspire the nation and build a future space workforce.

The Agency ensures Australia is globally regarded as a responsible space nation that is a great place for space launches and returns.

Contact



Tom Lewis enquiries@space.gov.au (02) 6276 1166

space.gov.au

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Australian Space Diversity Alliance

Diversity Partner

Our mission is to advocate for inclusion, diversity, equity and access—across all identities and intersectionalities—so Australia's space sector reflects the full range of our national talent and capability.

We're focused on growing the space sector by building a strong, inclusive workforce. The evidence is clear—diverse teams drive innovation, better decision-making, and more effective collaboration.

Contact



Jacqui Tyack jacqui@thewritespace.com.au 0422 999 088

spacediversity.com.au



BLUEDWARF

Contact



Kelly Yeoh kelly@bluedwarf.space 0455 553 386

bluedwarf.space

Blue Dwarf Space

Exhibitor

The best tech on the planet stays on the planet until it has permits.

Blue Dwarf helps space companies get to orbit faster by making the hidden challenge of compliance visible, understandable, and solvable. Our platform maps mission parameters to regulatory obligations across multiple jurisdictions, automates workflows, and generates submission-ready documentation, turning a bespoke nightmare into structured clarity.

Founded by specialists who've worked across law, policy, tech, and aerospace, we're backed by the team behind Afterpay, and built in South Australia. We don't reduce regulation, we respect it, and we make the process better for everyone involved.

Whether you're a startup launching your first payload, global consultancy managing mission portfolios, government scaling safe access to space, or investor protecting your capital from delays or rescue rounds, we provide the infrastructure that keeps innovation moving.

Because brilliant tech doesn't belong on hold. It belongs in orbit.

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Braemac

Exhibitor

Braemac is a global leader in the distribution of semiconductor components and electronic systems as well as value-added services.

Empowering engineers and developers for over 40 years–Braemac features expert in-house engineers, extensive design-phase support, state-of-the-art distribution, value-add facilities, comprehensive supply chain solutions, and unparalleled customer service. Braemac offers solutions for diverse markets and applications, helping customers streamline development, reduce costs, accelerate time to market, and support long term interoperability.

Contact



Paul Force p.force@braemac.com 0413 122 126

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B R BRAND REBELLION.

Contact



Bryden Campbell bryden.campbell@brandrebellion.com.au 0432 339 473

brandrebellion.com.au

Brand Rebellion

Exhibitor

Brand Rebellion: Launching Brands, Strengthening Workforces

At Brand Rebellion, we're experts in brand and workforce strategy, guiding future-focused industries through the complexities of people and communication. As Australia strengthens its position in sovereign capabilities, we ensure your story is understood, locally and globally. We specialise in strategic brand alignment, workforce development, marketing and creative design, helping space companies attract the right talent, retain strong internal cultures, and build lasting customer relationships.

Communication is the key to unlocking the full potential of the space industry. As the sector grows, it's crucial to connect technology with the stories that drive it. We're here to elevate Australia's space capabilities with smart, strategic brand and workforce solutions, helping you navigate these exciting times with confidence.

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TWO THINGS ARE KEEPING CEOS UP AT NIGHT:



1

How the market sees them.

2

How their people show up.

What most don't realise? They're not separate problems.

We help leaders connect the dots between perception and performance, so your internal culture and external brand start working in sync.

ALIGNMENT ISN'T OPTIONAL, IT'S THE LAUNCHPAD!

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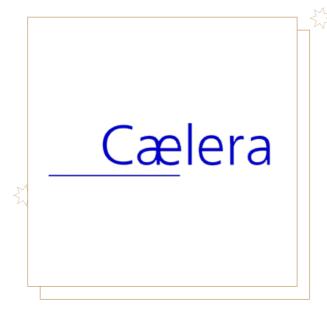


Exhibitor

Caelera Pty. Ltd. is an Australian company supplying semiconductors and semiconductor-based modules for a range of applications including Space, Aerospace and Defence.

Supporting local space companies and research bodies with products from COTS-rated through to Radiation Tolerant devices, Caelera represents major global IC and module manufacturers including 3D-PLUS, Finisar Optics (Coherent), Microchip, Macom, and Teledyne e2v. With an extensive flight heritage 3D-PLUS, Microchip and Teledyne e2v offer a wide range of products specifically for Space including FPGAs, Processor Modules, Memory, Pointof-Load, Interface, Image Sensors / Camera Modules, Peripherals and Motor Control IC's.

Established more than 20 years ago, Caelera provides local expertise, application engineering and logistics support to designers and manufacturers throughout Australia and New Zealand.



Contact



Simon Williams simon.williams@caelera.com 0407 651 998 • 03 9352 9444

caelera.com



Deloitte.

Contact



Jason Bender jabender@deloitte.com.au

deloitte.space

Deloitte Australia

Silver Sponsor

Deloitte Space is a global professional services practice dedicated to advising organisations on the full possibilities of space, from strategic advisory to mission assurance supporting the deployment and operating of space systems and services.

With more than 15 years of space domain experience, and now operating our own assets in space, we offer a unique depth and breadth of space experience through a globally connected space practice.

Our offerings span the sector, working with organisations across the civil, defence and commercial sectors who view space as their mission, their business of today or a future growth opportunity.

Deloitte's GRAVITY Challenge brings market demand and technical experts together to solve some of the world's most pressing issues using space enabled technology and capability. With 14 countries involved, the program invites forward-thinking public and private organisations facing real world problems, and Innovators with the skills to solve them, to participate.



Australian Government

Department of Home Affairs

Department of Home Affairs

Exhibitor

The Department of Home Affairs is responsible for border security and immigration, cyber/critical infrastructure resilience and security, counter-terrorism, protection of our sovereignty, citizenship and social

The Department has a national network of Business, Industry and Regional Outreach (BIRO) Officers. BIROs work closely with business, industry and regional stakeholders to promote the Department's Skilled Visa Program, and assist businesses understand visa options for skilled migrants, where Australian workers are not available.

Contact



Okke Velzeboer BIRO.SA@homeaffairs.gov.au 0466 458 403

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Deloitte.

Accelerating the potential of space

Deloitte is committed to advancing the space sector across Asia Pacific, helping clients innovate, scale and lead. With deep industry insight, global expertise, and regional perspective we support governments, space companies and traditional enterprise unlock space-powered growth, driving impact on Earth and in orbit.

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Thomas Mueller

egress.space

thomas@egress.space

Egress Space

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Egress Space was founded to address the challenge of frequent and reliable down mass return from space and is developing technology spanning launch preparation, mission execution, data collection, and the safe and efficient return of payloads.

Egress Space is developing end-to-end solutions for microgravity research and manufacturing which includes parabolic flight for research and testing, precision return of sounding rocket payloads, on-demand microgravity sample return and air launch capability.

Drawing on its substantial UAS experience, Egress Space is also developing capabilities in space-based sustainment and tactical precision logistics as well as ground, air and space electronic warfare solutions.

Finally, with a developing international fleet L-39 Albatros training jet aircraft, Egress Space is looking into the applications of fast jets for aerial surveillance and search and rescue, airborne imaging, chase photography, flight testing and crew and astronaut training.





Contact

Sarah Baker sarah.baker807@schools.sa.edu.au 0429 990 041 • 08 8275 8300

hamcoll.sa.edu.au

Hamilton Secondary College

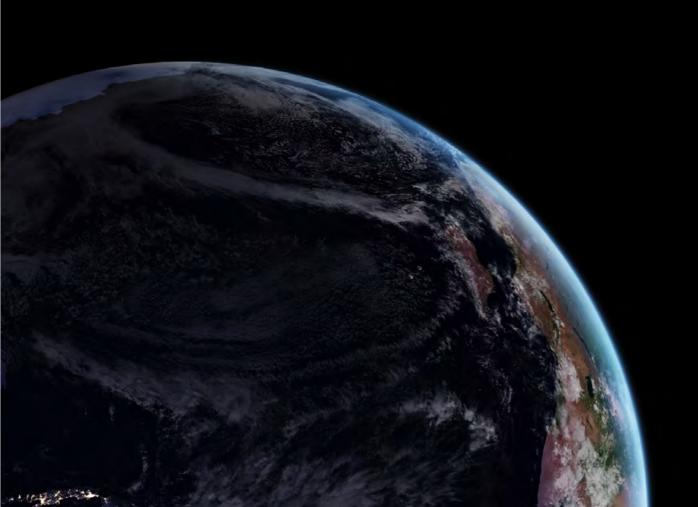
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Hamilton Secondary College is an innovative year 7-12 school with a vision and strategic plan focused on space and astronomy, founded on two pillars, educating students about space across years 5-12 and linking education to the space industry.

Our Space Academy, space education curriculum and newly built Planetarium equip students with the necessary STEM and emerging technology skills to be innovative, entrepreneurial and become globally competitive. The academic teachings are then 'put into practice' through Hamilton's Mike Roach Space Education Centre. It is here that students obtain practical and unique skills by experiencing real-life Martian explorations while being challenged to reach evidence-based conclusions about Mars habitability.

From 2022, we are running the Space Passport Program supported by the SA Commonwealth School Pathways Program and Department for Education 'Student Pathways and Careers' Division which can be registered by Government school students as a 'Portfolio' activity at https://studentpathways.sa.edu.au/.

LAUNCH. RETURN. LEARN. REPEAT.



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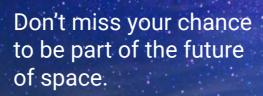
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The global space industry is coming to Sydney.

From Mars missions to satellite breakthroughs, IAC 2025 brings together up to 8,000 of the brightest minds in space.



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iac2025.org

IAC 2025

Exhibitor

The 76th International Astronautical Congress (IAC) is the premier global space event, bringing together up to 10,000 space professionals, industry leaders, scientists, and government representatives from more than 80 countries.

From 29 September to 3 October 2025, IAC lands in Sydney, Australia offering a unique opportunity to explore the latest breakthroughs in space science, innovation, and technology. With thousands of technical presentations, high-level plenaries, exhibitions, and networking forums, IAC 2025 Sydney is where the world connects to shape the future of space.

Whether you're a researcher, policymaker, start-up, or student—this is your launchpad to global collaboration, knowledge exchange, and commercial opportunity.

Join us at IAC 2025 Sydney and be part of the conversations shaping our universe.

Learn more at iac2025.org





iLAuNCH Trailblazer

Exhibitor

The Innovative Launch, Automation, Novel Materials, Communications, and Hypersonics Hub (iLAuNCH) Trailblazer is a \$180 million Department of Education program building Australia's enduring space capability through the commercialisation of projects, a fast-track accelerator, and skills development to build the workforce of the future.

This program is led by the University of Southern Queensland alongside The Australian National University and the University of South Australia, in collaboration with over thirty industry partners.

Contact



Kavanna Trewavas kavanna.trewavas@unisq.edu.au

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Inovor Technologies

Exhibitor

Inovor Technologies is a world-leading supplier of next generation small satellite technology and subsystems.

Our unique low-cost, disaggregated technology has the flexibility to host an extensive range of technical applications including communications, remote sensing, imaging and scientific payloads. With our in-house developed technology, we provide turnkey solutions for commercial, government and research clients wanting missions flown in space. Inovor also provides specialist services to Defence in the Electronic Warfare and Space Situational Awareness areas.

Uniquely, all electronics, hardware and software is manufactured inhouse with a sovereign supply chain. We are positioned at the centre of Australia's growing space hub, and are owned and operated in Adelaide, South Australia.

Contact



Kavindi De Silva kavindi.desilva@inovor.com 0480 561 944

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LOCKHEED MARTIN Australia

Lockheed Martin Australia

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Lockheed Martin Australia is engaged in the development, integration and sustainment of cutting-edge defence technologies.

Our capabilities span the space, air, sea, land, and cyber domains, encompassing everything from frontline combat systems to space-based communications, training, sustainment and logistics solutions.

In the space domain, Lockheed Martin Australia builds on a heritage that dates to the dawn of the space age. We are proud to be a long standing feature of Australia's space industry across civil, commercial, and defence sectors. Unparalleled experience and commitment underpins our programs in areas such as Space Domain Awareness; position, navigation, and timing; telemetry, tracking and control; weather and earth science; deep space and human space exploration; and sovereign ISR.

Contact



Philip Citowicki philip.citowicki@global.lmco.com 0457 972 434

lockheedmartin.com/en-au

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Contact

Paul Sheridan paul.sheridan@myriota.com

myriota.com

Myriota

Networking Dinner Sponsor

Myriota is a global leader in low-cost, low-power, secure direct-to-orbit satellite connectivity for the Internet of Things (IoT), and small powerconstrained devices.

Founded in 2015, Myriota's space-based networks harness off-world capabilities to deliver scalable, affordable IoT data services and energyefficient hardware that enables sectors such as agriculture, logistics, water and environmental conservation to reach into the physical world for intelligence that delivers timely and effective impact.

As part of the space ecosystem, Myriota has pioneered the adoption of innovative, economically viable business models with space industry business partners, and now operates Australia's largest constellation of space based assets, numbering more than 40. These assets leverage Myriota's innovative and highly-flexible sovereign IoT communications payload technologies, which have been successfully deployed on multiple space assets across a range of diverse mission types, including satellites, hosted payloads and Space-as-a-Service partners.



Myriota

2025 Andy Thomas Space Forum Networking Dinner Sponsor, Visit booth 30-31

CONNECTING THE PHYSICAL FOR **IMPACT** WORLD

FROM ADELAIDE TO ORBIT

Empowering industries to monitor, track and respond to changes in the field from anywhere.

40+

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Countries served and expanding

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Contact

Chris Cubbage ccubbage@mysecuritymedia.com 0494 377 512

australiainspace.com.au



Media Partner

MySecurity Media (MSM) is a multi-channel, multi-platform content provider specialising in the security and critical technology domain. MSM operates Space and Earth, Partners and Advisory (SEPA).

SEPA connects businesses, governments, and stakeholders with opportunities to innovate, grow, and lead in dynamic sectors such as space, cybersecurity, robotics, AI, and more. Through strategic consulting, industry events, and tailored solutions, we provide the resources and connections to foster sustainable growth, market entry, and business development.

Australia in Space is a multi-channel platform promoting national and regional advancements in the space industry.

Channels include Space & Defence news, Australia in Space Magazine, Australia in Space TV and Indo-Pacific Space and Earth Conference.





Contact



James Carter jamesc@nanovactech.com 0468 333 815

nanovacuum.com.au · bosoneng.com.au

Nano Vacuum + Boson Engineering

Exhibitor

Nano Vacuum and Boson Engineering are strategic partners delivering advanced technology solutions to support the evolving needs of the space and aerospace sectors across Australia and New Zealand.

Nano Vacuum provides high-performance nanofabrication, vacuum, and quantum technology systems critical for the development of satellite components, sensors, advanced materials, and quantum-based navigation technologies. With offices in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, Nano Vacuum also offers expert local support and precision servicing, including helium leak detection and vacuum instrumentation calibration.

Boson Engineering complements this with bespoke Australian engineering solutions for cryogenic thermal vacuum test systems—essential for space environment simulation, materials testing, and component validation. With deep expertise in system integration, Boson Engineering delivers turnkey solutions aligned with aerospace standards and mission-critical reliability.

Together, Nano Vacuum and Boson Engineering provide the space and aerospace industry with a complete ecosystem of equipment, engineering, and support for innovation, testing, and advanced R&D.

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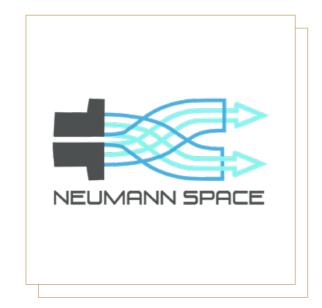
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Contact



Herve Astier herve.astier@neumannspace.com 0406 801 550

neumannspace.com

Neumann Space

Foundation Partner

Neumann Space is an emerging global technology leader for in-space electric propulsion based in Adelaide, Australia. Our missions are to enable the sustainable economic development of Space through better mobility solutions and to offer the ability to manoeuvre without regret for Defence customers.

Neumann Space develops, manufactures, tests and exports in-space electric propulsion systems for spacecraft, known as the Neumann Drive®, which utilise solid metal as propellant. Our flight-proven and patented technology allows us to offer systems characterised by their safety and simplicity from design to operations, answering the market demand for better propulsion.

With our purpose-built Assembly, Integration and Test (AIT) facility, Neumann Space can guarantee quality products and on-time deliveries with short lead time.

Trusted by international partners and customers, Neumann Space is increasing its product portfolio and international presence.

Come and talk to us about your propulsion needs.



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Contact

Lauren Crilly lauren.crilly@novasystems.com

novasystems.com/au

Nova Systems

Exhibitor

Nova Systems is a global provider of services, integration and products, delivering solutions to make our world safe and secure.

We are leaders in Test & Evaluation; safety and systems assurance; integration; software and digital solutions; aircraft modifications; advanced training and advisory services.

With 25-years' experience, we are a trusted partner of Defence, government and industry driving development of space capabilities.

Our specialist expertise covers space systems engineering and mission assurance. Our capabilities include Space Domain Awareness (SDA), satellite communication (SATCOM), electromagnetic spectrum modelling, exploitation and licensing support, launch/return facility design and range operations for safety, licensing regulatory support, modelling and simulation, and training.

Nova's Space Precinct hosts commercial terminals to support space missions and is home to unique SDA capabilities.

Our goal is to facilitate safe and assured access to space and mission success, and deliver integrated ground, sea, air and space-based sensors for actionable insights for real world challenges.





Contact



Nick Miller nick.miller@optus.com.au

optus.com.au/satellite

Optus

Exhibitor

Optus Satellite & Space - Australia's most experienced satellite owner and operator.

For more than 40 years, Optus has been Australia's leading satellite provider, launching 10 satellites, operating 13 spacecraft and providing support to over 100 international space programs.

Optus is Australia's most experienced satellite owner and operator, with satellite services across Australia, New Zealand and with availability to McMurdo Sound in Antarctica. We're also Australia's second largest telecommunications company, providing national mobile networks, fixed networks and geostationary satellites. We work closely with global partners and continue to be at the forefront of utilising cutting-edge space technology and employing, as well as training, highly skilled space talent.

We conduct 24/7, 365 day-a-year satellite network monitoring, support and troubleshooting across a range of industries – as well as continuous video, voice and data delivery

Optus also provides critical space capabilities for the Australian Defence

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Robinson Aerospace Systems

Exhibitor

Educational satellites to inspire the next generation!

Robinson Aerospace provides realistic satellite kits for STEM education in schools and universities.

Contact



Edward Robinson edward@robinson-aerospace.com 0423 893 944

robinson-aerospace.com





Contact



Boris Tovirac Boris.tovirac@rohde-schwarz.com 0402 590 264

rohde-schwarz.com

Rohde & Schwarz

Exhibitor

Rohde & Schwarz Australia has been operating since 1981 and our test and measurement (T&M) solutions are ideal for designing, evaluating and producing latest generation satellite systems. In particular we can assist with:

- Satellite payload testing (test and validation performance at component, subsystem and system level)
- Antenna and EMC test systems and solutions
- · Multi-constellation GNSS simulation and receiver testing
- Ground station and ground terminal testing
- Timing systems and solutions
- · Communications systems monitoring
- · Quality of service monitoring
- · Electronic and digital interface testing
- · Satellite uplink amplifiers
- Air Traffic and Marine radio systems
- · Spectrum monitoring

Smart T&M solutions from Rohde & Schwarz ensure flawless performance and reliable safety and security on every level - from testing subsystems, assemblies and components to validating the performance of ground station terminals and in-orbit service. Let us know how we can support you: Sales.australia@rohde-schwarz.com

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Contact



Roo-ver Mission

Display Sponsor

The Roo-ver Mission will see the ELO2 Consortium design, build, and operate a lunar rover on behalf of Australia, and with the Australian Space Agency.

Our Australian-made rover, 'Roo-ver' – made possible with a \$42 million Australian Space Agency grant – will roll across the Moon's surface around the end of this decade. The Roo-ver Mission will foster new horizons in the Australian space sector, focusing on the development of essential services for lunar exploration missions. As part of this program, we are dedicated to showcasing and advancing Australian aerospace and robotics capabilities through the design of a cutting-edge, remotely operated, autonomous robotic asset on the lunar surface. By actively contributing to NASA's Artemis program, we are paving the way for an exciting future in space exploration. ELO2 is co-led by grantee EPE Oceania and Lunar Outpost Oceania.



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Brenton Whitington Brenton.Whitington@au.saabgroup.com 0499 557 676 • 08 8343 3800

saab.com

Saab Australia

Foundation Partner

Saab Australia (Saab) is one of Australia's most respected complex system integrators, specialising in command and control (C2) solutions for defence and civil sectors across maritime, underwater, land, air, cyber and space environments.

Applying its pedigree in proven command and control capabilities in complex environments, Saab has established advanced space domain awareness (SDA) capabilities.

Saab has developed its Australian Mission System (AMS) which is a comprehensive cloud native C2 mission management system that provides a breadth of capabilities that enable SDA and Space Control.

Saab's work in the space domain alongside its customers, has resulted in an Australian-designed C2 mission management system solution, ensuring Australia's "Undeniable Access to Space".

Now employing over 1000 people in Australia, Saab Australia's headquarters is located in Adelaide, South Australia. Saab Australia also has multiple locations in five states and territories, including the Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, and Victoria.



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Jason Held jheld@saberastro.com

saberastro.com





Contact



Kelvin Ho kelvin@scitek.com.au 0437 676 491

scitek.com.au

Saber Astronautics

Meeting Room Sponsor

Saber Astronautics is a space operations, mission design and SDA company. We offer full mission life cycle support from design to de-orbit.

From LEO to Cis-Lunar, Saber can fly any satellite of any size, and provide space traffic management services for companies and government bodies. Products and Services provided by Saber combine command and control with the best-in-class situational awareness & "follow-the-sun" operations.

Our Facilities:

- The Responsive Space Operations Centre (RSOC), Adelaide
- · The Mission Design Facility, Adelaide
- · Space R&D laboratory, Sydney
- The Wolfpack Space Hub (spaceflight incubator), Sydney
- The RSOC and R&D laboratory, Boulder Colorado

Prior and Current Service Spotlight:

- Founded and led the Pacific Cell for US Space Command's Space Domain Awareness exercises for 4 years
- Supplies the US Space Force with SDA tools, (thousands of users in classified and unclass networks)
- · Supplies operator-analysts for the JCO's (USSF) Night Shift
- Flying the 2-tonne Blue Walker 3 satellite, owned by AST-SpaceMobile.

Scitek

Foundation Partner

Scitek specialise in creating customised solutions for your space simulation and research needs.

From CubeSats through to the largest thermal vacuum test chambers, and low earth orbits to interplanetary exploration, we can cater for off-the-shelf standard designs through to complex, turnkey solutions.

Working with the space industry for over 20 years, our solutions cover the entire range of spacecraft sizes and missions.

As an Australian owned and run business, we value homegrown innovation and design. We are passionate about supporting the growing Australian space industry. Through specifying and installing the latest technologies from around the world, we collaborate to create the best outcomes for our customers.

We work extensively with major universities, the Department of Defence, the Australian Defence Force Academy, Space Start-Ups, Defence Primes, and space tech organisations.

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SmartSat CRC

Platinum Sponsor

The SmartSat CRC is a consortium of universities and research organisations, partnered with industry that has been funded by the Australian Government to develop know-how and technologies in advanced telecommunications and IoT connectivity, intelligent satellite systems and Earth observation next generation data services.

SmartSat is an agile organising team bringing together academic researchers, industry and the end users to develop, manage and deliver useful technologies, algorithms and knowledge that supports every sector of our economy. Our research is developing intellectual property and a specialist industry expertise to grow the Australian space industry, create export economic value and generate new high-tech jobs for our future space loaders.

Contact



Madison White madison.white@smartsatcrc.com

smartsatcrc.com

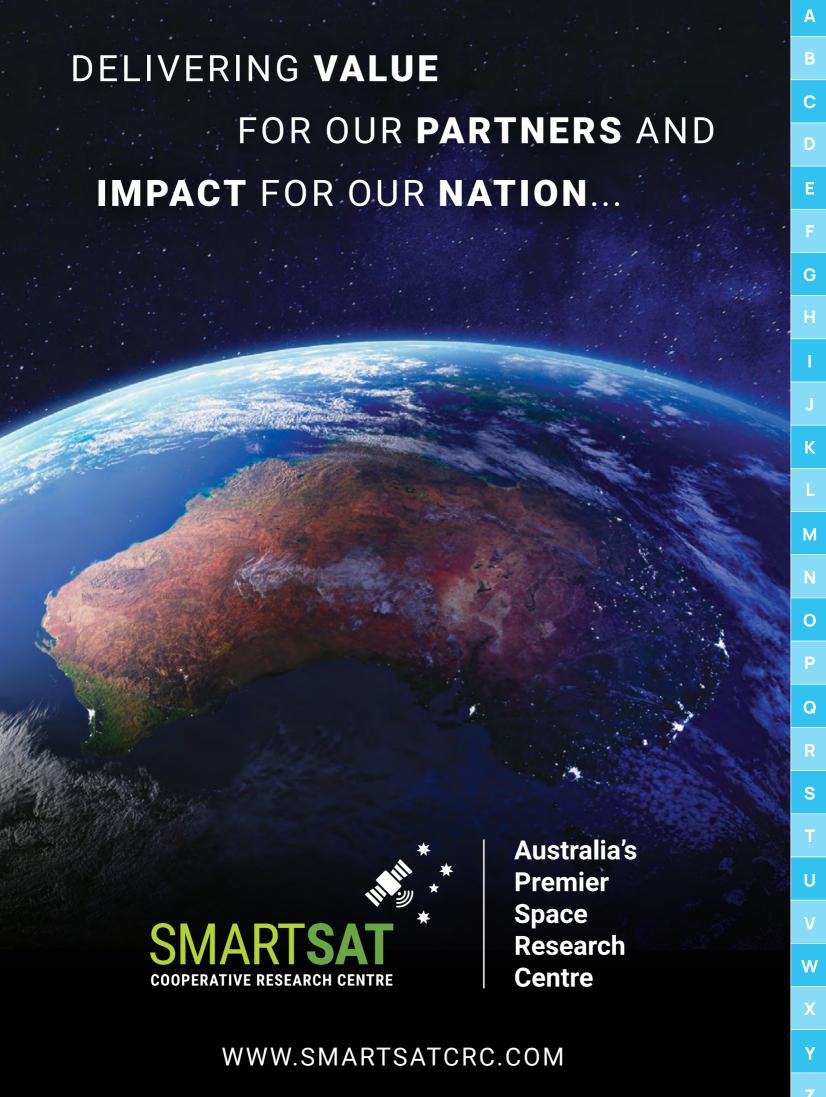
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South Australian Space Industry Centre spaceoffice@sa.gov.au

sasic.sa.gov.au



Supporting Partner Space Passport Sponsor

Egress Space was founded to address the challenge of frequent and reliable down mass return from space and is developing technology spanning launch preparation, mission execution, data collection, and the safe and efficient return of payloads.

Egress Space is developing end-to-end solutions for microgravity research and manufacturing which includes parabolic flight for research and testing, precision return of sounding rocket payloads, on-demand microgravity sample return and air launch capability.

Drawing on its substantial UAS experience, Egress Space is also developing capabilities in space-based sustainment and tactical precision logistics as well as ground, air and space electronic warfare solutions.

Finally, with a developing international fleet L-39 Albatros training jet aircraft, Egress Space is looking into the applications of fast jets for aerial surveillance and search and rescue, airborne imaging, chase photography, flight testing and crew and astronaut training.





Contact



Amy Featherston amy.featherston@southernlaunch.space 0400 456 016

southernlaunch.space

Southern Launch

Exhibitor

Southern Launch offers bespoke space mission services for orbital launch, sub orbital missions, orbital re-entries and range services at two world-class spaceports in South Australia.

Maximise spacecraft payload with direct ascent trajectories from 55 to 177 degrees including polar, sun-synchronous orbits and 135 degree (equivalent to 45 degree) inclination from the Whalers Way Orbital Launch Complex.

Conduct a range of sub orbital missions either over water or land with launch infrastructure onsite. From launch vehicle development testing to hypersonic flight, Southern Launch has the spaceport to make your sub orbital mission a success.

Return your technology to Earth safely with an end-to-end service for orbital re-entries. With flexibility to return overland to the 41,000 square kilometre Koonibba Test Range or overwater, Southern Launch will help you to achieve your mission goals.

Southern Launch secures all required approvals, including environmental approvals, to undertake space related activities at our two unique spaceports.



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Contact

1300 762 678

Rajat Kulshrestha contact@spacemachines.com

spacemachines.com

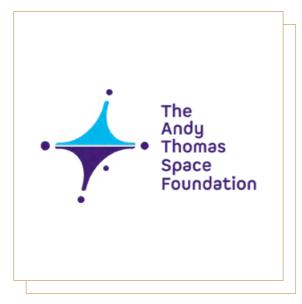


Our AUKUS and QUAD footprint positions SMC to become a critical part of the allied system to safeguard space, build resilience within the space defence industrial base and support the growth of commercial space activities.

Orbitside Assist delivers a cost-effective, rapid, on-orbit response combining distributed capabilities with Al-driven command and control in a layered architecture. We are driving towards continuous vigilance with near 24-hour response capability, moving swiftly when critical space infrastructure needs support - reducing response times from weeks to hours.

We have a relentless focus on reducing manufacturing costs, to keep the price point low enough to revolutionise space operations.





Contact



Darcey Watson d.watson@andythomas.foundation 0478 564 440

andythomas.foundation

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation

Host

The Andy Thomas Space Foundation is recognised as one of Australia's leading National Space Not-For-Profits, supporting the education and outreach goals of the growing Australian Space Ecosystem.

With strong support from the Australian Space Agency, South Australian Government and a number of start-up and corporate space industry partners, the Foundation has provided invaluable education and engagement opportunities for students and individuals across Australia. Focused on highlighting STEM as well as cross and multi-disciplinary career pathways into the space sector, the Foundation strives to support the growth of a space work-force, comprised of a range of professions, trades and research fields. With three main branches of activities, each promoting the interests of and engagement with Australia's space industry members, the Foundation has committed over AUD 1.2 million to creating educational opportunities for Australian students through its Education Fund since establishment in 2020. Each year a new set of innovative awards, scholarships and prizes are announced, with unique opportunities available for Australian students from primary school through to early career researchers, professionals and beyond.

The ATSF relies on contributions from corporations and individuals, with capacity to accept grants and tax-deductible donations to provide these valuable experiences for students.

Safeguarding space for everyone

Rapid response for space assets at risk

Safeguard critical orbital infrastructure with our distributed approach to space security.

Orbitside Assist

Cost-effective Optimus Viper spacecraft powered by our Al-driven SolsticeOS platform.

sales@spacemachines.com www.spacemachines.com



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Contact



Miles Davies miles.davies@adelaide.edu.au 0407 727 484 • 08 8313 8324

set.adelaide.edu.au/atcsr

The Andy Thomas Centre for Space Resources

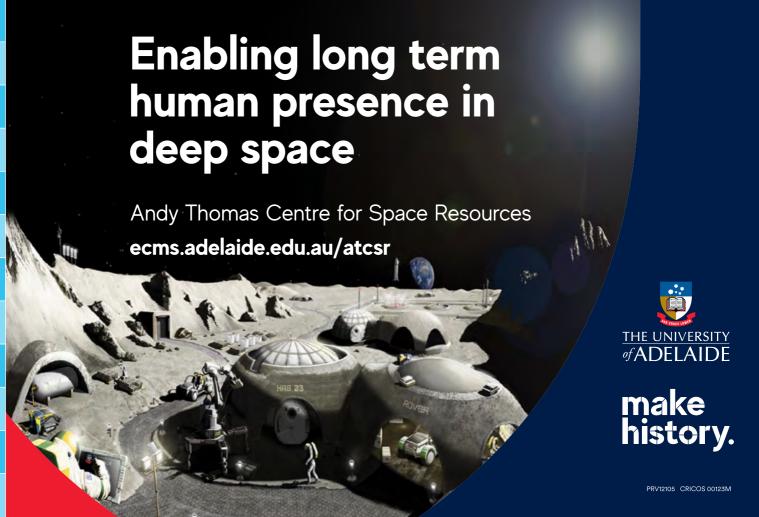
Exhibitor

Ranked in the world's top 100 universities, the University of Adelaide is one of Australia's oldest and most research-intensive institutions. committed to delivering highly valued research for local and international communities alike.

The University of Adelaide is also home to the Andy Thomas Centre for Space Resources (ATCSR), an internationally focused research and development hub focused on enabling long-term human presence in deep space. The ATCSR leads multidisciplinary teams across academia, industry and government and brings together expertise in off-Earth civil engineering, construction, architecture, robotics and Al, human-machine teaming, geology, psychology and law.

With a focus on developing a space mission pipeline, the ATCSR a range of experimental equipment and off-Earth test beds designed specifically for the development of hardware and software destined for the Moon, Mars and beyond.

The Centre's research outcomes not only benefit humans in space but also positively impact life here on Earth.



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Contact



Georgia Minarelli georgia.minarelli@unisa.edu.au 0413 314 726

icc.unisa.edu.au

University of South Australia

Exhibitor

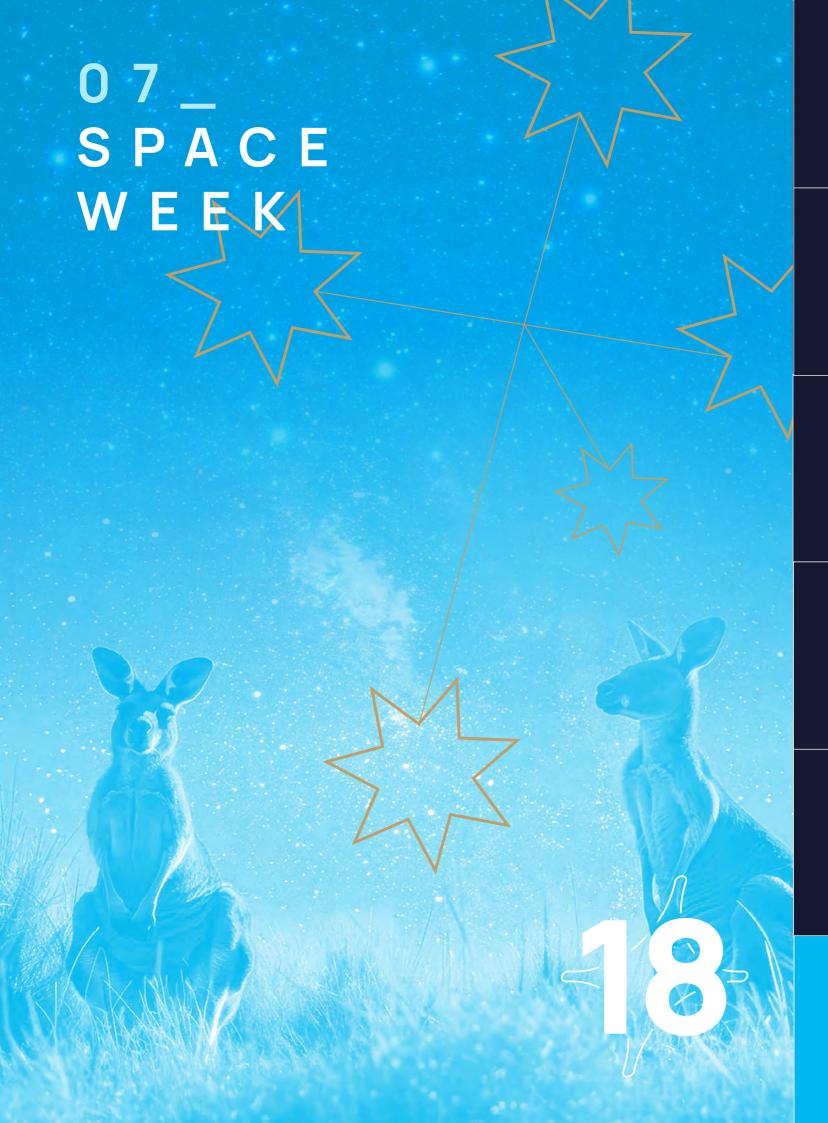
At UniSA, industry professionals can enhance their expertise in the space industry through the Global Executive Master of Business Administration (Defence and Space), Graduate Certificate in Space Studies and Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program (SHSSP).

UniSA connects industry partners with researchers to explore novel ways to achieve sector growth. Our researchers come from multidisciplinary areas like engineering, telecommunications, advanced materials, information technology and computing, business, data management, and cybersecurity.

Startup companies can work with UniSA to develop their ideas for the sector through the Innovation & Collaboration Centre's acceleration program, Venture Catalyst Space. The program has supported 40 space startups since 2018, helping fast-track market entry, accelerate commercialisation journeys, and strengthen connections to investors and researchers.

The new Growth Ramp space pathway, delivered by UniSA's Australian Centre for Business Growth, was launched in 2024 for companies ready to scale. The Centre has supported over 1,450 companies through their programs.





SPACE WEEK

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN



Space Community Town Hall #15

Monday, 14 July 2025

8:30am - 10:30am

Stone & Chalk Adelaide Lot Fourteen, North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Free Event (Registration Required)

Join SASIC and Stone & Chalk at Lot Fourteen for a regular space industry community event. Hear exciting updates from the entire space community in a town hall setting created to grow & improve our thriving space sector.

Register



Register

Life In Space

Monday, 14 July 2025

10:30am - 2:00pm

TechCentral
Lot Fourteen, North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Paid/Ticketed Event

Returning for the third year in a row, the German-Australian Chamber of Industry & Commerce and the German Business Chamber of South Australia present 'Life in Space', an insightful event which explores the intersection of space with health and life sciences.

This year, expert speakers will address the topics of supply chain, laws & regulations and research & development surrounding space life sciences research and returns. Hear the latest updates in this sector and network with key people in the industry in a dynamic and engaging event, proudly part of Australian Space Week!



128



CSIRO Space Optics Lab: Open House

Monday, 14 July 2025

8:30am - 10:30am

Stone & Chalk Adelaide Lot Fourteen, North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Free Event (Registration Required)

CSIRO's Space Optics Lab is devoted to the design, development, assembly and testing of optical systems for satellites, aircraft and other mobile platforms. The facility provides fabrication of precision, custom optical elements, optical systems, and testing for spatial, spectral, radiometric parameters of imaging systems.

In addition, quantum mechanical light sources have been developed to communicate across free space with quantum-secured communications for position, navigation and timing. Come to visit CSIRO's Space Optics Lab in our new, expanded facility at the CSIRO building.

Register



What We Do In Space for the Earth

Monday, 14 July 2025

8:30am - 10:30am

Stone & Chalk Adelaide Lot Fourteen, North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Free Event (Registration Required)

We often hear that people work in the space industry to provide benefits for people here on Earth, but what does that actually look like? At this event, the Adelaide Section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics has invited a number of local space experts to discuss their work and how it benefits our presence on Earth.

The discussion shall start at 6pm on the 14th of July in Lecture Theatre LG28, Lower Napier Building, at the University of Adelaide's North Terrace Campus, and include presentations from industry and academia. After these presentations, questions from the audience are welcomed, and if people are interested in continuing the discussion, they are welcome to join us for dinner afterwards.

Our speakers are Dr Jason Held from Saber Astronautics; Dr Volker Hessel from the ARC Centre of Excellence Plants for Space, Dr Anna Ma-Wyatt from the Andy Thomas Centre for Space Resources at the University of Adelaide; and Mr Oscar Mortier-Spole from Southern Launch. Their expertise spans launch, orbital operations, life-support, human and social factors, and work focussing on orbital manufacturing that can enhance terrestrial industry while reducing its impacts.

Register



SPACE WEEK EVENTS > 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

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Space Industry Networking Night Hosted by the AYAA

Tuesday 15 July 2025

5:30pm

Stone & Chalk Adelaide Lot Fourteen, North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Paid/Ticketed Event

Register

Join the Australian Youth Aerospace Association in celebrating the achievements of emerging talent in Australia's space sector. This networking night will bring together students, professionals, and industry leaders for relaxed conversation and the presentation of this year's Astra Program Emerging Space Pioneer Awards.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN



18ASF Networking Drinks

Wednesday, 16 July 2025

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Exhibition Hall, Adelaide Convention Centre

Free Event (included in 18ASF Registration)

Join the Australian Youth Aerospace Association in celebrating the achievements of emerging talent in Australia's space sector. This networking night will bring together students, professionals, and industry leaders for relaxed conversation and the presentation of this year's Astra Program Emerging Space Pioneer Awards.

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Towards a National **Space CPD Framework:** Feasibility & Industry Input

Thursday, 17 July 2025

1:30pm - 3:30pm



UniSA City West Campus

Invite Only

Join a national co-design workshop focused on building skills pathways and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities to support the sector's growth through 2030 and beyond. Delivered by iLAuNCH and the Optus Industry Fellow at the Space Industry Association of Australia (SIAA), this session will explore the feasibility of a national CPD framework that recognises, grows, and connects talent from emerging professionals to industry leaders.

Workshop objectives:

- · Validate the need for a national CPD framework; and
- Gather practical feedback from government, education, primes, SMEs, and early-career professionals to inform pilot programs.

Attendance is limited to two representatives per organisation. EOIs close Friday, 4 July - email zamara@spaceindustry.com to express your interest.



ASPI-Space Machines Company Roundtable for Space MAITRI

Thursday, 17 July 2025

9:00am - 11:00am

Adelaide

Free Event

This event is hosted by ASPI in partnership with Space Machines Company as part of the Space MAITRI grant. The event brings together leaders, experts, and stakeholders to explore critical aspects of international space cooperation and security. The gathering will focus on strengthening India-Australia collaboration in space initiatives, examining how Space MAITRI can serve as an effective template for broader Quad collaboration on space sustainability efforts. Participants will engage in discussions about space debris mitigation and management strategies, addressing one of the most pressing challenges facing the global space community today.

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What's your place in space? From Lab to Launch Pad

Thursday, 17 July 2025

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Stone & Chalk Adelaide Lot Fourteen, North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Free Event (Registration Required)

Join us for a special edition of the SA Insights Series as part of Australian Space Week, showcasing South Australia's growing role as the nation's space state and the emerging opportunities for the life sciences sector.

The session will feature an opening address from Australian astronaut Katherine Bennell-Pegg who will share her insights on the benefits of microgravity for health and medical research and its real-world applications. Katherine will highlight the potential for Australia to conduct microgravity research, including how its researchers and industries can best pursue this opportunity and help improve life on Earth.

MTP Connect SA Industry Development Officer, Dr Santhni Subramaniam will then lead a fireside chat with experts working at the intersection of space and human health innovations.

Register

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Austronaut: Plants in Human Spaceflight

Friday, 18 July 2025

1:00pm - 5:00pm



The University of Adelaide, Waite Campus

Paid/Ticketed Event

During this all-new half-day workshop supported by ARC Centre of Excellence in Plants for Space, participants will explore the effects of the space environment on plant physiology whilst conducting practical lab experiments with transferrable skills to microgravity research.

Good nutrition is vital for astronaut health on a mission and research groups such as Plants for Space are investigating how to grow healthier and more nutritious plants to support deep space missions. In addition to making more satisfying and nutritious meals which boost astronaut health and morale, plant growth in space can also provide an outlet for recreation and relaxation.

Key topics include understanding why duckweed is a useful crop for space plant research, investigating protein rich foods and plants, learning about controlled environment agriculture and practicing lab skills that are useful for science in human spaceflight.

Register



Austronaut: Human Performance for Space

Saturday, 19 July 2025

1:00pm - 5:00pm

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TBA

Paid/Ticketed Event

Based on the successful 2-day workshop held in December 2024 at Swinburne University, the Austronaut Human Performance for Space Workshop will cover a range of topics related to astronaut candidate preparation, inspired by the interdisciplinary requirements placed on astronauts during selection and on missions.

The content of this workshop is inspired by astronauts as high performers who are physically, psychologically and technically prepared for operating in a challenging and isolated environment. Throughout this workshop, instructors will teach participants about what astronauts do to prepare and perform for spaceflight as well as about the elements that support on-going success, through the lens of becoming an astronaut.

SPACE WEEK EVENTS > 18TH AUSTRALIAN SPACE FORUM

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN



Register

Austronaut: Fast Jets And Their Role in Space

134

Sunday, 20 July 2025

10:00am - 4:00pm

thangar 2, Adelaide Airport

Paid/Ticketed Event

Flight training, particularly in fast jets, has been a cornerstone of astronaut preparation since the beginning of human spaceflight. Early astronauts were fighter pilots, and jet training remains essential for building critical skills by exposing astronauts to high-risk environments.

While the g-forces in jets and rockets differ, crews must handle intense g-loads whilst communicating effectively, managing checklists, and monitoring systems under pressure, all while staying situationally aware and ready for the unexpected.

This special workshop, in collaboration with Egress Space, will be set inside a hangar at Adelaide airport and alongside an L39C Albatross training jet. During this workshop, participants will learn about fast jets, crew resource management, the medical requirements of fast jet pilots and the role that fast jets play in astronaut training.

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The Australian Space Forum is hosted The Andy Thomas Space Foundation — one of Australia's leading National Space Not-For-Profits, supporting the education and outreach goals of the growing Australian Space Ecosystem.

