

Call for Speakers

NEXT TECH

Forward thinking ideas for the future of the national security tech-sector

APPLICATIONS DUE THURSDAY 9 APRIL 2015

Round 1 finalists notified Wednesday 15 April

Round 2 finalists notified Wednesday 22 April

Final Speakers announced Friday 24 April

Event Date: Friday 8 May 2015 | 4pm

Venue: The Palace Electric Theatre

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What is Next Tech?

Australia's security-orientated technology and industry sector is vital to ensuring future regional security and prosperity. Yet the sector faces many challenges, as well as opportunities. Next Tech is a unique forum to pose new ideas and thinking on the role of Australia's national security technology and industry sector, and develop ways to build a growth-orientated next-generation industry. Building on the success of our innovative ideas forum, Next, comes Next Tech – our new forum where future strategic leaders share forward thinking ideas for a next-generation national security tech-sector.

Next Tech gives you the platform to present a six-minute burst of fresh ideas, insights and thoughts to a high-powered audience of Defence and national security leaders, including

current and former service chiefs, departmental and agency leaders, leading academics, and think-tank executives. It's the kind of audience that normally has the podium. This time, you're on the podium, they're listening to what you have to say.

Why Next Tech?

Australia's security-orientated technology and industry sector is vital to ensuring future regional security and prosperity. Yet the sector faces many challenges, as well as opportunities. Next Tech is a unique forum to pose new ideas and thinking on the role of Australia's national security technology and industry sector, and ways to build a growth-orientated next-generation industry.

Next Tech is designed to appeal to the whole gamut of professionals from engineers, scientists, technologists, business development staff and program management

specialists, to security leaders, policymakers, and economists.

What type of format is Next Tech?

Next Tech runs for one hour, with seven presenters delivering strictly six minute bursts. Expect a diverse audience – many of them high-ranking national security and government leaders, as well as academics, students, and interested members of the public.

It's not a six-minute 'data-dump' or sloppy slideshow. Talks are to be engaging, edgy, arguing a specific point or position, and passionate. A future focus is ideal. Controversial ideas or positions are welcomed, so long as they are well argued. Whilst there won't be a Q&A session, the presentations will be followed by a networking event, so be ready to defend your position to Australia's security and industry leaders.



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What specifically could I talk about?

We're looking for new, original ideas and perspectives around the theme of devising a next-generation national security technology and industry sector.

You may have insightful perspectives on industry policy, how new technologies could advance defence capability, or how operational perspectives on user needs that might form the basis of new opportunities. Topics need not only be focused around production or acquisition phases either; with sustainment and research and development policies, technologies and program management themes also fitting the scope of Next Tech.

Keep in mind this is not a technical event with in-depth scientific content and applications that appear to be a sales presentation will be thoroughly scrutinised to assess their applicability to Next Tech.

Is the event classified?

As the event is a public forum, all content must be unclassified. Also,

make sure you have permission (if required) to speak. We are able to introduce you as an individual in the program, so as not to identify an employer if requested.

Will I own the IP of my presentation?

The IFRS will not require you hand over IP ownership of your presentation and ideas, although we might invite you to make a contribution to one of our other publications which is then subject to the requirements of that particular publication. However, make sure they are your ideas, that you haven't plagiarised anyone, and that you have rights/permission to use any third-party images or content in a public domain.

What's the process?

It's a two stage process, and which starts by filling out the application form online. It contains specific prompts on what you are going to talk about, how it fits the ethos of Next Tech, and a bit about yourself. You will also need to send us a two page C.V. – **all by 9 April 2015.**

The Selection Team, made up IFRS and Engineers Australia personnel, will then assess your application. If it's successful, it will go through to the next stage, which is an invitation to present your six-minute ideas burst to the Team, between 15 and 22 April. From there, a final decision will be made on 24 April on who will take the stage at Next Tech on 8 May 2015. Feedback will be provided, if requested, in the lead-up to the event.

What's the price?

If you are successful in your application, it's free. But even if you don't make it all the way through, we'd still like to have you there. Keep an eye out for ticket details on our website.

What if I have questions?

Email us at next@ifrs.org.au or call us on +61 (0)2 6295 1555.

Where do I apply?

regionalsecurity.org.au/events