



Cyclones and space travel: emergency management leaders prepare for change

Australian emergency management leaders work together for resilience at AFAC18

Australasia's biggest emergency management conference and exhibition, AFAC18 powered by INTERSCHUTZ is gearing up to equip the sector to thrive in an uncertain future. The program features NASA Astronaut Mike Mullane, an inductee of the International Space Hall of Fame. Mullane's insights into successful teamwork, leadership and safety flow from a unique career, including his first-hand experience of the 1986 space shuttle Challenger tragedy. "One of the biggest errors an emergency responder can make is to assume it's someone else's problem," said Mullane. "It's about having the initiative to speak out – it might be your life you are saving." Delegates will also hear from Craig Fugate, the distinguished former Administrator of the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency, on 'the seven deadly sins of emergency management.' "Disasters don't fit into what you think you are capable of doing," says Fugate. "We have to prepare for the unexpected, not what we are capable of responding to right now." Other program highlights include: Neil Burrows, Senior Principal Research Scientist, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Western Australia Anna-Maria Arabia, Chief Executive, Australian Academy of Science Eric Yap, Commissioner, Singapore Civil Defence Force Dr Dana Born, Co-Director, Centre for Public Leadership, Harvard Kennedy School of Government AFAC18 powered by INTERSCHUTZ is running concurrently in 2018 with the inaugural Australian Disaster Resilience Conference, featuring: Phil Rist, Nywaigi Traditional Owner Jane Hayward AM, teaching Principal, Strathewen Primary School Dr Megan McCarthy, Macquarie University/Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Dr Rachel Armstrong, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, WA Kicking off with the annual Research Forum presented by the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre, the event runs from 5-8 September 2018 at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. The AFAC18 conference program will explore how we can improve ourselves, and the emergency management and disaster resilience sector and how to survive and thrive in an ever-changing, complex environment. For more information visit: <http://www.afacconference.com.au/> The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference will explore the rise of resilience from the individual to the global – enhancing recovery by supporting community resilience. For more information visit: <https://aidr.org.au/programs/australian-disaster-resilience-conference/> Notes to editors: Keynote speakers are available for interviews via the media contacts listed below Available for interview on request: Stuart Ellis, CEO, Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authority Council (AFAC) and the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) Dr Richard Thornton, CEO, Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre Harvey Stockbridge, Managing Director, Deutsche Messe Complimentary media passes are available, apply by sending name, position and publication to jessica@zadroagency.com.au Media contacts: Jessica McLean | Account Manager | Zadro +61 2 9212 7867 | +61 400 433 182 | jessica@zadroagency.com.au Sammy Dalglish | Group Account Director | Zadro +61 2 9212 7867 | +61 430 343 621 | sammy@zadroagency.com.au Images: All images of AFAC17 can be found on the AFAC Flickr page and can be used royalty free. 1. Colonel Mike Mullane, retired NASA astronaut 2. Craig Fugate, former United States Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator 3. AFAC17 showfloor

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