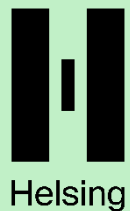


	Secure Australia Redefining Security: Navigating the Future of RAS-AI
08:15	Morning Registration and Networking
08:50	Chair's Opening Remarks Mel McDowall, Director, DAIRNet
	Operationalising Autonomy: Building Trusted, Scalable AI for Australia's Defence Future
09:00	Shaping AI in Defence • AI-Driven Defence Transformation. • Building Resilient Autonomous Systems for Defence Operations. • Securing a Collaborative Future. Mike Moroney , Executive Director, Defence AI Centre, Australian Department of Defence
09:30	Panel Discussion Smart Scale: Delivering Affordable Mass with Autonomous Systems • Assessing vulnerabilities in Australia's northern approaches and critical infrastructure. • The proven capacity of AI-enabled capabilities and how to move beyond pilots to integrated, enduring solutions. • Using autonomous systems to achieve scale, redundancy, and persistent presence without unsustainable cost. • Designing human-machine systems where humans remain central but are enabled by AI to act faster and with greater effect. • Balancing international partnerships with sovereign control over mission-critical systems and decision logic. • Where Australia should focus—doctrine, procurement, or partnerships—to accelerate real-world AI capability in the next 2–3 years. Ian Langford , Executive Director, S&D PLuS Dr Anthony Szabo , Assistant Chief Platforms, Defence Science and Technology Group Glenn Alcock , Australian Lead, Helsing Glen Schafer , Chief Executive Officer, Trusted Autonomous System Mel McDowall , Director, DAIRNet
10:00	Morning Speed Networking



	Kickstart your day with fast-paced, one-on-one interactions. Connect with key industry leaders, share insights, and expand your professional network in this energetic, structured networking session.
10:15	Morning Break And Networking
	Barriers to Integrating and Scaling Emerging Technology
10:45	Reducing Regulatory Barriers to Integrating and Scaling Emerging Tech Faster and Safely • Identify key regulatory hurdles slowing tech adoption. • Explore strategies to fast-track safe integration and scaling. • Outline collaboration models to enable faster innovation. Emily Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defence Export Control, Australian Department of Defence
11:15	Panel Discussion Barriers to Entry for Emerging Technology • Capability Development at Pace: How do different sectors balance innovation with procurement, regulation, and integration timelines? • Operational Interoperability: How can military and civilian agencies ensure autonomous systems work seamlessly across domains and jurisdictions? • Data, Trust & Decision-Making: How do we manage data flow and decision-making in environments where AI plays a critical operational role? • Beyond Silos: Aligning Defence, Law Enforcement and Academia in the Robotics Era Mel McDowall, Director, DAIRNet Emily Clarke, Director AI Strategy, Policy and Engagement, Defence AI Centre (DAIC) Hing-Wah Kwok, Group Leader Digital and AI Systems, Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG) Adam Haskard, Founder and Principal Consultant, Bluerydge
12:00	Lunch and Networking

13:00	Next-Gen Airpower: Accelerating Combat Advantage through AI and Autonomy • Leveraging AI and autonomy to expand the lethality, survivability, and mission flexibility of fifth- and sixth-gen aircraft like the F-35. • Operational integration of autonomous wingmen to support manned platforms, force-multiply effect, and expand tactical reach. • Applying AI-enabled tools for real-time mission planning, threat prioritisation, and rapid sensor-to-shooter workflows. Air Commodore Angus Porter, Director General Air Combat Capability, Royal Australian Air Force
13:30	AI-Driven Decision-Making, Automation, and Swarm Tactics for Enhancing UAS Capabilities • Leveraging AI for Faster, Smarter UAS Decision Cycles. • Automation in UAS Lifecycle: From Launch to Recovery. • Swarm Tactics and Distributed UAS Coordination. Brigadier James Davis, Director-General Future Land Warfare, Australian Army
14:00	Panel Discussion Human-Machine Teaming in Combat • Balance between autonomy and human oversight. • Ethical and doctrinal implications of semi-autonomous weapon systems. • Training soldiers to work with intelligent machines. Air Commodore Angus Porter, Director General Air Combat Capability, Royal Australian Air Force Brigadier James Davis, Director- General Future Land Warfare, Australian Army Dr Anthony Szabo, Assistant Chief Platforms, Defence Science and Technology Group Mel McDowall, Director, DAIRNet
14:45	Afternoon Break and Networking

	Navigating Supply Chain Risk in a Volatile World
15:15	Panel Discussion Navigating Supply Chain Risk in a Volatile World • Critical Vulnerabilities: Risks in sensors, AI, and hardware for defence systems. • Cross-Sector Alerts: Real-time intelligence for energy, transport, law enforcement, and defence • Global Disruptions: Lessons from COVID, chip shortages, and geopolitical tensions. • Battlefield Innovation: Trojan drones in Ukraine and the evolving threat to Russian infrastructure • Resilience & Partnerships: Aligning policy, collaboration, and sovereign control. Mike Moroney, Executive Director, Defence AI Centre, Australian Department of Defence Trace Gosling, Vice President, APAC, Dataminr Prof Sascha Dominik Dov Bachmann, Professor in Law & Security at Canberra Law School, Faculty of Business, Government and Law, University of Canberra Mel McDowall, Director, DAIRNet 
16:00	Annual Secure Australia Cocktail Reception
17:00	End of Day One

	Secure Australia Redefining Security: Navigating the Future of RAS-AI	
09:00	Morning Registration and Networking	
09:20	Chair's Opening Remarks Mel McDowall, Director, DAIRNet	
09:30	Exploring the Edge: AI, Autonomy, and the Future Force Landscape • Harnessing autonomous swarms, unmanned ISR, and persistent sensors to reshape force structure and mission profiles. • Using digital twins, wargaming, and advanced modelling to test and iterate RASAI-driven operational concepts before investment. • Building AI-enabled force options that are joint by design, modular, and adaptive to evolving threat environments. Commodore Michael Turner, Director General Maritime Integrated Capabilities, Australian Department of Defence	
10:00	Why we need Local Australia Capability to Advance Autonomy Adoption • Build trust, safeguards and accountability in every step of autonomy • Accelerate AI understanding by local rapid feedback cycles • Understanding the security implications of operational autonomy Mark Palmer, VP - Vision Systems, Shield AI	
10:15	Demo Drive Get hands-on with the latest AI, autonomous systems, and defence technologies. Experience live demos, explore real-world applications, and see innovation in action.	
10:30	Morning Break and Networking	
	Quantum-Enabled Autonomy: The Next Leap for AI and Robotics in Defence	
11:00	Quantum-Enabled Autonomy: Unlocking the Next Frontier in AI and Robotics • Faster, more complex AI processing. • Ultra-precise sensing and navigation. • Unbreakable communications. Muhammad Usman, Head of Quantum Systems, CSIRO'S Data61	



11:30	Panel Discussion How Quantum Technologies Will Revolutionise RAS-AI - Exploring how quantum algorithms could exponentially enhance real-time data processing and decision-making in robotics and autonomous systems — from navigation to threat detection. - Discussing the role of quantum computing in training more efficient, adaptive AI models for defence applications, especially in complex environments where classical systems fall short. - Examining how quantum technologies can bolster the cyber resilience and secure communication networks essential for deploying trusted, autonomous platforms at scale. Muhammad Usman, Head of Quantum Systems, CSIRO'S Data61 Lieutenant Colonel Marcus Doherty, SO1 Quantum Technologies, Australian Army Dr Ben Travaglione, Quantum Computing Discipline Leader, Defence Science and Technology Group Dr David Simpson, Associate Professor, Physical Biosciences, University of Melbourne James Rabeau, Chief Executive Officer, Deteqt
12:30	Lunch Break
13:30	Panel Discussion Ethical AI & Regulatory Frameworks - The ethical considerations surrounding the use of AI in defence and security operations. - The creation of international and domestic regulatory frameworks to govern the use of AI and autonomous systems in military applications. - The role of export controls and governance in ensuring responsible AI development. Professor Toby Walsh, Chief Scientist, UNSW AI Institute Glen Schafer, Chief Executive Officer, Trusted Autonomous Systems
14:15	Fireside Chat Protecting Intelligent Systems from Cyber Threats - How can we secure the complex web of interconnected sensors, AI systems, and cloud platforms that underpin autonomous technologies against increasingly sophisticated cyber attacks? - What steps can organizations take to mitigate supply chain risks, especially when critical RAS components are sourced from third-party vendors with varying levels of cybersecurity maturity? - How do we protect the integrity of training and operational data used by AI-driven autonomous systems from manipulation or poisoning by cyber adversaries?

	• Where should we draw the line between cybersecurity and operational continuity—especially in time-sensitive environments like healthcare, energy, or defence? • As autonomous systems proliferate, how must cybersecurity strategies evolve to defend against emerging threat vectors and adaptive adversaries? Professor Olaf Manuel Maennel, Professor School of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, Faculty of Sciences, Engineering and Technology, The University of Adelaide Prof Sascha Dominik Dov Bachmann, Professor in Law & Security at Canberra Law School, Faculty of Business, Government and Law, University of Canberra
	Thinking Machines, Trusted Decisions: Ethics and Oversight in Defence
15:00	End of Conference