

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**For immediate release**

### **Smart communities conference in Adelaide to set global benchmark**

This year's [Australian Smart Communities Conference](#) in Adelaide from 29-31 May is bringing together a range of exciting activities, speakers and community events in a world first event, and will set a benchmark for other smart city conferences around the world.

Australian Smart Communities Association (ASCA) Executive Director Paul Budde said the conference was the peak smart city event of the year, sponsored by the Government of South Australia, Adelaide City Council, KPMG, Silver Spring Networks and the University of Adelaide.

"This event will include not just the usual conference activities but will actively engage with all levels of the community, starting with several pre-conference events during the weekend of 27-28 May."

The conference program kicks off on Monday 29 May with smart city site visits followed by the official welcome reception that evening.

"The three-day conference features more than 40 speakers, including 10 international and five national keynote speakers. There will also be presentations from the Federal and State Governments, as well as six Australian smart cities," Mr Budde said.

"An exhibition will feature the latest smart solutions and technologies, including representatives from the German Smart City Forum, led by the Urban Institute, as well as the Dutch who will run their famous Holland Pavilion, Hong Kong and many Australian organisations."

Mr Budde said an international trade organisation was looking at using the event as a platform to showcase Australia's smart cities activities internationally, aiming to bring between 30 and 50 'buyers' from three or four Asian countries.

"This organisation will also assist in attracting overseas delegates and exhibitors to the event," he said.

Additional conference highlights feature an International Business Lounge and a range of sponsorable receptions, dinners, meetings and other activities. Pre-conference activities include:

- A hackathon challenge for innovators, startups and entrepreneurs. While the main event will be in Adelaide, they will interconnect with pop-up innovation sites around Australia and the world.
- A vibrant Smart Street event which will showcase a range of smart city contributions from Adelaide's diverse community.
- A meeting of mayors from Australia's leading smart cities, hosted by Lord Mayor of Adelaide The Hon Martin Haese.

This event is organised by the [Australian Smart Communities Association](#), the country's peak smart city body. It is Australia's only not-for-profit smart communities conference organised for local councils by local councils.

The conference will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from 29-31 May. Early bird rates are available until 13 April. For more details visit <http://ascaconference.org.au>.

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## **Australian Smart Communities Association**

The Australian Smart Communities Association (ASCA) facilitates, promotes and advises on how communities can build liveable, sustainable, workable smart cities. We put our citizens, local businesses and stakeholders at the core of our activities.

Our members are made up of local governments, Regional Development Australia committees, Regional Organisations of Councils, industry, businesses and individuals who **collectively represent 8.1 million Australians - or 1 in 3 Australians.**

The adoption of smart technology in city/town management, energy, water, health and transport, along with high-speed broadband, could add more than 70,000 jobs to the Australian economy and bring 1.5 percent growth to Australia's Gross Domestic Product within five years.

[www.australiansmartcommunities.org.au](http://www.australiansmartcommunities.org.au)



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