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MELBOURNE



ALAANZ 41

Landing Wednesday 30th April – Friday 2nd May 2025
Intercontinental Hotel, Melbourne



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM & REGISTRATION

wtw



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MELBOURNE

AVIATION LAW CONFERENCE

ALAANZ 2025 Conference Committee Members

Conference Chair

James Cooper

Partner, Wotton Kearney

Committee Members

Tim Coghlan

Partner, Colin Biggers & Paisley

John Ribbands

Barrister, Victorian Bar

Karl Stacy

Manager, Aviation Claims, QBE

Merinda Stewart

Associate, Wotton Kearney

Andrew Tulloch

Partner, Colin Biggers & Paisley

Welcome from Conference Committee

On behalf of the Organising Committee, I welcome you all to the 41st Annual ALAANZ Conference.

We're excited to be hosting once again in Melbourne, this time at the InterContinental Hotel adjoining the iconic Rialto Towers in the heart of Melbourne's CBD.

It's been another big 12 months in the aviation sector, both locally and internationally. In August 2024 the Australian Government released its Aviation White Paper setting out its vision for aviation looking ahead to 2050. Climate change and the path to net zero continues to be a major focus for airlines, airports, and the industry more broadly. In-flight events, including in relation to turbulence, have raised important questions about the carrier liability regime under the Montreal Convention 1999 as it passed its 25th anniversary. There have been exciting developments in the local commercial aerospace scene. And the global aviation insurance industry has been in focus in a multi-billion dollar trial in the UK in connection with aircraft stranded in Russia.

We will be covering all these topics, and more, as part of our experienced and varied program of panels and speakers, offering something for lawyers, insurers, regulators, and those in the aviation industry more generally.

As always, there will be plenty of opportunities to catch up and network with friends and colleagues during our welcome cocktail reception, conference lunches, and dinner at Eureka 89 with stunning views over Port Phillip Bay, the MCG and other famous Melbourne landmarks.

We look forward to seeing you all in person at the Conference!

James Cooper | ALAANZ 2025 Conference Chair

Conference Secretariat

Mecca Concepts Pty Ltd, Melbourne

MECCACONCEPTS



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41ST ANNUAL ALAANZ CONFERENCE

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Wednesday, 30th April – Day 1

4:30 – 6:00pm

Registration

6:00 – 8:00pm

Cocktail Function

Intercontinental – Alluvial Restaurant and Bluestone Bar

Sponsored by HWL Ebsworth

Thursday, 1st May – Day 2

8:00 – 8:30am

Registration and Arrival Tea and Coffee

Coffee Cart sponsored by Sparke Helmore Lawyers

8:30 – 8:50am

Conference Opening Address

8:50 – 9:30am

Keynote Address

Anntonette Dailey, Aviation Aerospace Australia; Board member Space Industry Association of Australia, Australia

9:30 – 11:00am

Session 1

Aviation white paper

Lea Vesic, RMIT-Aviation Academy; CASA Aviation Safety Advisory Panel, Australia

Peter Boys, Liability Claims Manager, Aviation – Asia Pacific, Charles Taylor Adjusting, Singapore

Michael Nas, Principal-Head of Corporate and Commercial, Bennett Litigation and Commercial Law, Australia

11:00 – 11:30am

Morning Tea

Sponsored by Sedgwick Australia Pty Ltd

11:30am – 12:30pm

Session 2

Sustainable Aviation

Panel session

Panel discussion led by

Alan Polivnick, Partner, Watson Farley and Williams, Australia

Kiri Hannifin, Chief Sustainability Officer, Air New Zealand, New Zealand

Claire Waghorn, Sustainable Transition Leader, Christchurch Airport, New Zealand

David Wills, Executive Director, Invest Global, Australia

12:30 – 1:00pm

Session 3

Safety/Just Culture

Session Sponsored by CASA

Session Chair: Dr Jonathan Aleck

Tony Power, Founder & Principal Consultant, Just Culture, Australia, Australia

1:00 – 2:10pm

Lunch

Sponsored by McLarens Aviation

2:10 – 2:50pm

DAVID BOUGHEN ADDRESS

Jack Rush KC, Victorian Bar, Australia

2:50 – 3:40pm

Session 4

Disaster: A Helicopter Operator's Story of Crisis and Recovery

Jonathan Booth, CEO, Microflite, Australia

3:40 – 4:10pm

Afternoon Tea

Sponsored by HFW



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

4:10 – 5:10pm

Session 5

Cyber Security

Chathura Abeydeera, Director,
Cyber Attach and Response Services,
KMPG Australia, Australia

Keira Nelson, Partner, Norton White,
Australia

5:10pm

Day 1 Concludes

7:00 – 10:30pm

Dinner - Eureka 89, Northern Point Room

*Sponsored by WTW Global Aviation
& Space*

Friday 2nd May – Day 3

8:30 – 9:00am

Arrival Tea/Coffee

*Sponsored by Sparke Helmore
Lawyers*

9:00 – 10:00am

Session 6

Space

Thomas Jones, Partner, Bird & Bird,
Australia

10:00 – 10:15am

AGM

10:15 – 10:45am

Morning Tea

*Sponsored by Sedgwick Australia
Pty Ltd*

10:45 – 11:30am

Session 7

Accessible Air Travel

Erin Turner Manners, Senior
Solicitor - Strategic Litigation, Justice
& Equity Centre, Australia

Bastien Wallace, Public Health
Strategist, Australia

Matthew Hall, National Manager,
Systemic Advocacy & Policy,
Australian Federation of Disability
Organisations, Australia

11:30 – 12:00pm

Session 8

Turbulence/Safety

James McIntyre, Special Counsel,
HWL Ebsworth Lawyers, Australia

12:00 – 1:10pm

Lunch

*Sponsored by Charles Taylor
Aviation*

1:10 – 2:10pm

Session 9

Insurance

Eoghan McCarthy, Aviation Risk
Management and Insurance
Specialist, WTW, Australia

**Paul Mesquitta, Peter Sharp &
David Waldron**, Partners, Morgan
Lewis & Bockius, United Kingdom

2:10 – 3:40pm

Session 10

Liability Panel Debate – 'Revisiting the Montreal Convention 1999'

Panel Session

Panel Facilitator: John Ribbands,
Barrister, VIC Bar, Australia

Panel members

Adam Baker, Barrister, Victorian Bar,
Australia

Peter Carter, Legal Practice Director,
Carter Capner Law, Australia

Tristan Thompson, Partner, Kennedys,
Singapore

3:40pm

Conference close

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