



Australasian Association of Fire Investigators Conference  
21-23 October 2024 | Western Sydney Conference Centre, Penrith

**DAY 1: Monday 21 October 2024**

Room	WSCC Room 3	
07:30	Registration Opens	
08:30	Welcome and Announcements Conference Chair: Michael Forbes and FRNSW Commissioner Jeremy Fewtrell	
09:00	Examination and Handling of Lithium-ion Batteries Cameron Novak (U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) Fire Research Laboratory (FRL))	KEYNOTE
10:00	Morning Tea	
10:30	Burnt Teslas, Stranded Energy & AI Supporting Fire Investigation in an Electrified World Emma Sutcliffe (EV FireSafe)	LIB
11:00	Investigating Arson: You win some. You lose some. Daren Mallouk (Queensland Fire Department)	ORAL
11:45	Fire Investigation and the Insurance Council of Australia - Working Together Andrew Gill (Insurance Council of Australia)	
12:15	Lunch	
13:00	The analysis of ventilated post-flashover compartment fires by Australian Investigators using the Fire Origin Matrix Method Mackenzie de la Hunty (University of Technology Sydney)	RESEARCH
13:30	The Aberfeldy Bushfire - Case Study Leslie John Vearing (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action)	WILDFIRE
14:00	Just because it's not arson, doesn't mean it's not criminal - Glenmore Fire, February 2023 Jonathan Heywood (Energy Safe Vic)	
14:30	Fire Rescue NSW LiB incidents update and SARET Rylee Lam (FRNSW)	LIB
15:00	Lithium battery storage and transport fires - finding the culprit John Lording and Jim Munday (Fire Forensics Pty Ltd)	
15:30	Afternoon Tea	
16:00	Jay Street Fatal Fire Case Study Barry Grimm and Dixon Robin	ORAL
17:30	Welcome Reception	
		SOCIAL

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**DAY 2: Tuesday 22 October 2024**

Room	WSCC Room 3	
08:00	Registration Opens	
8:30	The Victorian Big Battery Fire <b>Mark Collins (Country Fire Authority) and Goran Sokoleski (Energy Safe Victoria)</b>	LIB
9:15	From Insult to Injury to Change: How a Firefighter Injury Catalyzed Regulatory Reform <b>Paul Villani (Fire Rescue Victoria) &amp; Dave Crew (Energy Safe Vic)</b>	ORAL
9:45	Electric Vehicles and Infrastructure Fire Risks <b>Dr Nick Agnew (Stacey Agnew Pty Ltd)</b>	LIB
10:15	Morning Tea	
10:45	Fire as a Weapon <b>Barry Grimm</b>	ORAL
11:15	Examination and Analysis of Common Electrical Appliances and Devices <b>Cameron Novak (U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) Fire Research Laboratory (FRL))</b>	KEYNOTE
12:15	Lunch	
13:00	Managing the Unprecedented: Investigations Management & the Legal Tail that followed Black Summer <b>Alina Anderhuber and Angus Bullough (NSW Rural Fire Service)</b>	WILDFIRE
13:30	Navigating Leadership Challenges and Mental Health Amidst Catastrophic Fires: A Personal Reflection from Black Saturday to Black Summer. <b>Graeme Simpfendorfer (Peregrine Consultancy Pty Ltd)</b>	ORAL
14:00	Investigation of Burn Pattern Formation to Assist in Validating Fire Investigation <b>Rebecca Skipworth (Western Sydney University)</b>	RESEARCH
14:30	The Backyard Hobbyist: Devastating consequences of experimentation with lithium-ion battery technology. <b>Joel Davey &amp; Shane Jenkin (Fire Rescue Victoria)</b>	LIB
15:00	Afternoon Tea	
15:30	AI Tools in Fire Investigations: Navigating the Reliability and Legal Considerations <b>Vithyaa Thavapalan</b>	ORAL
16:00	Serial Wildfire Arson Investigation & Wildfire Investigation Awareness (Field day) <b>Richard Woods (Wildfire Investigations and Analysis Pty Ltd)</b>	WILDFIRE
18:00	Conference Dinner	

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**DAY 3: Wednesday 23 October 2024**

**667 The Northern Road, Londonderry**

<b>06:30</b>	<b>Registration Opens</b>
<b>7:00</b>	<b>Departure from Western Sydney Conference Centre</b>
	<b>Field Day Tour</b>
<b>15:00</b>	<b>Return to Western Sydney Conference Centre, Penrith</b>

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