



DAY 1 Wednesday 22 October 2025

9:00am – 10:00am	Registration / Pre-meeting Networking / Morning Tea Greenhouse Tech Hub: Level 3, 180 George Street Sydney NSW, Level 3 Reception and Telford Room	
10:00am – 10:10am	Acknowledgment To Country	Binowee Bayles
10:10am - 10:25am	Welcome from the Chair Presentation of RISE Fellowships	Dr Abby Bloom - Chair ACM CRC Three RISE Fellowships will be awarded to young women with exceptional potential in STEM at the management level
10:25am - 10:30am	CEO Welcome	Dr Steve Gower - Chief Executive Director ACM CRC
10:30am - 11:00am	Keynote Speaker	Dr Phillip J Crothers - Enterprise Domain Leader – Manufacturing Boeing Aerostructures Australia Title: The Digital Composites Production System
11:00am - 11:30am	R&D Update – The next 5 years	Dr Stephen van Duin - Research & Development Director ACM CRC
11:30am - 12:00pm	Technology Assisted Manufacturing	Luke Preston - Chief Technology Officer ACM CRC
12:00pm – 1:00pm		

VIEW PROGRAM ONLINE:





DAY 2 Thursday 23 October 2025

8:30am - 9:00am	Arrival / Networking / Coffee Greenhouse Tech Hub: Level 3, 180 George Street Sydney NSW, Level 3 Reception and Telford Room	
9:00am - 9:30am	Keynote Speaker	Kerryn Caulfield - Composites Australia Executive Director Title: Shaping the Future of Australian Composites Manufacturing
Research Program Updates and Q&A:		
9:30am - 9:40am	Research Program 4: Design and Integration	A/Prof. Michael Heitzmann - Associate Professor School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering UQ Research Program 4 Leader
9:40am - 10:00am	Project Presentation #1	Project: Integration of Composites in Resilient Maritime Infrastructures Project Partners: Wagners CFT The University of Southern Queensland (UniSQ) Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) Presenter: Prof. Allan Manalo - Director (Centre for Future Materials) UniSQ
10:00am - 10:20am	Morning Tea	
10:20am - 10:40am	Project Presentation #2	Project: Next Generation Composite Flipper Project Partners: Solar Sailor UNSW Sydney Presenter: A/Prof. Fangbao Tian - Deputy Head of School-Research, School of Engineering and Technology UNSW Canberra
10:40am - 11:00am	Project Presentation #3	Project: Manufacturing Automation for Smart Travel Surfboard Project Partners: Gowing Bros UNSW Sydney University of Wollongong Presenter: Dr Daniel Chen - Senior Lecturer; ARC DECRA Fellow, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering UNSW Sydney
11:00am - 11:20am	Introduction to ACM CRC Partner Management Portal (Turnkey)	Wojciech Nadachowski - Chief Operations Officer Autism CRC CRC Operations Specialist
11:20am - 11:30am	ACM CRC Education and Training - Update	Prof. Everson Kandare - Professor, Aerospace Engineering - School of Engineering The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) Education and Training Program Leader
11:30am - 12:00pm	Open Partner Discussion	Feedback and ideas from CRC partners on collaboration and engagement
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Networking Lunch - Opportunity to build on fireside chat topics and other business	
1:00pm - 1:30pm	Outcomes of Discussion	Summary of key insights, agreed actions and next steps
1:30pm - 2:20pm	ACM CRC Student Prize Presentations Voting for the Best Presentation will open after all five presentations have concluded	Five ACM CRC Student Prize Presentations and Q&As
2:20pm - 2:40pm	Afternoon Tea / Chat Breakout / Networking Voting for the Best HDR Presentation Opportunity to build on fireside chat topics and other business	
2:40pm - 2:50pm	Announcement of the ACM CRC HDR Student Prize Winner Closing Remarks	Dr Steve Gower - ACM CRC Chief Executive Director
2:50pm - 3:00pm	Meeting close	



Phil Crothers has 27 years’ experience with Boeing, mainly in the research field, including automation and composites development and deployment for which he is a Technical Fellow. He has also served in Europe, setting up BR&T offices in Munich, Germany, and Sheffield, UK. He has a PhD from RMIT University and has co-authored the Australian Robotics Roadmap (Manufacturing). Currently, Phil is leading Affordability and New Technology on the MQ28 Ghost Bat, integrating 40+ roadmaps, including 15+ PhDs in the area of affordable production systems.

Dr Phillip J Crothers

Enterprise Domain Leader - Manufacturing
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

DAY 1 KEY NOTE SPEAKER



Kerryn will introduce Composites Australia, outlining its legacy in shaping the industry through collaboration, advocacy and standards. The presentation will share findings from a national education and training scoping study conducted with ACM CRC and RMIT, highlighting workforce needs, skills pathways, and emerging opportunities in automation, robotics, and digital manufacturing. Key recommendations will be discussed, including strategies for industry, government and academia to build a skilled, adaptable workforce capable of sustaining Australia’s composites manufacturing future. Kerryn Caulfield is a senior association executive specialising in Australian manufacturing. She has led Composites Australia for over 20 years and brings more than five decades of experience across diverse industries. A prolific publisher, she promotes the capabilities of Australian manufacturers and works nationally and internationally to advance the composites sector through education, standards, policy and collaboration. She has held senior leadership roles, received Ministerial appointments and chairs national and international committees.

Kerryn Caulfield

Executive Director
Composites Australia Inc.

DAY 2 KEY NOTE SPEAKER