

Partner 22 - 23 OCTOBER OCTOBER



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		Networking Lunch - Level 3, Greenhouse Tech Hub
		Research Program Updates and Q&A:
1:00pm - 1:10pm	Research Program 1: Composite Materials	Dr Puneet Garg — Research Portfolio Manager ACM CRC
1:10pm - 1:30pm	Project Presentation #1	Project: Structural Health Monitoring for Tubular Joints Project Partners: FUZE The University of Western Australia (UWA) Presenter: Laurie Walker - Technology Project Manager FUZE
1:30pm - 1:50pm	Project Presentation #2	Project: Standardising in-Field Manufacture of Composite Repairs to Steel Structures Project Partners: FUZE UWA Presenter: Dr Prashanth Nagulapally – Research Fellow UWA
1:50pm - 2:10pm	Project Presentation #3	Project: Industrialisation of Carbon Fibre Wheel Production for the Global OEM Market Project Partners: Carbon Revolution Deakin University Presenter: Steven Agius - Materials and Process Technology Manager Carbon Revolution
2:10pm - 2:20pm	Research Program 2: Manufacturing processes	Prof. Garth Pearce - Professor, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering The University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney) Research Program 2 Leader
2:20pm - 2:40pm	Project Presentation #1	Project: Advanced Manufacturing of MOF-enabled Carbon Composite H2 Tanks for Heavy Mobility Project Partners: Rux Energy UNSW Sydney Presenter: Dr Jehan Kanga - Founder & CEO Rux Energy
2:40pm – 3:00pm	Project Presentation #2	Project: Drone Manufacturing Optimisation and Propeller Development Project Partners: Steber UNSW Sydney Presenter: Alan Steber - General Manager Steber
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea / Chat B	reakout / Networking - Opportunity to build on fireside chat topics and other business
3:30pm - 3:50pm	Project Presentation #3	Project: Composite High Temp Sucker Rod Guide – Design & Manufacture Project Partners: Oilfield Piping Systems (OPS) UQ Presenter: Dr Luigi Vandi - Co-Deputy Director for the Centre for Advanced Materials Processing and Manufacturing (AMPAM) and Senior Lecturer - School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering UQ
3:50pm - 4:00pm	Research Program 3: Simulation and Performance Prediction	Prof. Anna Paradowska - Professor in Advanced Structural Materials The University of Sydney (USYD) Deputy Research Program 3 Leader
4:00pm - 4:20pm	Project Presentation #1	Project: Circular Design 4.0 – Al-based Quality Control, Manufacturing Project Partners: Heavy Engineering Research Association (HERA) USYD Australia's Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) Presenter: Prof. Anna Paradowska - Professor in Advanced Structural Materials The University of Sydney (USYD)
4:20pm - 4:40pm	Project Presentation #2	Project: Metal Matrix Composite (MMC) and Functionally Graded Claddings for Marine, Mining and Defence Industries Project Partners: LaserBond USYD Presenter: Dr Surinder Singh - Research & Development Engineer LaserBond
4:40pm - 5:00pm	Project Presentation #3	Project: Ceramic Matrix Composite Components for Hypersonic Flight Project Partners: Hypersonix Launch Systems The University of Queensland (UQ) Presenter: Ronan Hughes - Mechanical Engineer Hypersonix
5:00pm – 7:00pm	Networking Drinks and Canapes	Venue: Greenhouse Tech Hub, Level 3, 180 George Street Sydney





Partner 22 - 23 Meeting OCTOBER



DAY 2 Thursday 23 October 2025

8:30am -9:00am	Arrival / Networking / Coffee Greenhouse Tech Hub: Level 3, 180 Georg	e 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 I UNSW Sydney Presenter: A/Prof. Fangbao Tian - Deputy Head of School-Research, School of Engineering and Technology I 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	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	
Afternoon Tea / Chat Breakout / Networking 2:20pm - 2:40pm 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

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.

Meeting close

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