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ISPANZ ANNUAL CONFERENCE - WEDNESDAY 26th August 2026

At The New Zealand International Convention Centre, Auckland



Who is at the Podium?

 ISPANZ President, Michael Twist	Michael has spent the last 20 years working across the globe in UK, US, Australia, Europe, supporting technology start-ups and private and government infrastructure managers deliver solutions to their wide range of customers. Currently as the CEO of Gravity Internet, Michael has worked for the last 8 years gaining knowledge of the New Zealand connectivity landscape and has been involved in projects which have brought much needed digital tools and skills to those in rural, remote and isolated communities across the country and the wider Pacific region.
 Ailsa Leach, Head of Infrastructure Connectivity & Colocation, Chorus	Ailsa Leach is Head of Infrastructure Connectivity & Co-Location at Chorus and a member of the Infrastructure Value Stream Leadership Team. She has more than 25 years of global experience across telecommunications, technology, education, transport, insurance and local government. Her experience spans infrastructure connectivity, product development, customer experience and transformational change. Ailsa is skilled at bringing together commercial, customer and technical perspectives to navigate complexity and create practical, customer-focused outcomes. She is passionate about unlocking the potential of New Zealand's connectivity infrastructure and supporting the country's increasingly digital future.

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Trevor Fong, Head of RAN, 2degrees

Trevor's career in the telecommunications industry spans over 20 years, having started in the sector in 2003, and he brings to 2degrees a depth of knowledge and experience across Radio Access Network engineering, strategy, and operations.

Trevor's experience includes leading multidisciplinary teams across RAN Engineering, Operations, Architecture, and Delivery, spanning network planning and design, spectrum strategy, commercial business cases, and day-to-day operational performance.

As Head of RAN, Trevor is responsible for the technical strategy and performance of 2degrees' national mobile network, ensuring it is resilient, fit for purpose, and positioned to meet the connectivity needs of Aotearoa. Working closely with his leadership team and industry partners, Trevor ensures 2degrees continues to deliver a competitive, quality mobile network for New Zealanders.



Pierre-Emmanuel Goiffon, Head of Connectivity, Datagrid New Zealand

Pierre Goiffon is Head of Connectivity at Datagrid, leading connectivity strategy for its AI data centre in Southland and the Tasman Ring Network, a new submarine cable system linking New Zealand and Australia. A telecommunications engineer by training, he has spent over twenty years delivering networks across Europe and Australasia with BT Global Services, Level 3, Vocus and BW Digital, spanning submarine and terrestrial infrastructure, solution architecture, contract negotiation and large-scale project delivery.

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Richard Prowse, NZ Hyperscale Director, CDC

Richard Prowse is CDC's NZ Business Director with extensive leadership experience across New Zealand, Australia, and the United States, including several years based in Texas and New York, Richard has worked with some of the world's largest organisations across government, enterprise, and defence sectors. He has played a key role in helping organisations adopt emerging technologies and modern digital infrastructure to solve complex business challenges. Richard leads CDC's New Zealand Enterprise and Government business and also supports strategic Hyperscale customer relationships across Australia and New Zealand.



Ehsan Faraji Jalal, Staff Software Engineer, InternetNZ | Ipurangi Aotearoa

Ehsan is a Staff Software Engineer at InternetNZ with over 19 years of experience driving complex technical projects across banking, finance, and the internet industry. He has been with InternetNZ for 8 years. As a key contributor to Broadband Map NZ, he has helped guide the platform from its inception alongside a diverse portfolio of digital infrastructure initiatives.

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Reuben Davidson, Labour Party Hūhana Lyndon, Green Party Jenny Marcroft, New Zealand First	Political parties outline their positions on telecommunications issues.
Ben Oakley, Head of Telecommunications, Commerce Commission	Ben Oakley is Head of Telecommunications at the Commerce Commission. He has worked in telecommunications regulation since 2012 over which time he has led work across market monitoring, regulatory implementation, and policy development. In his current role he oversees the Commission's telecommunications regulatory functions – regulating wholesale services, supporting competitive markets, and ensuring positive outcomes for consumers.

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Andrew Young, Telecommunications Monitoring and Service Quality Manager, Commerce Commission

Andrew Young is Telecommunications Monitoring and Service Quality Manager at the Commerce Commission. He has worked in telecommunications for over 25 years in New Zealand, UAE and UK in commercial, marketing and product leadership roles. Since making the jump to the public sector with the Commission in late 2011 he has led work the Commission's Retail Service Quality work and recently added market monitoring to his remit.



Toni Shuker, Fibre and Regulatory Rules Manager, Commerce Commission

Toni Shuker is the Fibre and Regulatory Rules Manager in the telecommunications team at the New Zealand Commerce Commission. She is responsible for the Commission's telecommunications regulatory rules and statutory functions, including the fibre regime. Her work is currently focused on fibre regulation and schedule 1 regulatory reviews to ensure effective telecommunications regulation in New Zealand.

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Paul Delahunty, Deputy Chief Executive
Reviews and System Capability, Ministry for
Regulation

Paul is the Deputy Chief Executive, Reviews and System Capability at the Ministry for Regulation. He brings extensive experience across both the public and private sectors, having held senior leadership roles in various government agencies such as the Social Investment Agency, ACC, and Tertiary Education Commission, having started his career as a management consultant working across Australasia and Europe.

With a proven record in system reform, building organisational capability, and delivering strategic advice to Chief Executives, Boards and Ministers, Paul has been instrumental in successfully leading and delivering large-scale transformation.

Since his appointment to the Ministry in November 2024, he has overseen regulatory reviews into agricultural and horticultural products, telecommunications, hairdressing and barbering, product labelling, hospitality, and solar panel installation.



Ian Hooker, Chief Executive Officer, Rural
Connectivity Group

Ian has more than 30 years' experience in the telecommunications industry including 20 years at Vodafone NZ where he held various Technology leadership roles. Ian joined the Rural Connectivity Group (RCG) in 2020 and was appointed CEO in 2023, his leadership has ensured RCG continues to deliver and operate critical telecommunications infrastructure, connecting communities wherever they live, work, and gather.

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Brad Terpstra, Director of Engineering – Network & Ops, Halter

Brad is Director of Engineering — Network & Ops at Halter, where he leads the teams responsible for keeping smart collars connected on over a million cattle across New Zealand, Australia, and North America. That's running a hybrid connectivity stack — a custom LoRa network reaching into rural blackspots, multi-carrier cellular backhaul, and an emerging satellite direct-to-device layer — in some of the least-covered terrain anywhere.

Before Halter, he managed the network and onboard computer systems for American Magic, the US challenger for the America's Cup, moving real-time performance data off a foiling boat at 50 knots. Earlier, he ran composites manufacturer Offshore Spars and managed programs at General Motors.

Brad is also an entrepreneur, having founded Starlink rental service ConnectedKiwi (connectedkiwi.com). He's a multiple world and national champion sailor, an avid tinkerer and DIYer, and an American expat happily settled in New Zealand.



Regan Mowbray, Director, RexNetworks & Korari Plastics

Tauranga-born founder of RexNetworks (est. 2014) & Korari Plastics (est. 2025), Regan Mowbray leverages extensive experience in industrial and horticultural automation to deliver dependable fibre infrastructure across the Bay of Plenty. Guided by a core principle of service over profit, Regan focuses on driving innovation, efficiency, and offering top-tier connectivity tailored to local needs.

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