



Snapshot

AMTA's weekly update

**Australian
Mobile Telecommunications
Association**

Friday 24 March 2006

[Mobile Phone Use and Road Injury](#)

The George Institute in Sydney will hold a seminar on the impact of mobile phones on the ability of drivers – particularly older drivers - to perform driving-related functions. The seminar will be addressed by Professor David Shinar of the Ben Gurion University, Israel. Research undertaken by the George Institute on the effects of mobile phone distraction on driving will also be discussed. The seminar is on at 5.30pm on Wednesday, March 29, at the Holme Building, Science Road, the University of Sydney.

randal.markey@amta.org.au

[Ericsson signs record deal with New Zealand police](#)

Ericsson has signed the longest ever technology partnership agreement with New Zealand Police. The deal spans 21 years and ensures Ericsson provide the police with state of the art technology necessary for internal communications. Ericsson will supply MINI-LINK microwave radio systems and transmission products to the police, as well as provide support for the devices.

randal.markey@amta.org.au

[Australian Guidelines for Electronic Commerce released](#)

The Hon Chris Pearce MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, has released the Federal Government's *Australian Guidelines for Electronic Commerce*. The document seeks to enhance consumers' confidence in purchasing goods and services using electronic commerce. The guidelines replace and update the *Australian E-commerce Best Practice Model*, which was released by the Australian Government in May 2000. Copies are also available on the Treasury website at www.treasury.gov.au

[Commission clarifies new rules](#)

Meetings this week with the National Transport Commission confirmed the proposed new national regulations defining phone use in vehicles. The road rule amendments the NTC is proposing clarify that hand-held mobile phone use is prohibited while the vehicle is "*in motion or stationary but not parked*". Further clarifications to the rules remove the reference to "*hand-held mobile phone*" and replace it with "*mobile phone that the driver is holding in his or her hand*". Prohibited use of a mobile phone (while holding the device in your hand) includes:

- holding a phone to, or near, the ear,
- writing, sending or reading a text message on the phone,
- turning the phone on or off, and
- operating any other function on the phone

AMTA is investigating a four-way partnership with Australian Automobile Association, Australian Trucking Association, and National Transport Commission to promote responsible, law-abiding phone use defined in AMTA's driving tips.

(Click here for AMTA's driving tips)

chris.althaus@amta.org.au

[Mobile Content Australia Summit](#)

The delivery of content from the Commonwealth Games will be highlighted at next week's Mobile Content Australia 2006 conference in Sydney. Telstra's Group Manager for Content, Wireless and Mobility, Michael Padden, will present a case study of the Games content. AMTA CEO Chris Althaus will give the welcome address to delegates on Wednesday, March 29. A panel discussion will be headed by AMTA's Deputy Chair, Barry Borzillo, who is the Managing Director of Ericsson Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands (Click here for more information).

randal.markey@amta.org.au

[Sydney Council issues Draft DCP for Telecommunications](#)

The City of Sydney has released a *Draft City of Sydney Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Development Control Plan (Draft DCP)* for public comment. A copy of this is available at www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au. It proposes a series of controls and guidelines on telecommunications infrastructure deployment, which aims to replicate those from other councils, including Leichhardt and Waverley Councils. The MCF is concerned that imposing controls such as an arbitrary buffer zone policy may significantly hinder coverage and capacity in Sydney while exposing the community to higher levels of EME. The MCF will be lodging a submission to the City of Sydney by the deadline date of the 14 April.

tanya.stoianoff@amta.org.au

[New general manager at Vodafone](#)

Georgia-Kate Schubert is the new General Manager, Public Policy, at Vodafone Australia. Ms Schubert, a former Chair of AMTA's Policy and Strategy Steering Committee, is replacing Peter Stiffe. After five years in Australia, Mr Stiffe will return home to New Zealand. AMTA is indebted for his contribution to the Board (more to come on this). AMTA welcomes Georgia-Kate's appointment.

randal.markey@amta.org.au

[AMTA Networking Forum: Tim Smart to address members in Sydney](#)

Reserve your place now! Tim Smart is a Senior Telecommunications Analyst for Macquarie Bank. He will give an hour presentation on "The Future of Telecoms: A View from the Market" on Thursday 6th April at AAPT in Sydney, from 4.30-5.30pm.

ann.wellsmore@amta.org.au

AMTA: Ph (02) 6239 6555

www.amta.org.au

contact@amta.org.au