



**Australian
Mobile Telecommunications
Association**

Snapshot

AMTA's weekly update

Friday 17 March 2006

[Mobile Content Australia 2006 Summit](#)

AMTA CEO Chris Althaus will give the welcome address to delegates at the Mobile Content Australia 2006 conference in Sydney on Wednesday, March 29. Mr Althaus will also chair a panel discussion on day two on the conference on the topic: Maximising the potential of 3G networks. Topics covered at the summit include mobile television, mobile gambling, and revenue (click here for further details).

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[AMTA continues politician briefings](#)

AMTA met this week with ACT Liberal Senator Gary Humphries who is the Secretary of the Coalition Communications Policy Committee chaired by Paul Neville. Preparations are underway for an AMTA function in Parliament House during the June session which will feature a mobile telecommunications demonstration of the latest technology and provide a valuable profile/networking opportunity for AMTA. This week's briefing covered the full range of AMTA programs and gave rise to an additional invitation for AMTA to participate in meetings of the Committee to be held late in the year in Sydney.

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[ANU the first Australian uni to join MobileMuster](#)

AMTA CEO Chris Althaus attended a press conference at the Australian National University this week concerning the university's involvement in MobileMuster. Chris praised ANU for being the first university nationwide to participate in the program, and encouraged other educational facilities and businesses to dispose of their unwanted mobile phones and accessories in an environmentally-safe manner, through the MobileMuster program (Click here to view ANU's press release).

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[Mobile Phone shipment figures released](#)

The latest mobile phone shipment figures have been released and will be added to our website, under "Industry Statistics", shortly. For the month of February, 613,528 handsets were shipped into the country. This compares to 666,206 for the same period last year.

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[Privacy Commissioner raises concerns re: Interception Bill](#)

The Privacy Commissioner has raised concerns regarding the scope of information interception and storage under proposed new schedules within the Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006. For example, the Commissioner is recommending further work to be done to define the process of review of accessed communications. Similarly the Commissioner is cautious regarding the scope of schedule 3 of the Bill which provides for interception of a mobile phone handset as well as identification of telecommunications equipment via an email address or a user email account identifier. The Commissioner's response highlights the balancing act that will characterise the debate between privacy and new law enforcement/national security legislation. AMTA remains concerned about proposed data retention requirements and will meet with officials in Attorney General's next week.

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

This is a reminder that Senior Telecommunications Analyst for Macquarie Bank, Tim Smart, 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 (click here for further details).

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[Education is the key to tackling driver distractions](#)

Learn-to-drive programs in Queensland should educate young drivers about the range of distractions they face while driving, including mobile phones, AMTA CEO Chris Althaus, told a Queensland government inquiry. AMTA made a submission to the Queensland Government's discussion paper on ways to improve young driver safety: Queensland youth – on the road and in control.

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[New Ministerial chief of staff](#)

The Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Helen, Coonan, is getting a new Chief of Staff. Peta Credlin, who worked for former Defence Minister Robert Hill, starts early next month. She replaces Nicole Masters, a former Treasury official, who is moving to the Sydney Airport Corporation.

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[Canberra public holiday on Monday](#)

Just a reminder that AMTA's Canberra office will be closed on Monday as it is the Canberra Day public holiday. The office will be re-opened on Tuesday, March 21.

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