

CONFERENCE PROGRAM 2026



Venue: Doltone House Jones Bay Wharf 26-32 Pirrama Rd, Pyrmont NSW


SUNDAY 1 MARCH 2026	
<p>Welcome Reception - Exhibition Hall – 5pm</p>	<p>Sponsored by</p>

MONDAY 2 MARCH 2026 – EDUCATION DAY		
TIME	ASSEA Room: Tribute Museum	FAMANZ Room: South Wharf
8:30am - 10:00am	<p>What existing technologies are available and emerging, to support proactive safe removal of asbestos across Australia? What others are required across the asbestos life cycle and what obstacles and opportunities will impact implementation? Presenter: Rick Van Der Zwan</p>	<p>Risk Assessment for Elongate Mineral Particles (EMPs): Scientific Findings and Practical Methodology Presenter: Andrey Korchevskiy, Chemistry & Industrial Hygiene, Inc.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Travel arrangements sponsored by</i> Sundström </p>
10:00 - 10:30am	MORNING TEA – EXHIBITION HALL	
10:30 - 12:00pm	Workshop continued	Workshop continued
12:00 - 1:00pm	LUNCH – EXHIBITION HALL	
	ASSEA AND SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA Room: Tribute Museum	FAMANZ Room: South Wharf
1:00 - 2:30pm	<p>Asbestos identification to disposal – what is needed to improve the end-to-end system? Presenters: Julia Collins and James Sumner</p>	<p>Exposure monitoring for asbestos fibres Presenters: Linda Aphorpe and Samantha O’Callaghan</p>
2:30 - 3.00pm	AFTERNOON TEA – EXHIBITION HALL	
3:00 - 5:00pm	<p>Workshop continued</p> <p>Summary – Jodie Deakes</p>	<p>Enclosure management – the good, the bad and the ugly Presenters: Kevin White, Samuel Jackson and Libby Nanai</p>

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TUESDAY, 3 MARCH 2026 – CONFERENCE DAY ONE

	Room: South Wharf
8:30am-8:35am	Welcome and Housekeeping MC: James O'Loughlin
8:35am-8:40am	Welcome to Country
8:40am– 8:50am	ASBESTOS 2026 Official Welcome
8:50am – 9:00am	Official Opening address - The Hon Patrick Gorman MP; - Lisa Chester MP
9:00am – 9:30am	Opening Keynote Paul Signorelli OAM, Founder and Executive Chairman, Biaggio Signorelli Foundation
9:30am – 10:20am	Keynote Presentation: Topic: Early detection of mesothelioma and advances in treatment Assoc Professor Anthony Linton, Academic and Research Director, Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute
10:20am – 10:50am	MORNING TEA – EXHIBITION HALL
	Session Focus: AWARENESS – building knowledge and understanding
10:50am – 11:40am	Keynote Presentation: Topic: Global standards and new analytical technologies Frank Ehrenfeld, Director of Technical Services, Eurofins Built Environment Testing
11:40am – 12:20pm	Keynote Presentation: Topic: Defining the problem: fibrous minerals, asbestiform fibres, cleavage fragments and elongated mineral particles. Dr Laurie Glossop, Director, Glossop Consulting
	<i>Travel arrangements sponsored by</i> 
12:20pm - 1:20pm	LUNCH – EXHIBITION HALL <i>Poster Presentations @ 12.50pm</i>

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

TIME	International Challenges Room: South Wharf	Asbestos Evidence Base Room: Tribute Museum	Understanding Risk Room: Harbour
1:20pm – 1:40pm	What alarming asbestos burden is the Asia Pacific facing? Australia's key role in technical assistance and capacity building to end asbestos use in the Asia Pacific region. Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phillip Hazelton and Adam Kaminski (Union Aid Abroad APHEDA) Shane McArdle (Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute) Sarina Lacey (Centre for International Economics) 	Australian Worker Exposure Survey Presenter: Phillip Wise (Safe Work Australia)	Thinking 'outside the box' – all the time! Specific asbestos investigation techniques during very reactive, high risk and/or 'client-perceived' emergency situations in the workplace Presenter: Jason Green (Hibbs & Associates)

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TIME	International Challenges Room: South Wharf	Asbestos Evidence Base Room: Tribute Museum	Understanding Risk Room: Harbour
1:45pm – 2:05pm	Phasing out chrysotile asbestos in Asia Pacific – Government plans and challenges Panel: Discussion with high level delegation from governments in the Asia Pacific region	Seeing the unseen – data-powered asbestos eradication in Victoria Presenter: Ben Davis (VAEA)	Asbestos, Asbestos Everywhere and Even the Beaches Aren't Spared Presenter: Dr Terri-Ann Berry (Environmental Innovation Centre)
2:05pm – 2:25pm	The tactics and misinformation of the asbestos industry Panel: Discussion with asbestos campaigners and trade union representatives from South East Asia	TEM Analysis - From Knowing Nothing to Knowing Something Presenter: Matthew Owen (Identifibre)	Climate Change Impacts on ACMs Presenter: Shai Malone (ANSTO)
2:30pm – 3:00pm	AFTERNOON TEA – EXHIBITION HALL		
	Room: South Wharf		
3:00pm – 3:20pm	FAMANZ Competency framework Presenter: Jackii Shepherd, FAMANZ Director		
3:20pm – 4:10pm	Keynote Presentation Respiratory Protection: What you need to know: Australia's new respiratory protection standards Presenter: Mark Reggers, Chair of the SF-010 Respiratory Protection Australian Standards Committee		
4:10pm – 5:00pm	Panel Session Health risk assessment of mineral fibres Panellists: Anthony Linton (ADDRI), Frank Ehrenfeld (Eurofins), Andrey Korchevskiy (Chemistry & Industrial Hygiene, Inc.), Laurie Glossop (Glossop Consulting) and Tim Driscoll (Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney) Facilitator: Pierina Otness (CSIRO)		
5.00pm	Day 1 Close		

6:30pm – 10:30pm	Gala Dinner and Awards evening Doltone House Darling Island 48 Pirrama Rd, Pyrmont, NSW	Sponsored by HIBBS Excellence in Risk Management
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WEDNESDAY, 4 MARCH 2026 – CONFERENCE DAY TWO

	Room: South Wharf
8:30am – 8:50am	FAMANZ Update Presenter: Brian Eva, FAMANZ Chair
8:50am – 9:10am	ASSEA Update Presenter: Jodie Deakes, Chief Executive Officer, ASSEA
9:10am – 9:20am	Active Environmental Solutions 2025 Award winner presentation Presenter: Dr Terri-Ann Berry, Environmental Innovation Centre (EIC)
9:20am – 9:30am	Air-Met Scientific Derek Miller Award winner presentation Presenter: Pierina Otness, CSIRO
9:30am – 10.15am	Keynote Presentation WHS reforms - from reviews to action plans to implementation. Marie Boland, Chief Executive Officer, Safe Work Australia
10:15am – 10:45am	MORNING TEA - EXHIBITION HALL

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session Focus: ACTION – Best Practice & Practical Solutions

TIMES	Asbestos Removal Room: South Wharf	Preventing Exposure Room: Tribute Museum	Innovating Action Room: Harbour
10:45am – 11:05am	Asbestos removal and demolition of herbarium and recovery of materials (case study) Presenter: Kevin White (Thuroona Services)	Preventing Exposure – Strategy to Reality. Proactive asbestos removal that is safe, feasible and accepted. Presenter: Jodie Deakes (ASSEA)	Progress in Real-Time Asbestos Detection: Updates on our Novel Fluorescence Asbestos Sensor Presenter: Erik Schartner (Adelaide University)
11:10am – 11:30am	Negative air systems: New Technologies - Particulate analysis tools Presenter: Stuart Keer-Keer (k2 Environmental Ltd)	Reclaiming and reuse of timber from asbestos removal/demolition jobs Presenter: Jeremy Trotman (JTA Health Safety Noise Specialists)	AI Innovations for Asbestos Surveyors. AI advances in photo analysis, building analysis, report quality checking, customer service, agentic AI Presenter: Robin Bennett (Alpha Tracker)
11:35am – 11:55am	How Blind Spots in WHS Regulations Enable Unverifiable Asbestos Air Monitoring Results Presenter: Richard Wilkinson (AERE)	From Guidance to Practice: Learnings from Implementing the National Guide for Asbestos Surveys Across Complex Portfolios Presenter: Sebastian Tiller (Octfolio)	Machine Learning-Based System for Identifying Asbestos-Cement Roofing Presenter: Malgorzata Krowczynska (University of Warsaw)

11:55am – 12:50pm LUNCH – EXHIBITION HALL
Poster Presentations @ 12.50pm

Room: South Wharf

Session Focus: IMPACT – Health, Care & Future Outcomes

12:50pm – 1:20pm	Keynote Presentation Managing our asbestos legacy into the future - a practical regulatory approach to waste recovery and recycling Presenter: Carolyn Walsh, Chair, NSW Environment Protection Authority
1:20pm-1:25pm	Presentation: Heather Von St James 20 Year Mesothelioma Survivor & Advocate

CONCURRENT SESSIONS			
TIMES	Understanding and communicating future asbestos risk Room: South Wharf	Improving health outcomes through novel treatments and care plans Room: Tribute Museum	Managing our asbestos legacy into the future Room: Harbour
1:30pm – 1:50pm	The Australian Mesothelioma Registry – overview and update Presenter: Tim Driscoll (Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney)	Enhancing immunotherapy efficacy in pleural mesothelioma through gut microbiome modulation Presenter: Huaikai Shi (Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute)	Influencing Decision Makers: Best Practices for Asbestos Removal and Environmental Governance in the EU Presenter: Ewa Wilk (University of Warsaw)
1:55pm – 2:15pm	Reducing uncertainty in exposure risk assessment Presenter: Pierina Ofness (CSIRO)	Novel circular RNA biomarker signatures to facilitate an improved diagnosis of pleural mesothelioma Presenter: Ben Johnson (Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute)	Regional ACM waste disposal in Western Australia Presenter: Samuel Jackson & Kevin White (Thuroona Services)
2:20pm – 2:40pm	Building future ready global asbestos expertise Presenter: Johnathan Grant (BOHS FAAM)	Patterns of female pleural mesothelioma diagnoses in Australia: Emerging trends and implications for care. Presenter: Pamela Logan (Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute)	EPR Renewal of Asbestos-Cement Pipelines Presenter: Steve Nash (CAF Consulting)
2:40pm – 3:00pm	AFTERNOON TEA – EXHIBITION HALL		
3:00pm – 3:45pm	Keynote Presentation Asbestos related disease – what we don't know. Presenter: Assoc Professor Peter Franklin, Director Occupational Respiratory Epidemiology, University of Western Australia		
3:45pm – 4:30pm	Panel Session Are asbestos-related regulations future proof? Presenters: Assoc Prof Peter Franklin (University of Western Australia), Julia Collins (ASSEA), Jonthan Grant (BOHS FAAM), James Sumner (SafeWork Australia), Simon Paykel (Maynard Marks). Facilitator: Jackii Shepherd		
4:30pm	Conference closing remarks – FAMANZ and ASSEA		
5:00pm	Day 2 Close		