

WORKTECH™ Melbourne

WORK / WORKPLACE / TECHNOLOGY / INNOVATION

EXPLORE THE FUTURE OF WORK AND THE WORKPLACE

TELSTRA CUSTOMER INSIGHTS CENTER, MELBOURNE

THURSDAY 3RD APRIL

08:30 - 17:00

HOST PARTNER



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WORKTECH ACADEMY



Managing Director,
WORKTECH Events

A warm welcome to WORKTECH25 Melbourne

WORKTECH is the original conference for all those involved in the future of work and the workplace as well as real estate, technology, and innovation.

This exciting event will feature an insightful program of peer-to-peer discussions and thought leadership sessions with workplace visionaries, exploring the changing landscape of work and the purpose of the workplace.

Our agenda will explore transformative shifts in work culture, technology integration, and employee expectations. Join us to gain perspectives from industry leaders and thought pioneers, on the evolving world of work in 2025.

Secure your spot now and be part of the conversation defining the future workplace!

Warmest Regards

Isabel

CONTENTS



SPEAKERS



SESSSIONS



CONFERENCE AGENDA



VENUE



WHO ATTENDS



KEY INFORMATION



MEET THE SPEAKERS

WORKTECH25 Melbourne will attract some of the biggest and brightest names to debate, discuss, and divulge the latest thinking on the future of work and the workplace.

The conference will feature leading international thinkers from industry and academia. Our speakers represent some of the world's biggest brands and best universities and research departments, alongside radical visionaries from new innovative organisations.

Through interdisciplinary speakers and learning experience, we focus on bringing cutting edge ideas and inspiration to the workplace community to enhance creativity and move thinking forward. Instead of focusing on peer to peer innovation through imitation, we aim to curate a unique programme, bringing together experts in the fields of people, place and technology and relevant adjacencies to reflect on the future of work and workplace.

Alongside the conference series, the WORKTECH Academy knowledge hub explores the future of work through six key themes: people, place, technology, design, culture and innovation. Creating leading commentary, research and publications that places scientific research at the heart of key business problems. www.worktechacademy.com

Full list of speakers

Nicola Adams Australian Social Value Bank
Nick Bloom Stanford University
Dr. Agustin Chevez The University of Melbourne
Andrew Conquest EY
Mel Cutler Strategy, Governance Leader
Dr Sean Gallagher Humanova
Duncan Harper Medibank
Kate Langan Langan Asia Pty Ltd
Paul Luciani EY
Craig Maroney Eptura
Joy Marrocco Telstra
Tica Masuku Spaceful
Cameron Quirke Telstra
Domino Risch Placeology
Joanna Savakis Dentsu
Dr. Eileen Sim Veldhoen+Company
Geoff Sloan Tempo Property Group
Heidi Smith Gray Puksand
Sue Solly Swinburne University of Technology



Sue Solly, Swinburne University of Technology



Nick Bloom, Stanford University



Cameron Quirke, Telstra



Tica Masuku, Spaceful



Dr Paul Luciani, EY



Duncan Harper, Medibank



Dr Eileen Sim, Veldhoen + Company



Dr Sean Gallagher, Humanova



Joanna Savakis, Dentsu



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The future of work and the workplace is on everyone's agenda. This event brings thought leaders together to share cutting edge ideas on the future, from both a people, place, and technology perspective. It will allow an understanding of the key drivers of change and enablers of innovation that will shape how, where and when work takes place.

Key themes we will be discussing at this event include:

KEY THEMES

HYBRID WORK

TECHNOLOGY-DRIVEN
TRANSFORMATION

PERSONALISED, INCLUSIVE, AND
MULTIGENERATIONAL WORKSPACES

HUMAN CONNECTION AND THE ROLE
OF PLACE IN THE DIGITAL ERA

STAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION
AND WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE

Hybrid Work: Flexible Strategies for People and Place

The shift to hybrid work continues to redefine office design and operations. As organisations evolve to balance flexibility and engagement, insights on workplace optimisation, employee wellbeing, and new location strategies are critical. WORKTECH25 Melbourne will highlight how leading companies are adapting through research-based approaches, decentralisation, and innovative office concepts.

Technology-Driven Transformation: AI and Future Work Models

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping business productivity, decision-making, and collaboration. WORKTECH25 Melbourne will delve into AI's impact on competitive advantage, workforce augmentation, and the design of smarter, tech-driven workplaces. Sessions will also cover the role of AI "power users" and the future evolution of team-based innovation.

Personalised, Inclusive, and Multigenerational Workspaces

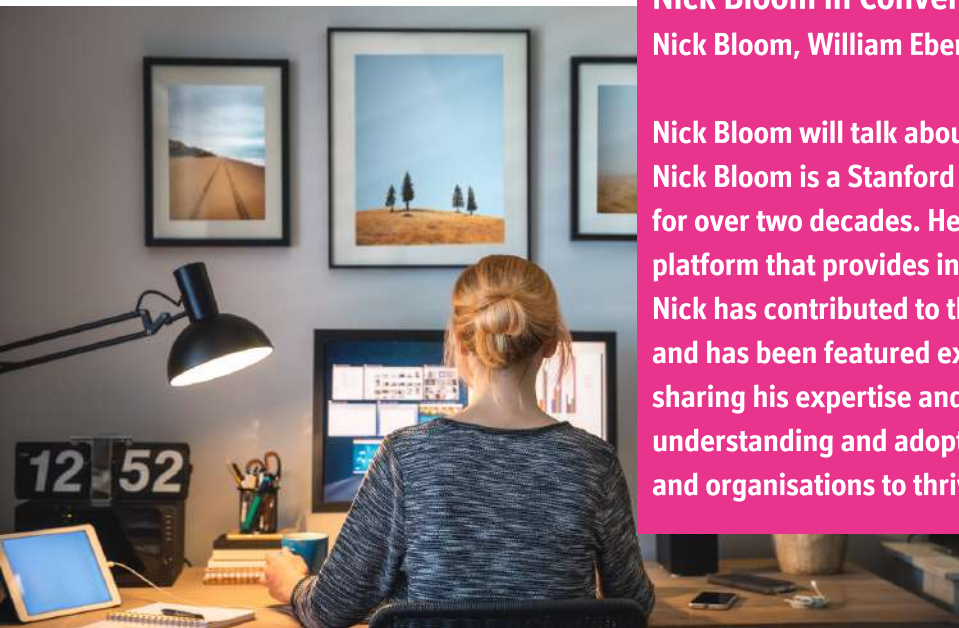
Inclusive workspaces cater to diverse needs, offering environments where individuals of all backgrounds can thrive. The conference will showcase how companies like Medibank and others use tailored strategies, including cultural consultation, to build equitable and dynamic workplaces that prioritise health, engagement, and flexibility.

Human Connection and the Role of Place in the Digital Era

Workplace design is increasingly focused on cultivating emotional and spatial connection amid digital transformation. Sessions will explore concepts like topophilia (connection to place), biophilic design, and cognitive behaviours in hybrid environments, showing how strategic design can foster wellness, performance, and belonging.

Stakeholder Collaboration and Workplace Experience

The relationship between tenants, landlords, and developers is evolving to meet hybrid work demands. Speakers will share emerging strategies for creating shared, adaptable office spaces and fostering collaboration between stakeholders to drive employee engagement and enhance workplace experience.



Nick Bloom in Conversation

Nick Bloom, William Eberle Professor of Economics at Stanford University

Nick Bloom will talk about his latest research into remote work trends. Nick Bloom is a Stanford Economist who has been studying remote work for over two decades. He is the co-founder of www.wfhresearch.com, a platform that provides insights and best practices on working from home. Nick has contributed to the policy and public discourse on remote work and has been featured extensively in national and international media, sharing his expertise and findings. His mission is to advance the understanding and adoption of remote work, and to empower workers and organisations to thrive in the new world of work.

AI Power Users: Transforming Work, Workplace and Workforce

Dr Sean Gallagher, Founder | Humanova

As AI drives the cost of intelligence towards zero, organisations face unprecedented disruption and opportunity. Drawing from Humanova's national workforce research, this session explores how AI "power users" are fundamentally reshaping competitive advantage, value creation, and their organisations. Learn why this democratisation of intelligence will catalyse a renaissance in physical workplaces, transforming how teams collaborate, innovate, and compete in an AI-augmented future.



The Life Force of Water: Reinventing Medibank's Hybrid Workspace

Duncan Harper, Project Director, Medibank / Heidi Smith, Lead Partner (VIC), Gray Puksand

Designed to align with Medibank's commitment to fostering health and wellbeing, hand in hand with authentic connection to Country, Medibank reinvented its workplace and established a bold new way of working. This presentation will outline how genuine consultation with Medibank employees resulted in "layer upon layer upon layer" of human-centric design decisions integrated into a responsive, paradigm-shifting workplace.

TELSTRA CUSTOMER INSIGHTS CENTER, MELBOURNE

08:30 | CONFERENCE OPENS

08:55 | CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS & WELCOME ADDRESS

Kate Langan, Global Corporate Property Strategist, Langan Asia Pty Ltd

Dr. Eileen Sim, Senior Consultant, Veldhoen+Company & Education Fellow, University of Melbourne



09:05 | TELSTRA HOST WELCOME ADDRESS

Joy Marrocco, People Workplace Technology Leader, Telstra



09:10 | STATE OF THE MARKET - AUDIENCE INTERACTION



09:20 | OPENING KEYNOTE – NICK BLOOM IN CONVERSATION

Nick Bloom, William Eberle Professor
of Economics at Stanford University



Nick Bloom will talk about his latest research into remote work trends. Nick Bloom is a Stanford Economist who has been studying remote work for over two decades. He is the co-founder of www.wfhresearch.com, a platform that provides insights and best practices on working from home. Nick has contributed to the policy and public discourse on remote work and has been featured extensively in national and international media, sharing his expertise and findings. His mission is to advance the understanding and adoption of remote work, and to empower workers and organisations to thrive in the new world of work.

09:50 | THE HYBRID WORK ERA: INSIGHTS AND LEARNINGS FOR THE FUTURE

Sue Solly, Industry Lead Workplace
Innovations, Swinburne University of
Technology



In the 2-3 years since COVID lockdowns, workforce flexibility including hybrid work has become normalised. Recent research undertaken by Swinburne University explores the impact increased flexibility has had on organisations and provides insights into the early successes and challenges that are underpinning the ongoing RTO debate. This presentation will explore opportunities and learnings from this research to improve organisational outcomes, work practices and the employee experience and will provide insights into what this means for the future workplace.

10:20 | INTELLIGENT WORKTECH IN ACTION: GLOBAL TRENDS SHAPING WORKPLACE INNOVATION

Craig Maroney, Vice President, APAC,
Eptura



As businesses undergo digital transformation, operational leaders grapple with the complexities of managing workplaces, corporate real estate, and facilities efficiently. This session will explore how Intelligent Worktech—powered by AI, automation, and seamless integration—can enhance productivity and streamline operations. Through research-backed insights and real-world examples, this fireside chat will uncover key trends and practical strategies for overcoming digital transformation challenges. Join us to discover what success looks like in workplace operations and how unified platforms can drive smarter decision making and business growth.

10:40 | SPEED NETWORKING BREAK

Forge valuable connections in this dynamic, interactive session, where you will meet industry peers in a fun and fast-paced format

11:40 | WORKPLACE TOPOPHILIA – THE ROLE OF PLACE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Tica Masuku, Director, Workplace
Strategy, Spaceful



Biophilia has been a buzzword for years, but a new term has been emerging to take the spotlight: Workplace Topophilia. While topophilia sounds like biophilia, it represents a distinct concept: our connection to place. The way we experience places, and the way we connect to spaces, is deeply rooted in human beings. Yet in our increasingly digital world, our spatial awareness is diminishing. In this keynote session, we will uncover how digital-physical tensions reshape our cognitive patterns and workplace behaviours and explore strategies to enhance our spatial connection in the modern workplace.

12:20 | AI POWER USERS: TRANSFORMING WORK, WORKPLACE AND WORKFORCE

Dr Sean, Gallagher Founder, Humanova



As AI drives the cost of intelligence towards zero, organisations face unprecedented disruption and opportunity. Drawing from Humanova's national workforce research, this session explores how AI "power users" are fundamentally reshaping competitive advantage, value creation, and their organisations. Learn why this democratisation of intelligence will catalyse a renaissance in physical workplaces, transforming how teams collaborate, innovate, and compete in an AI-augmented future.

13:00 | EXPERT PANEL: ESG, BEYOND THE BULLSH*T!

Dr. Agustin Chevez, Honorary Fellow -
Management and Marketing, The
University of Melbourne / Nicola
Adams, Interim Executive Officer,
Australian Social Value Bank / Mel
Cutler, Sustainability, Strategy,
Governance Leader



Barely a day passes without sustainability and ESG featuring in public discourse. An often-fraught political debate, Australian businesses have instead taken the lead as they realise ESG is a strategic and commercial value driver. However, the gap between promises and practices can lead to stakeholder confusion and frustration. Join us as we cut through the noise, explore real solutions, and reveal how ESG, when done right, can genuinely align with organisational purpose and deliver profit with impact.

13:25 | LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK

14:25 | AUDIENCE INTERACTION



14:30 | THE LIFE FORCE OF WATER: REINVENTING MEDIBANK'S HYBRID WORKSPACE

Duncan Harper, Project Director,
Medibank / Heidi Smith, Lead Partner
(VIC), Gray Puksand



GRAY PUKSAND

Designed to align with Medibank's commitment to fostering health and wellbeing, hand in hand with authentic connection to Country, Medibank reinvented its workplace and established a bold new way of working. This presentation will outline how genuine consultation with Medibank employees resulted in "layer upon layer upon layer" of human-centric design decisions integrated into a responsive, paradigm-shifting workplace.

15:00 | EXPERT PANEL: REDEFINING THE FUTURE OF WORK – CREATING SMART, SUSTAINABLE, AND PURPOSEFUL WORKPLACES

Joanna Savakis, Head of Workplace
Experience, Dentsu / Domino Fisch,
Founder & Director, Placeology / Geoff
Sloan, Managing Director, Tempo
Property Group



The workplace is no longer just a location—it's an ecosystem designed to foster collaboration, culture, and performance. As organisations embrace hybrid models, how can they create workplaces that are not only flexible but also drive sustainability, innovation, and employee well-being? This panel will explore how leaders can leverage technology, human-centric design, and strategic workplace transformation to craft environments that inspire and empower talent.

TELSTRA CUSTOMER INSIGHTS CENTER, MELBOURNE

15:35 | TRANSFORMING THE WORKPLACE WITH M365 COPILOT: TELSTRA'S JOURNEY TO ENHANCED PRODUCTIVITY AND COLLABORATION

Cameron Quirke, Telstra's Virtual
Workplace Group Owner, Telstra



Join Cameron to discover how M365 Copilot is transforming the workplace at Telstra by leveraging AI to boost productivity and collaboration. In this session, Cameron will share first-hand insights from our journey of implementing Copilot, showcasing how its intelligent features have streamlined our daily tasks, from summarising complex documents and emails to generating insightful reports and managing projects effortlessly. Learn how Copilot seamlessly integrates with Microsoft 365 apps, providing personalised assistance that empowers our team to focus on what truly matters. See real-world examples of Copilot in action at Telstra and uncover the future of AI-powered work management.

15:50 | THE ERA OF THE WASTED COMMON SPACE HAS FINALLY COME TO AN END. WELCOME TO THE NEW SHARED HYBRID REVOLUTIONISING LANDLORDS AND TENANTS

Paul Luciani, APAC Real Estate Leader,
EY / Andrew Conquest, Innovations
lead for RE Real Estate and
Technology, EY



What will it take to create spaces of work that are relevant to everyone for the future? Will it be better furniture, more variety, high tech innovation, location preference, or something else? Whatever it might be it is going to take everyone to align and do their bit. Driven by economic uncertainty, Developers and Landlords understand and embrace this dynamic and a new trend is beginning to emerge between landlords and occupiers of common spaces in commercial real estate. Come with me as I take you on a journey on what's new when it comes to the creative ways of enticing staff back to the office and what it means for you.

16:15 | CHAIRPERSON'S CLOSING REMARKS

Kate Langan, Global Corporate Property Strategist, Langan Asia Pty Ltd
Dr. Eileen Sim, Senior Consultant, Veldhoen+Company & Education Fellow, University of Melbourne



16:25 | KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

We conclude with an engaging and dynamic session designed to harness the delegates' perspectives and collective wisdom. Designed to summarise the day's vibrant exchange of ideas, insights, and experiences, delegates have the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification on the insights shared by other groups fostering a cross-pollination of ideas and further enriching discussion.

17:00 | CONFERENCE CLOSES

WORKPLACE TOURS: MEDIBANK AND BHP

WORKTECH Melbourne attendees are invited to join exclusive workplace tours of Medibank and BHP's new offices on Collins Street. Simply book your ticket and you'll be sent an RSVP link to apply for your place. Please note places are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Medibank's Melbourne Hub

Where : 695 Collins St, Melbourne

When: 11am-12pm on Wednesday 2nd April



BHP, Collins Street

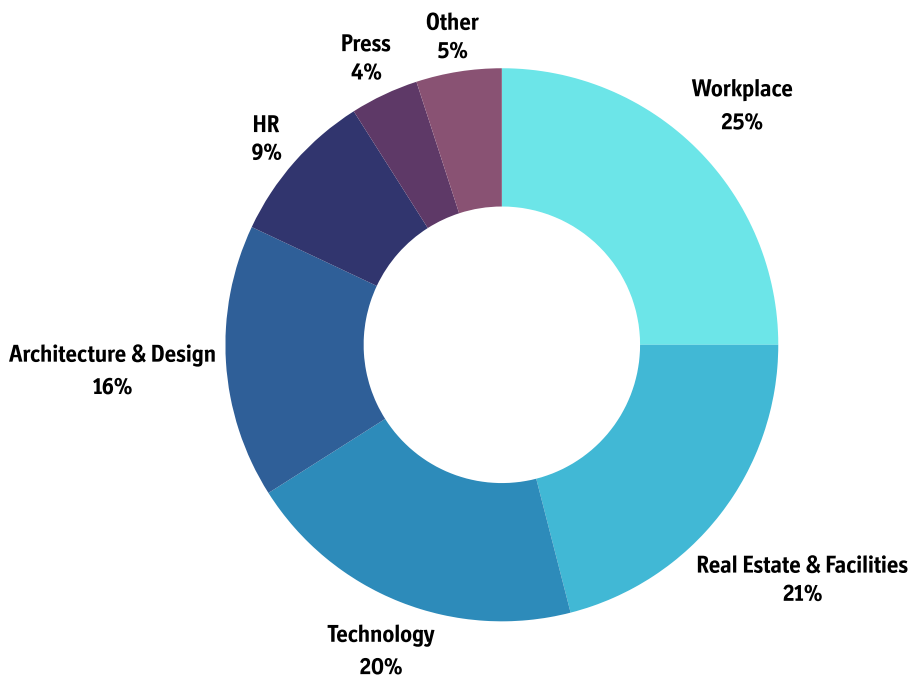
Where : 171 Collins St, Melbourne

When: 10-10:45am on Friday 4th April



WHO ATTENDS

Attracting senior level professionals from Workplace, CRE, IT, HR and Architecture & Design



A well-spoken and experienced group of presenters providing leading edge subjects current topics and statistics. A great place to learn about new ideas.

WORKTECH DELEGATE, DELOITTE



Informative, interesting views on workplace design, planning technology and workers

WORKTECH DELEGATE, BANK OF MONTREAL



BOOK NOW

www.worktechevents.com/events/worktech25-melbourne/

KEY INFORMATION

Date

When: Thursday 3rd April

Where: Telstra Customer Insights Centre, Melbourne

How to book:

Visit: www.worktechevents.com/events/worktech25-melbourne/

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Become a marketing partner for this event and qualify for a special rate for your colleagues, complimentary passes for yourself, logo exposure for your organisation, and more!

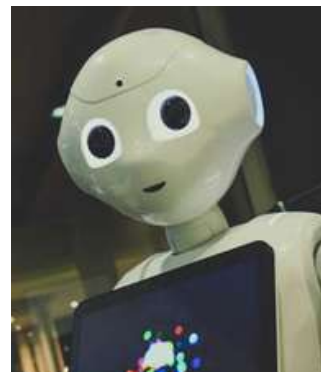
If you are part of a group that would like to attend and are looking for a joint group rate please get in touch to arrange a bespoke ticket price.

Become a WORKTECH Ambassador

We're looking for people that love the future of work and the workplace and social media. People who are willing to become part of our team and help spread the word to the masses. There will be a free event ticket available to successful applicants.

For more information on the above initiatives, please contact:

kirsty.darlington@worktechevents.co.uk



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