3RD ANNUAL

DIGITAL IDENTITY WEEK

1st –2nd September 2026
InterContinental Double Bay, Sydney, Australia

IDENTITY, AUTHENTICATION & ACCESS-SECURED, GOVERNED, DELIVERED.

2026 POST SHOW REPORT



WEBSITE | EMAIL US | #DIW26

DEAR DIGITAL IDENTITY WEEK COMMUNITY,

A huge thank you for being part of **Digital Identity Week 2026**, where leaders from government and enterprise came together to navigate what's next for digital identity, IAM, security and digital trust.

This year marked a genuine turning point. Across two days, the people responsible for shaping, securing and delivering digital identity were in the same room — sharing what is working, challenging what isn't, and having the conversations that matter as the identity landscape continues to evolve.

What struck us most was the honesty of the conversation. Government leaders, identity specialists, security teams, technology leaders and industry experts came together not simply to share polished success stories, but to work through the difficult questions: how do we build identity systems that can scale? How do we manage risk across increasingly complex ecosystems? And how do we stay ahead as AI changes both the opportunities and the threats facing identity?

> The introduction of our **Problem-Solving Labs** captured that spirit perfectly. Watching teams work through two real-world identity challenges — from an interoperability breakdown affecting thousands of users to a deepfake-powered attack — and then defend their decisions under time pressure was one of the highlights of the two days.

And across the sessions, it was the audience that kept the conversation moving. The questions, challenges and perspectives shared from the room brought a level of openness and practical insight that made the discussions so valuable.

To our speakers, thank you for your candour and expertise. To our sponsors and partners, thank you for supporting a conversation this industry needs. And to everyone who attended, asked the difficult question, shared an experience, or stayed for one more conversation at the drink's reception — you are the reason this community continues to grow.

Digital identity is not something that is coming in the future — **it is being built right now, by the people who were in that room.**

There was so much to name and highlight during the week, and we are very proud to bring all these together and move towards the future with our amazing community.



SIDDHI MUTHA
Event Director
Digital Identity Week



THE EXPERTS WHO LED THE CONVERSATION

Featured speakers included:



JOHN SHEPHERD
First Assistant Secretary, Digital ID & Data Policy Division,
Department of Finance



IAN OPPERMAN
Commissioner,
ACCC



LAURA CHRISTIE
Government Chief Information & Digital Officer, Deputy Secretary,
NSW Department of Customer Service



JONATHON THORPE
Chief Customer Officer,
Services Australia



GREG WELLS
Chief Executive Officer,
Service NSW



LINDSAY DEGUARA
General Manager, Policy & Regulatory, Digital Identity,
ACCC



JEREMY JOHNSON
Executive Director, Policing Information & Checking Services,
ACIC



CRISPIN BLACKALL
Chief Information & Technology Officer,
VicRoads



CASSANDRA MEAGHER
Head of Policy & Transition,
Austroads



AIDAN TURNER
Head of Cyber Security Engineering,
Downer Group



RICK IVERSEN
Head of ConnectID,
Australian Payments Plus



ADNENE GUABTNI
Principal Research Scientist/Engineer,
CSIRO / Data61



GOPAL ARUN
Head of Identity & Access



MOH REZAEE
IAM Engineering Lead,
AGL



VANESSA GALE
Head of Identity & Access Management,
Latitude Financial



REEMA ROCHE
Assistant Director, Customer Identity & Access Management,
Australian Government



KRISHNA BAGLA
Manager Cyber Security Operations and Implementation,
NSW Government



JOE VARKEY
AIA Australia



SIDDHARTH RAJANNA
Head of Cyber Security,
Bingo Industries

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4TH ANNUAL DIGITAL IDENTITY WEEK

KEY THEMES & DISCUSSIONS FOR 2026

GOVERNMENT, ENTERPRISE & THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL IDENTITY
The federal digital identity landscape, the national agenda, and how NSW is turning strategy into real services for citizens.

DEFENDING DIGITAL TRUST: FRAUD & BIOMETRIC THREATS
The identity and authentication arms race, AI-enabled fraud and deepfakes, and cross-sector threat intelligence sharing.

GOVERNING IDENTITY & ACCESS AT ENTERPRISE SCALE
Privilege creep and least privilege, access governance across hybrid estates, and securing identity data in motion.

BIOMETRIC & VERIFIABLE IDENTITY: FROM PILOT TO PRODUCTION
Verifiable credentials and digital wallets, cross-jurisdiction trust, and the shift from pilots to production.

AUTHENTICATION & ACCESS UNDER REAL-WORLD PRESSURE
Architecture trade-offs, modernising IAM without breaking production, and turning authentication signals into real enforcement.

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HIGHLIGHTS THAT SHAPED DIW 2026



Panel

THE FEDERAL DIGITAL IDENTITY LANDSCAPE: WHAT EVERY LEADER NEEDS TO KNOW

JOHN SHEPHERD
First Assistant Secretary, Digital ID and Data Policy Division, **Department of Finance**

IAN OPPERMAN
Commissioner, **ACCC**

LINDSAY DEGUARA
General Manager, Policy and Regulatory, Digital Identity, **ACCC**

JONATHON THORPE
Chief Customer Officer, **Services Australia**

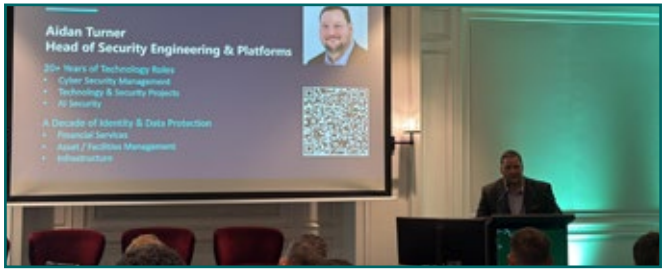


Panel

NSW GOVERNMENT'S DIGITAL IDENTITY STRATEGY IN ACTION

LAURA CHRISTIE
Government Chief Information and Digital Officer, Deputy Secretary, **NSW Department of Customer Service**

GREG WELLS
Chief Executive Officer, **Service NSW**



Case Study

CENTRALISED, DECENTRALISED OR FEDERATED? THE ARCHITECTURE DECISIONS THAT ACTUALLY MATTER

AIDAN TURNER
Head of Cyber Security Engineering, **Downer Group**



Case Study

TRUST WITHOUT BORDERS: VERIFYING DIGITAL CREDENTIALS ACROSS AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

CASSANDRA MEAGHER
Head of Policy and Transition, **Austroads**



Panel Discussion

GOVERNING IDENTITY ACROSS ENTERPRISE

REEMA ROCHE
Assistant Director - Customer Identity and Access Management, **Australian Government**

VANESSA GALE
Head of Identity and Access Management, **Latitude Financial**



Case Study

VICROADS' IDENTITY JOURNEY IN PRACTICE

CRISPIN BLACKALL
Chief Information & Technology Officer, **VicRoads**

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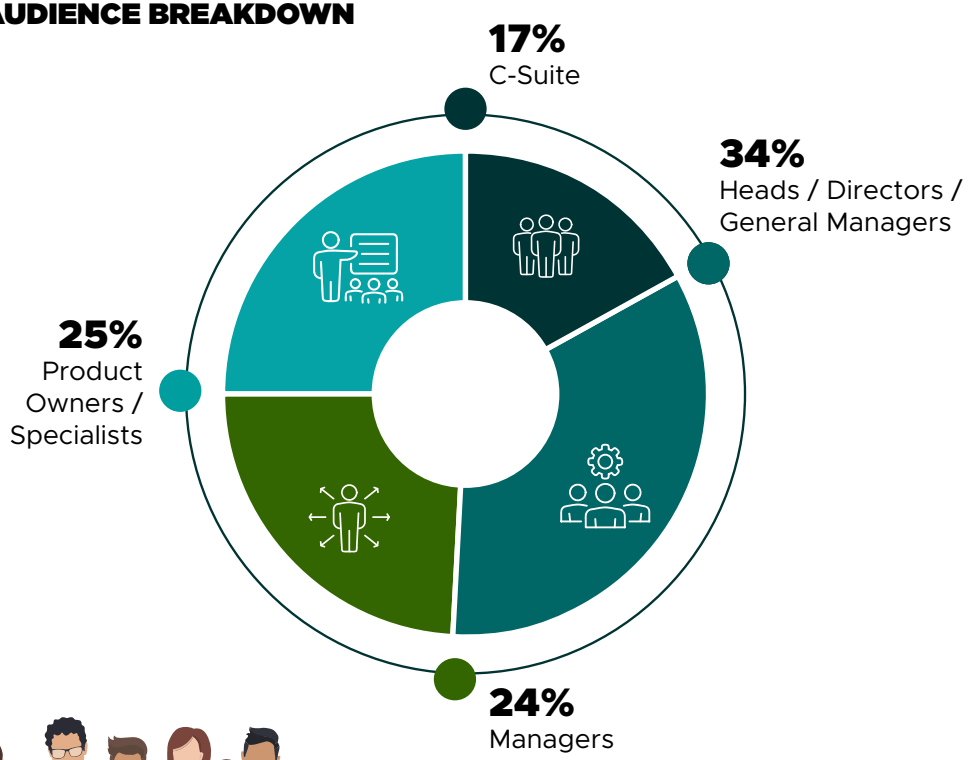


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WHO ATTENDED

2ND ANNUAL DIGITAL IDENTITY WEEK

AUDIENCE BREAKDOWN





JOB TITLES IN THE ROOM

- CIOs & CTOs
- CISOs & Cybersecurity Leaders
- Digital & Technology Leaders
- Identity & Access Management Leaders
- Digital Identity & Product Leaders
- Government Digital & Identity Leaders
- Security Architects
- Transformation & Customer Experience Leaders

PAST BUSINESSES REPRESENTED:

Australia's Digital ID System · Australian Banking Association · Australian Access Federation · Anglican Diocesan Services · ASIC · Downer · Insignia Financial · HUB24 · humm group · imb bank · Kmart · MetLife · NSW Health Western Sydney Local Health District · NSW Electoral Commission · nab · OFX · Reserve Bank of Australia · Resolution Life · Rest · Service NSW · Crown Resorts · David Jones · Singtel · BOQ · Team Global Express · Services Australia · Suncorp · Unisson · Uber · Westpac · Women's Tennis Foundation Inc · pepper money · UNSW Sydney · NSW Government · ANZ

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Joe Varkey · 3rd+
Cyber Leadership Strategy
1w • Edited •

Digital identity is no longer a technology conversation.

It's a trust conversation.

I had the privilege of chairing the opening panel at Digital Identity Week 2026, exploring a critical question for Australia:

What does the future of digital identity look like for Australians, and what do leaders need to be doing today to prepare for it?

What struck me most throughout the discussions wasn't just the pace of change. It was the growing recognition that digital identity sits at the intersection of trust, security, inclusion, customer experience and public policy.
As governments and organisations continue to digitise services, identity becomes the digital gateway to services. If people don't trust how their identity is established, protected and used, digital transformation cannot reach its full potential.
The discussions highlighted the importance of getting the fundamentals right:

● Trust by design, not as an afterthought.
●Privacy and security working together
●Interoperability across sectors and services
●Balancing innovation with regulation
●Creating experiences that are both secure and inclusive.

Thank you to the outstanding panels, case studies presenters and fire chats for sharing their perspectives on the opportunities and challenges ahead.

The future of digital identity will not be defined solely by technology. It will be shaped by the decisions we make today about governance, trust, accessibility and collaboration.
The conversation has started, but there is still much work ahead.

#DigitalIdentityWeek #DIW2026 #DigitalIdentity #DigitalTrust #Id



Reema Roche · 3rd+
IAM Advisor (CIAM) | Enterprise Infrastructur...
1w •

I was honoured as a panel/speaker at the Digital Identity Week organised at Sydney the last two days!

I met my colleagues from previous Government Identity initiatives and together we emphasised the importance of implementing Digital Identity, in both WIAM and CIAM.

The organisers did a splendid job at the InterContinental Hotels & Resorts Sydney.

And thanks for the networking opportunities, I found a pool of vendors we could work with; on Identity solutions.

My next implementation is Entra to Entra (external ID) from WIAM to CIAM. I'm excited about this stack and welcome my LinkedIn network to give me all the tips and tricks you have in your bag from similar experiences. Let's connect.

On a side note, the joy of checking in within minutes at the #AvalonAirport and having on time flights, with cool views of NSW valleys was a treat!

#DigitalIdentityWeek #DIW #Identity #CIAM #WIAM #Speaker



Crispin Blackall · 3rd+
Experienced CIO/CTO/CDIO with over twenty years building...
1w • Edited •

On Thursday I had the privilege of presenting at Digital Identity Week about VicRoads digital identity journey, explaining to senior industry leaders our road to move from physical credentials and password account access to a reusable trust capability built on secure authentication, identity proofing and digital credentials.

It was excellent confirmation of the progress we are making together as an industry as well as the important next steps.

A big thank you to the organisers, as well as the brilliant VicRoads team Igor Gjorgjioski, Rachael Kmiec and Christopher Kenner #digitalidentity



Aidan Turner · 3rd+
Head of Security Engineering & Platforms | CISSP | CISM | ...
6d •

I recently had the the opportunity to attend and share my experience at Digital Identity Week.

It's always a pleasure to have the chance to hear from my colleagues in Sydney, but for me what makes this event stand out is the large contingent of delegates representing government and regulating agencies.

Conversations that focus on Digital Identity are rare. Hearing from the people driving safe adoption across private enterprise, and to discuss the approach and considerations to regulation with the people directly involved is a privilege.

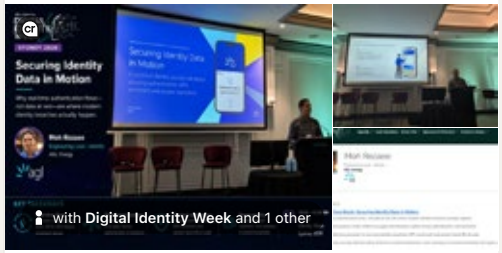
In particular, connecting with the delegation from the Reserve Bank of Fiji and learning about their upcoming Digital Identity legislation and unique challenges for trust and adoption at scale was eye opening.

Thank you to Siddhi Mutha and IQPC for hosting a productive and thought provoking event.



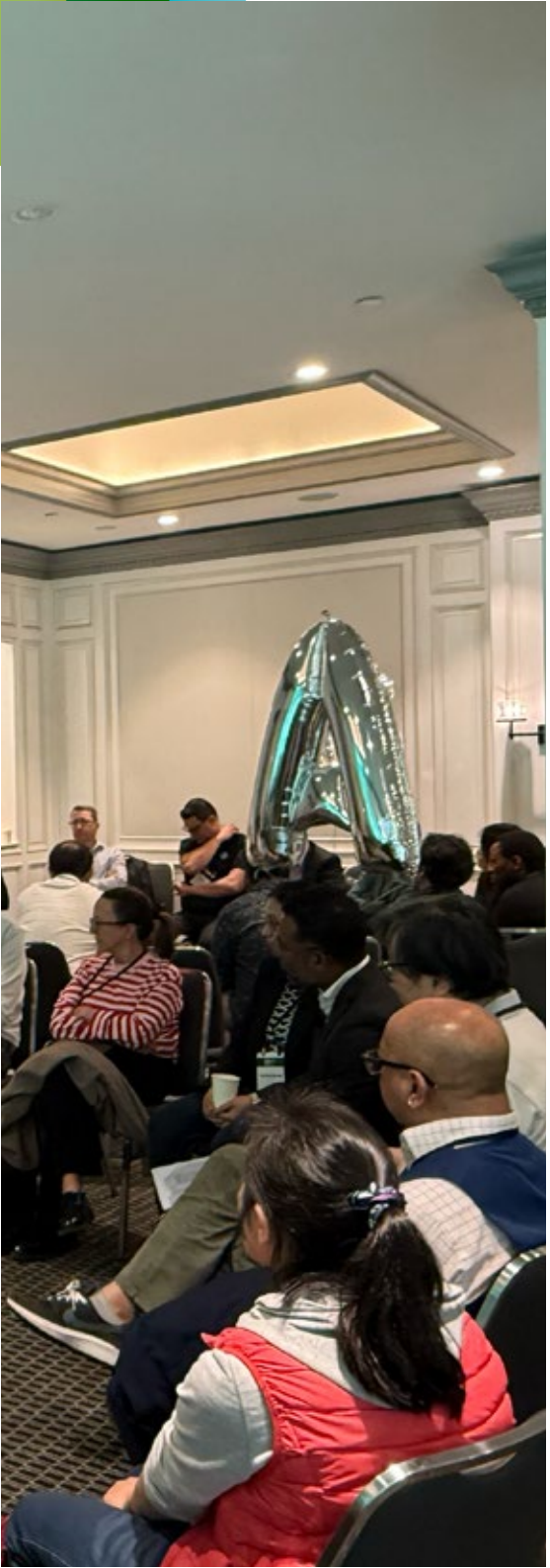
Moh Rezaee · 3rd+
Software Engineer Lead - Secure Access & ...
1w •

Excited to have presented my case study "Securing Identity Data in Motion" at Identity Week Sydney 2026.
The session explored why modern identity breaches often occur during real-time authentication flows rather than in data at rest. We discussed how distributed systems can create hidden trust gaps, practical approaches for securing identity assertions, MFA enrolment and session hand-offs, and how to balance strong security with real-world customer behaviour.
One of the key takeaways: security needs to protect the entire identity journey, not just the destination.
Thank you to the Identity Week organisers and everyone who attended, asked thoughtful questions and contributed to the discussion.
#IdentityWeek #IdentitySecurity #CyberSecurity #DigitalIdentity



VOICES FROM DIW 2026 COMMUNITY

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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

2ND ANNUAL DIGITAL IDENTITY WEEK

Sumsub
Sumsub is a leading full-cycle verification platform that enables fraud-free, scalable compliance. Its adaptive, no-code solution covers everything from identity and business verification to ongoing monitoring – quickly adjusting to evolving risks, regulations, and market demands.

Recognized as a Leader by Gartner, Liminal, and KuppingerCole, Sumsub combines seamless integration with advanced fraud prevention to deliver industry-leading performance.

Over 4,000 clients—including Bitpanda, Wirex, Avis, Bybit, Vodafone, Duolingo, Kaizen Gaming, and TransferGo—trust Sumsub to streamline verification, prevent fraud, and drive growth. The platform's methodology follows leading global AML standards and regulations, and Sumsub has extensively engaged with leading research and public institutions like the UN, Statista, and INTERPOL.

Website: https://sumsub.com/

Descope
Descope is a no-code CIAM platform helping enterprise and government organisations secure customer identity without slowing down their teams. With a visual drag-and-drop workflow builder, you can deploy passwordless authentication, adaptive MFA, SSO, and fine-grained access control without touching your codebase. Trusted by thousands of organisations from startups to the Fortune 500, Descope makes it easy to harden your identity security posture, reduce account takeover risk, and meet evolving compliance requirements in days, not months. Available in Australia exclusively through 8x8. Website: https://cpaas.8x8.com/au/products/descope-ciam/

Advanced Card Systems Ltd. (ACS)
Founded in 1995, Advanced Card Systems Ltd. (ACS) is a leading supplier of smart card reader solutions, with over 30 years of experience in identification and access management, delivering high-quality smart card technologies to over 100 countries worldwide. ACS provides phishing-resistant device-bound passkeys and NFC readers that integrate seamlessly into enterprise IAM environments to enable secure authentication and access management. Its solutions support passwordless authentication, strong identity verification, and enhanced cybersecurity. Website: https://www.acs.com.hk/

Jumio
Jumio helps organizations know and trust their customers online. From account opening to ongoing monitoring, the Jumio Platform delivers AI-powered identity intelligence through biometric authentication, automation, and data-driven insights. Jumio helps organizations fight fraud and financial crime, accelerate customer onboarding, and meet KYC and AML requirements. Its technology combines biometric screening, AI/ML, liveness detection, and hundreds of data sources. Jumio has processed more than 1 billion transactions across 200+ countries and territories. Website: https://www.jumio.com

Lumin
Lumin revolutionizes how over 140 million users worldwide create, collaborate on, and sign documents. Our integrated suite – featuring AgreementGen for AI contract creation, Lumin Sign for identity-verified digital signatures, and our flagship PDF editor – empowers businesses to accelerate their agreement processes by up to 90%. Website: http://www.luminpdf.com

4TH ANNUAL

DIGITAL IDENTITY WEEK

1st –2nd September 2027

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