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# ACCANect Conference kicks off today

ACCAN’s 2017 National Conference, [*ACCANect: Your place in the connected world*](https://www.regonline.com.au/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1969017&), will focus on consumer issues related to our increased connectivity and the digital world. It’s being held at the Aerial UTS Function Centre in Sydney over the next two days.

“Digital technology has transformed consumer experiences,” said ACCAN CEO, Teresa Corbin. “Consumers can buy products, access information, and communicate with people anywhere in the world with just the touch of a button. This increased connectivity raises some big questions and implications for consumers.

“As we become more and more connected and government services move online, how can we ensure that everyone can get access to the internet? How safe is our personal information? What information is being collected about us from connected devices? These are some of the issues we’ll explore at the Conference,” added Ms Corbin.

This year our keynote presentation will be delivered via video by Consumers International (CI) Director General, Amanda Long. Ms Long will talk about CI’s campaign to [build a digital world consumers can trust](http://www.consumersinternational.org/take-action/building-a-digital-world-consumers-can-trust/) and the [G20 Consumer Summit](https://www.g20.org/Content/EN/Artikel/2017/03_en/2017-03-15-g20-verbrauchergipfel_en.html) held earlier this year in Germany which resulted in ten recommendations for improved global consumer protection in a digital world.

The Conference sessions will cover a range of topics including connected houses, Internet of Things (IoT) devices, artificial intelligence, digital government and future consumer protections. Research about the [privacy and security of IoT devices](http://accan.org.au/grants/completed-grants/1442-inside-job) completed under the ACCAN Grants Scheme, will be launched at the Conference. Attendees will also get to hear presentations on connected farms, how nbn will adapt in an ever changing environment and there will be a chance to ask the telcos questions.

“We’re looking forward to engaging with consumers, industry, government and regulators on future issues and what the implications may be for consumers in a highly connected world,” added Ms Corbin.

In addition, over the two days, there will be presentations from the Minister for Communications and the Arts, Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield, Shadow Minister for Communications, Ms Michelle Rowland MP and Shadow Minister for Regional Communications, Mr Stephen Jones MP.

For more information, contact Luke Sutton on [luke.sutton@accan.org.au](mailto:luke.sutton@accan.org.au) or 0409 966 931. For the latest updates, follow ACCAN on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ACCAN_AU) or like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/accanau).