

CONFERENCE RECAP

TMA AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE 2018



2018 TMA CONFERENCE RECAP

This year's TMA Australia National Conference & Gala Dinner surpassed expectations, delivering an outstanding line-up of speakers and sessions. With record delegate and Gala Dinner attendance, it was an exceptional success on many fronts and demonstrated the strength of TMA membership's voice in the turnaround industry.

The speakers and sessions went right to the heart of our Conference theme: Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity, or VUCA, and its impact on turnaround outcomes. As a business term, VUCA is increasingly being used in the context of strategic leadership and the evolving challenges brought on by politics, economies, society and the environment. As such, it had a strong presence within all topics at the Conference.

The Conference kicked off with a standout presentation from Andrew Charlton of AlphaBeta. A political economist, Andrew tracked various worldwide population dissatisfactions with both history and the apparent standing still of the 85th percentile of the world's population (i.e. developed country populations). This was thought provoking and not a little startling, as it suggests we have been in this place before, most unfortunately not long before wars and other disruptions.

We enjoyed an entertaining presentation from the Bell Shakespeare company which explored leadership via Shakespeare's play Julius Caesar. This was delightful and insightful in equal measure, particularly given the recent havoc in Australian Federal politics, with many in the audience drawing their own conclusions about who in Canberra most closely resembled Cassius.

Conference delegates were surprised with a video presentation from the Hon Julie Bishop, who was until recently the Foreign Minister and is now a possible future Prime Minister. This was followed by a presentation from Paul Anderson, CEO of Network Ten, one of Australia's largest broadcasters which transferred stock control to CBS via administration. Anderson emphasised the role that Ten's turnaround advisors played in giving him confidence that it would be 'business as usual' and that everyone would still have their jobs.

Other notable turnaround stories were delivered by Brad Rogers, CEO of Bis, who talked about making difficult changes to the business, in a difficult market to drive positive generational change and Paul McClintock's insights into I-MED Network's turnaround journey and how it's now ready to take on the next chapter.

The panel sessions were equally impressive. Our first expert panel focused on alternative debt and how non-bank, private and specialist credit funds are playing an ever-larger role in the turnaround industry. Former Paladin Energy CEO Alexander Molyneux joined a panel session, confirming the turnaround mantra that early, open discussion with the right experts is imperative and quickly leads to solutions.

This year the Conference had two all-female panel sessions. The first was our NextGen Future of Work panel which talked about the key disruptors of work and skills and the second focused on ipso facto, exploring an interesting hypothetical scenario in the framework of the new regulatory regime.

The annual TMA / KordaMentha Corporate Survey of the Turnaround industry gave us some new insights into funding and confirmed some looming trends, including the headwinds that we can expect to continue for the retail and construction industries over the coming year. Further insights into the retail sector came from Noni B Chairman, Richard Facioni who talked about how the company has overcome online competition and achieved success in the sector.

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NED, Ming Long was elegantly interviewed by leading Australian news presenter Anjali Rao, touching on many themes including the role of the Board, the Hayne royal commission, the benefits of diversity and gender representation and VUCA, which she wholeheartedly sees as an opportunity, not a threat. Both Ming Long and fellow NED, Nicola Wakefield Evans who spoke at a later session, emphasised the need to ensure that business connects back to stakeholders and rebuilds trust through a sustained period of focusing on the customer.

Closing out the Conference sessions, we heard from Latitude Financial Services Chairman, Michael Tilley who spoke about the impact of VUCA on the business' journey as it prepared for its initial public offering.

The day concluded with our annual Gala Dinner, where seats were in hot demand, particularly with international firms calling desperate for space in what has become Australasia's must attend turnaround industry event.

At the Gala Dinner, Network Ten's Sandra Sully delivered a mock news feed to announce the winners of the TMA Turnaround Awards:

- Small Company Turnaround of the Year – Brisbane Broncos League Club
- Mid-size Company Turnaround of the Year – Houston's Farm
- Large Company Turnaround of the Year – Network Ten
- Restructuring Deal of the Year - Paladin Energy

Rounding off the evening, Jay Weatherill, former premier of South Australia, was entertainingly interviewed by Anjali Rao and talked about the Government's partnership with Sanjeev Gupta's GFG Alliance, Whyalla and the recently abandoned National Energy Guarantee.

Our thanks go to Conference Co-Chairs, Gayle Dickerson of KPMG and Tim Stewart of Gordon Brothers, the members of the Conference Committee, the TMA Australia Board, Allison Robinson and of course all our session speakers who made the Conference so insightful.

We are also grateful to all the firms that sponsored the Conference, from social events and sessions to the vital coffee cart, thank you for your support.

While VUCA presents numerous challenges, it also signals positive times ahead for turnaround specialists who operate in a dynamic environment. We look forward to another year of corporate renewal in 2019 and to seeing you all again at the next TMA Australia National Conference.

SPEAKERS

Here are just a sample of the 28 Speakers.



Gayle Dickerson Conference Co-Chair:
KPMG



Tim Stewart
Conference Co-Chair, Gordon Brothers



Dr Andrew Charlton
Co-Founder & Director, AlphaBeta Advisors



David Hardy Director, KPMG



Richard Facioni Chairman, Noni B Group
and Executive Director, Alceon



James Evans Associate Director, Bell
Shakespeare



Associate Professor Rebecca Cassells
Principal Research Fellow, Bankwest Curtin
Economics Centre, Curtin University
Carolyn Colley Chief Operating Officer and
Founder, Faethm **Claire Forbes** Partner,
Deloitte Consulting **Moderator: Zina
Edwards** Partner, Hamilton Locke



Paul Anderson
Chief Executive Officer, Network Ten



Larry Klaff Senior Managing Director, Gordon
Brothers Finance **Kelly Morton** Managing
Director, Skye Capital Advisory Pty Ltd.
Simon Raftery Managing Director, Remagen
Capital. **Paul Rathborne** Managing Director,
Moelis & Company **Moderator: Adrian Loader**
Founding Partner, Allegro Funds

SPEAKERS



Brad Rogers
Chief Executive Officer, Bis Industries



Chris Martin
Partner, KordaMentha



Paul McClintock AO
Chairman I-MED Network



Ming Long Non-Executive Director
Interviewed by **Anjali Rao** Journalist



James Brown
RSL NSW President



Nicola Wakefield Evans
Non Executive Director



Alexander Molyneux Argosy Minerals,
former CEO Paladin Energy
Matthew Woods Partner, KPMG
Richard Tucker Partner, KordaMentha
Paul Schroder Partner, King & Wood
Mallesons



Michael Tilley Non-Executive Chairman,
Latitude Financial Services PL and
Non-Executive Chairman, Hotel Property
Investments



Jennifer Ball Partner, Clayton Utz
Rhonda McCann Head of Lending Services,
Institutional, Australia and New Zealand Banking
Group **Meg Redwin** General Counsel and
Executive Director for Multiplex Constructions,
Australasia and India **Janna Robertson** Partner,
Deloitte **Moderator: Maria O'Brien** Partner,
Baker McKenzie

AWARDS

Congratulations to all the award winners



Welcome Reception



Large Company Turnaround of the Year: Ten Network Holdings



Medium Company Turnaround of the Year: Houston's Farm



Restructuring Deal of the Year: Paladin Energy Limited



Small Company Turnaround of the Year: Brisbane Broncos Leagues Club



DELEGATES

Thank you to all
those who attended

[Click here to see more
photos from the event](#)



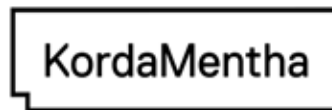
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THANK YOU

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN IN 2019

