



COMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE LTD

MEDIA RELEASE

COMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE LATE DR CHRISTOPHER NEWELL

Sydney, 25 June 2008 – Communications Alliance today lamented the passing of Dr Christopher Newell, the long-serving chairman of its Disability Council.

As chairman of the Communications Alliance Disability Council for the past ten years, Dr Newell was a tireless advocate of 'universal design', championing the need to ensure Australian communications products and services meet the needs of people with disabilities.

Communications Alliance CEO, Anne Hurley, said Dr Newell's contribution would be missed but his legacy would remain in the completed initiatives and ongoing work of the Disability Council.

"Among the most significant outcomes was the Industry guideline 'Access to Telecommunications For People With Disabilities', which assists industry participants to meet their obligations under legislation ensuring equity of access to communications products and services, as well as to information supplied or requested," Ms Hurley said.

Communications Alliance chairman Neville Stevens added: "Christopher was highly respected throughout our industry and we regret his passing. Throughout his ten years as chair of the Disability Council, Christopher overlooked his own difficulties by regularly flying up to Sydney to attend our meetings, where he was a forceful proponent of measures benefiting people with disabilities."

The Communications Alliance Disability Council was established to develop a framework for ensuring adequate and appropriate disability sector input into Communications Alliance codes and standards. Disability Council members participate in the work of Communications Alliance through membership of Reference Panels, Working Committees and other working groups.

About Communications Alliance

Communications Alliance was formed to provide a unified voice for the Australian communications industry and to lead it into the next generation of converging networks, technologies and services.



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Membership of Communications Alliance is drawn from a wide cross-section of the communications industry, including service providers, vendors, consultants and suppliers.

The prime mission of Communications Alliance is to promote the growth of the Australian communications industry by fostering the highest standards of business ethics and behaviour through industry self-governance.

For further information see www.commsalliance.com.au

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