

Procurement Strategy Summit VIC

📅 11th March 2026

📍 Marvel Stadium - Victory Room

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Paul Holland
GM Procurement & Property



Kanchan Angural
GM Procurement - IT & Indirect,
Procurement Excellence



Sebastian Shand
Head of Procurement, Property
and Facilities



Sandy Carvert
Chief Procurement Officer



Sesh Sarkar
Head of Supply Chain



James Taylor
General Manager (Principal) -
Vendor Management & Negotiation



KEY TOPICS



The Strategic Role of
Procurement in a World
of Global Disruptions,
Uncertainty & Change



Driving Actionable
Insights in Sourcing to
Mitigate Risk and Support
Smarter Business
Decision-Making



Procurement Excellence:
Simplifying Processes &
Driving Efficiencies
Beyond Cost



Aligning Social &
Sustainable Procurement
with Cost Effectiveness
and Commercial Goals

WHO WILL ATTEND

Direct Procurement

Sourcing

Vendor Management

Indirect Procurement

Category Management

Supplier Management

Procurement Summit VIC 2026

AGENDA 11th of March

8:30AM REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

9:00AM WELCOME REMARKS

9:10AM ATTENDEE SPOTLIGHT

Discussing Key Priorities in Social and Sustainable Procurement Practices

9:40AM PANEL DISCUSSION

The Strategic Role of Procurement in a World of Global Disruptions, Uncertainty & Change

- Positioning procurement to realise business-value in both BAU & Transformation Settings
- How aligning procurement with business strategy drives value creation amid cost inflation and bottom-line pressures.
- How can procurement support the business best in meeting industry-wide & sector-specific regulations
- Building a highly skilled and adaptable procurement team in the AI Era to support strategic objectives

Sandy Carveth, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Education Victoria

Paul Holland, General Manager Procurement & Property, AGL

Kanchan Angural, GM Procurement - IT & Indirect, Procurement Excellence, Toll Group

Cynthia Chung, Head of Procurement, Vicinity Centres

Jake Bristow, Account Director APAC, Achilles

Moderated by: **Robert D'Alessandro**, Procurement Manager - Networks, AusNet

10:20AM FIRESIDE CHAT

V/Lines' Transformation Journey with Merlin AI Agents

Shiraz Ruwaim, Head of Procurement, V/Line

Carl Kimball, Vice President, Asia Pacific & Japan, Zycus

10:40AM MORNING TEA & NETWORKING

11:10AM INTERACTIVE SCENARIO

Procurement Table Top Exercise: "The Great Buy-Off" 

11:40PM PANEL DISCUSSION

Driving Actionable Insights in Strategic Sourcing & Supplier Engagement

- Discussing best practices across strategic sourcing and supplier management governance
- Building team's skills and capabilities in sourcing
- Using actionable data and success metrics to align quality, risk and cost in competitive market: 2026
- Embedding better sustainable, social and indigenous procurement practices into the business strategy

Paul Thomas, Head of Procurement, TelstraSuper

Leigh Wilson, Head of Procurement and Property, CitiPower & Powercor

Nico Grau Molina, Senior Manager, Procurement, Real Estate, IFM

Moderated by: **Debbie Hack**, National Procurement Manager, Frasers Property (Former)

12:20PM PRESENTATION

Agentic AI – The New Frontier in Procurement Transformation

Tom Zielinski, Senior Director - Consulting and Services, GEP

12:40PM LUNCH & NETWORKING

1:30PM PANEL DISCUSSION

Procurement Excellence: Simplifying Processes & Driving Efficiencies Beyond Cost

- Discovering opportunities to deliver better service outcomes across the supplier community
- Ensuring security of supply amid changing dynamics of pressures to support business success
- Looking at ways to segregate admin tasks through automation to focus on value-adding activities
- Overcoming resistance and motivating teams through change & transformation

James Taylor, GM Principal, Procurement Delivery, Telstra

Anu Srinivasan, Head of Procurement Services, Origin Energy

Avinash Oliver, Procurement Director APAC Directs, BP

Sebastian Shand, Head of Procurement, Property and Premises, TAL

Moderated by: **Kane Reiken**, Head of Managed Clients, Amazon Business

2:10PM AFTERNOON TEA & NETWORKING

2:30PM KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Bias to action – why execution is procurement's real competitive advantage

- Why procurement teams struggle to execute even when the strategy is right
- How to build a bias to action without increasing risk or cutting corners
- Practical leadership shifts that turn insight into delivery

Sesh Sarkar, Head of Supply Chain, Virgin Australia

3:00PM CLOSING REMARKS FOLLOWED BY NETWORKING DRINKS

4:00PM EVENT CONCLUDES