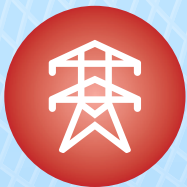


# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

((•)) A CAREER IN RADIO COMMUNICATIONS





## Why is the radio industry important?

Without reliable communication technologies, our communities can't connect, industry can't flow and economies can't grow. Communications technology surrounds us – in our smart devices, navigation systems, TVs, personal media devices, emails, data centres, home appliances and vehicles.

Most people don't realise that radio communications are responsible for the efficient operation of major infrastructure and many public services. Worth more than \$4billion to the Australian economy each year, the radio communications industry forms an important part of the ICT sector and includes two way radio, as well as other wireless communication technologies.

## Why do people need radio communications?

Since the introduction of the telegraph in 1858, the need to establish communications infrastructure capable of bridging vast distances and harsh environments has been critical to Australia's development.

Radio or wireless communication technologies offer many advantages and capabilities over traditional telecommunications. In Australia today, the private mobile radio market is responsible for the delivery of a range of critical public services and is widely adopted in the mining, utilities, transport, public safety, farming and government sectors.

## Why choose a career in radio communications?

A career in the radio industry offers exciting opportunities to connect communities, infrastructure and services, as well as create new efficiencies and safety standards in the way businesses work.

More than just designing and implementing commercial communication systems, you will play an important role in the development of the ICT industry. With constant innovations in wireless and mobile technologies, this is an exciting time to build skills and knowledge in a growing and vital sector.





## What career opportunities and development paths are there?

Working in the radio communications industry is 'hands on' and offers two professional pathways, as well as a rewarding sales career for business development minded professionals.

Radio engineers have a university degree and are specialised engineers who work with devices that emit and receive radio waves. As a radio engineer you will be responsible for designing communication solutions for both private and public networks and may even become involved in end-user product design.

Radio technicians have completed an apprenticeship and are responsible for the installation, implementation and testing of networks and systems. As a radio technician your responsibilities will extend from the workshop to the field, and you will be competent in the repair and maintenance of radio communication equipment.

## What are the benefits of working in the radio industry?

Whether you are an undergraduate, recent graduate, career changer or school leaver, the best way to find out is to talk with someone already doing the job, preferably with one of the major employers. However, as a general overview, a career in the radio industry offers great rewards including:

### **((●)) A valued and broad range of skills**

The process of becoming a radio technician or engineering professional will develop a number of key skills – problem solving, analytical ability, communication, record keeping and reporting, ability to work as a team, and leadership - to name just a few. These skills are highly complementary in the Information Technology Sector.

### **((●)) Job security**

Demand for radio communications will continue for years to come. From new developments such as the NBN, to innovations in wireless communications technologies – your skills will lead to diverse career paths that will support you in all future endeavors.

### **((●)) Satisfaction**

Ensuring the efficient operation of critical public services and keeping communities connected will never be dull. You will be supporting industries who cannot perform their role without reliable and robust communication systems and tools.

### **((●)) Variety and Challenges**

Finding solutions to industry problems requires constant innovation and awareness of the latest trends. Working in the radio industry often involves remote site work or work in hazardous environments. Sometimes you may even visit other cities or major events as you undertake your work.



**SEE THE WORLD FROM  
A DIFFERENT ANGLE.**

# How do I become a radio communications professional?

Aside from electronic engineering, there are very few courses dedicated to radio communications, however at a minimum, you need to have completed year 11 maths and physics. Other essential skills include:

## Other essential skills include:

- + Good written and oral communication skills
- + Enjoying analysis and problem solving
- + A passion for technology and technical systems
- + Working well in a team and enjoying the outdoors



**THE OPPORTUNITIES  
ARE LIMITLESS.**

*"I chose a career in radio communications because I felt it would bring me some great opportunities throughout my working life, and provide me with options to work for versatile businesses within one industry. As a two way radio specialist, I get involved in the maintenance of significant communications infrastructure and systems, while finding solutions to industry problems."*

**Sean Duxbury**  
Apprentice - Mobile Masters



## About ARCIA

ARCIA is the peak national industry body representing the two-way and associated wireless radio communications industry in Australia. ARCIA is a not-for-profit, incorporated Association that seeks to promote issues such as the protection and better utilisation of the radio communications sections of the spectrum.

**To find out more about employment opportunities or enquire about work experience placements, contact us for more information.**

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