

# Is Paging really dead?

Presented By  
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# What is the number one question ?

# WHY?

# Why Paging

- **Can be built for mission critical 4 or 5 9's**
- **Does what it is designed to do**
- **Less prone to viruses and hacking**
- **One to many**
- **Lower cost hardware**
- **Greater Coverage footprint**
- **Long Battery Life**

# Where Did Paging Go?

- 1980 – 3 million pagers
- 1985 – affordable cellphones arrived
- 1990 – 22 million pagers
- 1995 – 60 million pagers
- 2000's – many consumers went to cellphones-iPhone, Blackberry
- But, Paging did not completely go away
- Pagers in use today? Where?

# Who Uses Paging Today?

- Doctors
- Nurses
- First responders
- Firefighters
- Police
- Nuclear research
- Mining
- Energy producer's emergency response teams
- Energy distribution systems
- Industrial alarm monitoring systems
- Manufacturing process control
- Factory areas where cellphones are not allowed.

**...and Anyone Who is Important!**

## North America- Examples

- **American Messaging:**
  - 3,000+ Transmitters
  - 700,000 Subscribers
  - 1,400 Major Healthcare and First responders
  - Continued investment upgrading network
- **Spok:**
  - 4,000+ Transmitters – Coverage in 42 States
  - 2,200 Hospitals
  - 800,000+ Pagers in use
  - 100M+ Messages per month sent

## EU- Examples

- **eMessage France:**
  - 400 + Transmitters -98% of Population
  - 130,000 Subscribers
  - Messaging to Pagers as well as switching and control
- **eMessage Germany:**
  - 800+ Transmitters – Coverage in 95% of Germany
  - Healthcare, Fire and disaster, Utilities
  - Messaging to Pagers as well as switching and control

## EU- Examples

- **Astrid Belgium:**
  - 240+ Transmitters - Nationwide
  - 7,200+ Messages sent per day
  - Dedicated network for First Responders
  - Network upgrade over the next 18 month
- **Netherlands:**
  - 424 Transmitters – Nationwide
  - Dedicated network for First Responders
  - Government built and managed



## NZ- Examples

- **Spark:**
  - 95 Transmitters - Nationwide
  - Exclusively for FENZ, Wellington Free Ambulance and ST John Ambulance
  - Flex and POCSAG Protocols
  - Approx 10,000 users
- **St John Ambulance:**
  - 100 Transmitters – Infill where no Spark coverage
  - POCSAG Protocol
  - Approx 8,000 users

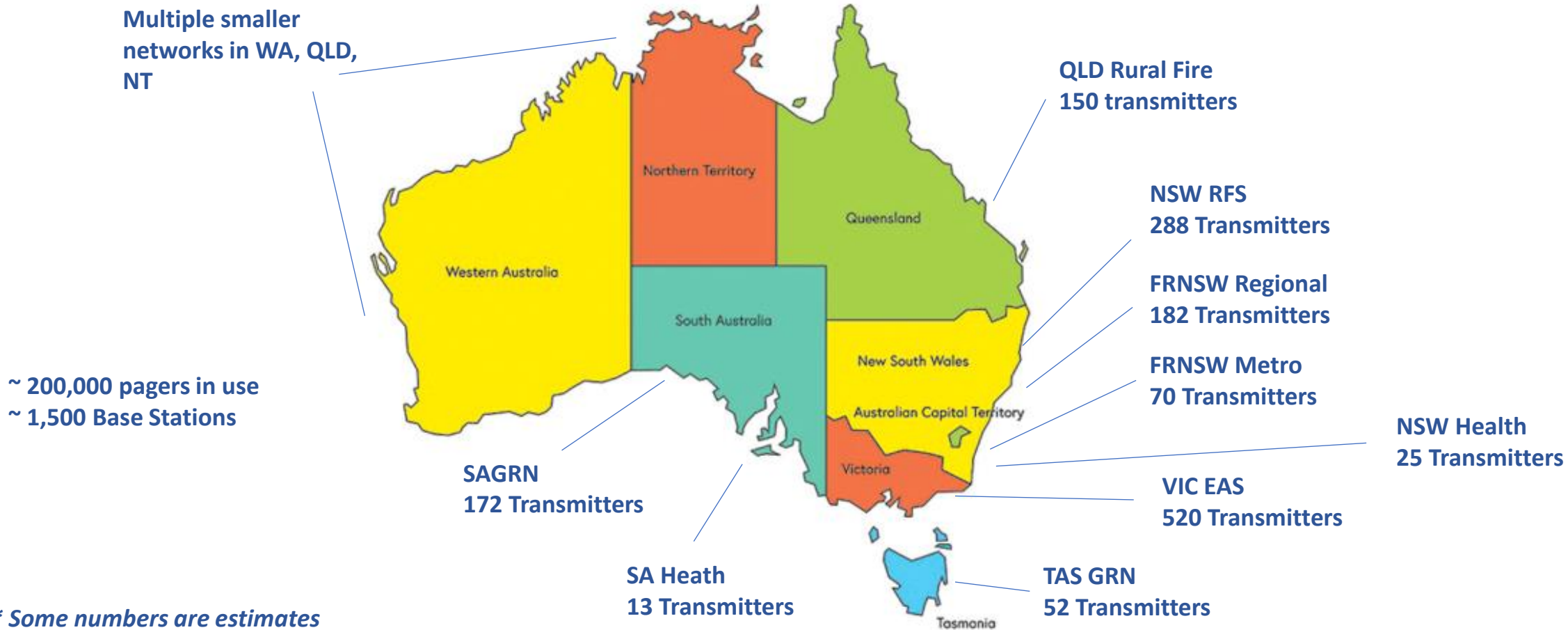
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## NZ- Examples

- **FENZ:**
  - 100+ Infill Transmitters where no other coverage
  - Exclusively for FENZ and ST John Ambulance
  - Mostly Satellite backhaul
- **Canterbury DHB:**
  - Reliable Paging Linked across 5-6 sites
  - POCSAG Protocol
  - Code Blue, Security Response

# Paging Networks in Australia

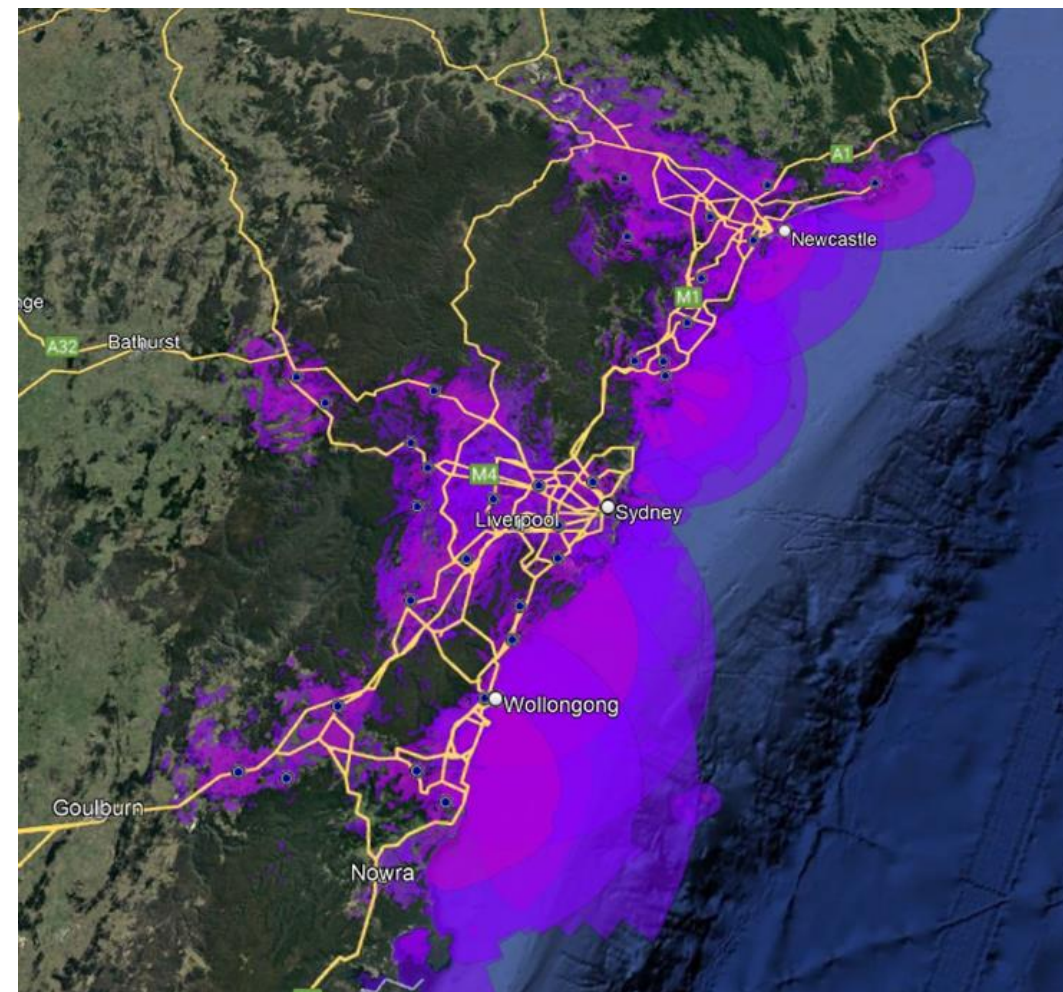


# Australia- Examples

- **Victoria AES:**
  - 228 sites with 2 transmitters per site- 2 Frequencies
  - Exclusively for CFA, MFS, SES and Ambulance Victoria
  - 40,000+ Pagers
  - Network Refresh next 12 months
- **South Australian GRN:**
  - 172 Transmitter Sites
  - Exclusively for CFS, MFS, SES and SAAS
  - 20,000 + Pagers
  - Upgraded in 2019 – New network and core

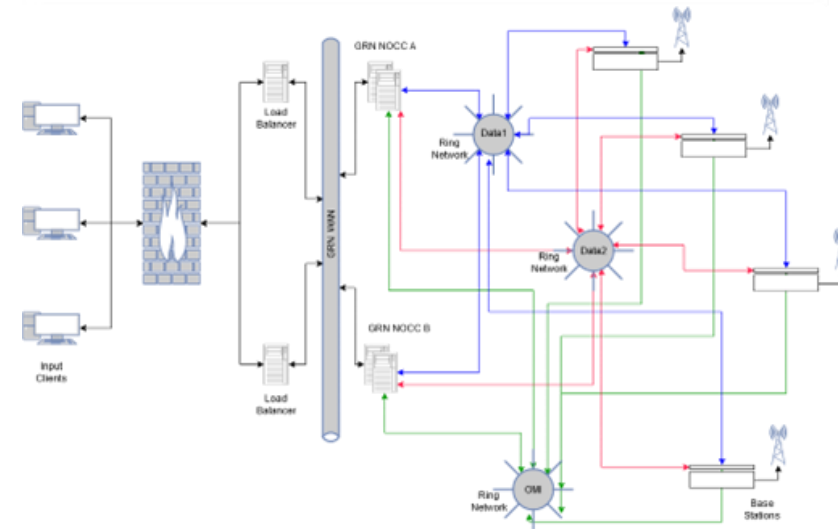
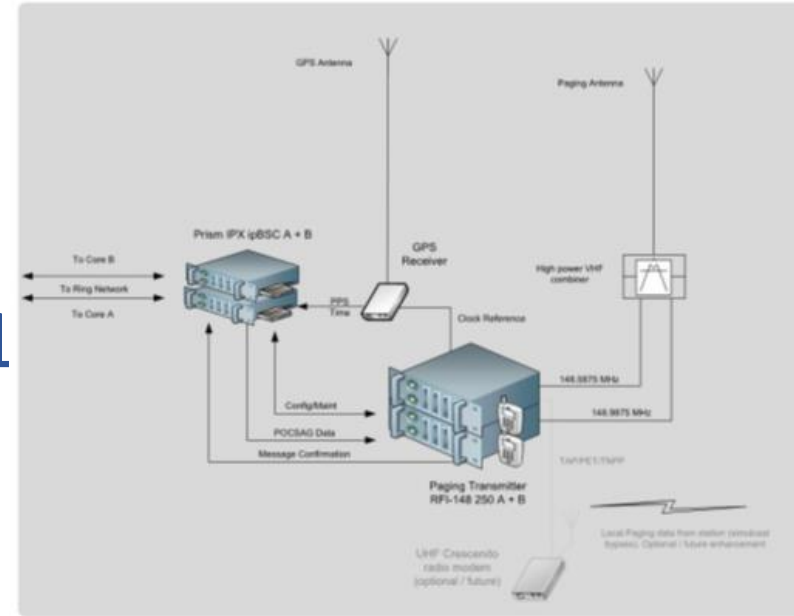
# Australia- Network Focus-

- **NSW ESPN:**
  - Currently 35 sites with 2 transmitters per site- 2 Frequencies
  - 10 new sites being installed in 2023
  - 1 Channel for F+R NSW
  - 1 Channel for RFS, SES
  - Covers the Sydney GMA



# Australia- Network Focus-

- **NSW ESPN:**
  - STI Engineering, Prism-IPX & TPL
  - Future-proof, modern equipment
  - Redundant paging cores
  - Dual channels
  - TPL Encryption enabled
  - Standard POCSAG as well as 4G pagers



# Australia- Network Focus-

- **NSW ESPN:**
  - Completed on January 6th 2022
  - Challenges
  - Time
  - Contract started in April 2021, 80% of sites installed in December...
  - Bureaucracy
  - Discussions started November 2018
  - Competing interests and moving targets
  - COVID...



## Upcoming Opportunities/ Projects-

- **NSW MISSION CRITICAL MESSAGING PROGRAM:**
  - Highly Available messaging service when alternative communication technology fails
  - Single POCSAG Paging Network for NSW
  - Increased current paging coverage by 12%
  - 415 Sites
  - 45,000 + Users
  - Connected to PSN backhaul

## Upcoming Opportunities/ Projects-

- **NZ Public Safety Network- Personal Alerting:**
  - Combine multiple networks (Spark, St John, FENZ) to one network with same frequency and protocol
  - Part of Public Safety Network rollout
  - Replicate current paging coverage or improve more desirable
  - 200+ Sites
  - 18,000 Users
  - Potential for hybrid devices with response capability

# Upcoming Opportunities/ Projects-

- **Tasmania GRN Paging:**
  - Single POCSAG Paging Network for TAS
  - Part of \$567M TasGRN P25 Radio project
  - 54 Sites currently
  - Approx 7,500 Users
  - Radio Network build priority

## Summary

- **Although Numbers have reduced Paging still remains**
- **Networks still being built and maintained**
- **Most networks are mission critical and Government Funded**
- **Message protocol has not changed but systems are latest technology**
- **Devices have changed-hybrid options for response and dual path messaging**
- **Encrypted and secure options available**



THANK YOU,  
ANY QUESTIONS?  
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