



Critical Messaging Association Appoints New Officers, Presents Award, and Highlights Effective Use of New Technologies at Annual Convention

Wilmington, NC (October 9, 2014) — The Critical Messaging Convention was held October 1 - 3 at the Mondrian Hotel in Miami Beach, FL, where members of the Critical Messaging Association (CMA-America and CMA-Europe) were joined by industry representatives from Europe, Australia, Israel, and North America. A broad range of topics including the challenges of old versus new technology, paging services for the utilities market, and the potential of standardized encryption codes were discussed.

“Encryption is now a hot topic with many operators/carriers. There are a number of vendors who sell encrypted paging products but operators could well be locked into one supplier because of system overheads in airtime and peripheral equipment. With a standardized encrypted paging code operators would be able to purchase from various suppliers who will then have to compete on price, quality, and extra features,” said CMA-E Chairman Derek Banner.

New CMA President and Vice President Named

During the convention, Jim Nelson was named CMA President and Michael Lyons was named CMA Vice President. Both men have long histories with the CMA and as leaders in the industry.

Nelson is Chairman, President and CEO of Prism-IPX Systems, a market leader in paging and centralized critical message management systems. Jim was appointed to the Board of Directors of CMA-A and CMA-E in 2008, and was elected as Vice-Chair of the Paging Technical Committee in the same year. Jim is the first Vendor to hold the office of president for the CMA.

Lyons is COO and CTO of Indiana Paging Network, one of the top independent paging carriers in the United States. Michael has been a member of the Board of Directors of CMA since 2008 and has served as Technical Committee Chair for the last six years.

2014 Global Industry Recognition Award

Ted McNaught, President and COO of Critical Alert Systems, received the 2014 Global Industry Recognition Award that recognizes professionals who have made significant contributions to the industry. The CMA-A and CMA-E boards select the recipient from a list of international nominees. Ted has been a leader in the healthcare communications technology industry since 1986 when he joined Summit Communications where he became Sales and Marketing Director. In 1993 he assumed leadership of Northeast Paging which was acquired by Critical Alert Systems in 2010, creating the country’s third-largest paging provider. In the role of President, Ted has been a driving force behind Critical Alert’s creation, adoption, and integration of new technology including CommonPath nurse call, Mobile Heartbeat and a host of mHealth Solutions.



McNaught is the founding President of the AAPC, which became CMA in 2010. He is the past

President of CMA-A and has been instrumental in expanding CMA's mission and membership as a global organization. He also is a member of the Enterprise Wireless Association Board of Directors.

About the Critical Messaging Association

Founded in 2002, the Critical Messaging Association is the only International trade group for companies that provide critical messaging and paging products and services. Emergency healthcare professionals, first responders and public safety personnel – who require reliable, fast communications during a crisis or disaster – have been the core critical messaging users since the early 1960s. More information is available at www.criticalmessagingassociation.org.

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