

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: 06/08/2018

### **AICD partners with SIA and Manage Damage Pty Ltd to present half-day forum on Safety Governance**

#### **Keynote speaker Gerard Forlin QC and international expert panel**

On Wednesday 22 August 2018, the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) will host a half-day forum in partnership with the SIA and Manage Damage Pty Ltd. addressing the issue of 'Safety Governance: How informed is your board about managing damage?' from 7.15am - 12.00 at Customs House, The Long Room, 399 Queen Street, Brisbane.

The event will feature a forum of experts led by keynote speaker Gerard Forlin QC from the UK, who will discuss the creation of industrial manslaughter laws and their implications for Australia.

Melanie Mayne-Wilson, State Manager, QLD, AICD said, "We are very pleased to be able to offer this event to our members and non-members in Brisbane. Safety governance is an important issue facing directors with the responsibility falling on the board and executive to ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place."

Safety Institute of Australia's Chair Mr Patrick Murphy, who will MC the event, said, "We still have some way to go to better support Australian boards to respond effectively to issues relating to the health and safety of their workforces. Events such as this, in partnership with the AICD allow us to make an important contribution to an ongoing dialogue."

Safety governance is a very important topic for boards to consider in the wake of recent events in the property and leisure industries. Company directors should be aware of recent changes to the law – which Forlin will discuss - which now allow for incidents of negligence to be aggregated, which in turn, can escalate the penalty to the level of imprisonment ranging from 18 months to seven years.

Other speakers include Maria Saraceni, barrister and board member, Jamie McPherson, Managing Partner, DWF Law, Dr Matthew Stewart, Jillian Hamilton, Managing Director at Manage Damage, and Hans Horst Konkolewsky, Secretary General of the International Social Security Association.

At this unique half -day event, international and national experts will explore safety governance and its impact on businesses, including their board members and operational leaders, and how to lead for positive fiscal outcomes and best practice.

Further information about the 'Safety Governance: How informed is your board about managing damage?' event is available at <http://aicd.companydirectors.com.au/events/events-calendar/qld/ev139284-special-events>

Ends:

**Additional information:**

# AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE of COMPANY DIRECTORS

## About Gerard Forlin QC

Appointed as Queens Counsel in 2010 after over 20 years at the bar, Gerard Forlin QC is a specialist in health and safety, manslaughter, disaster litigation, aviation, railways, fire, shipping safety, regulatory offences, product liability, healthcare, commercial fishing, consumer crime, corruption, waste offences, human rights; and inquests.

Gerard has advised on over 250 fatality cases, including: Grenfell Tower, Shoreham Air Disaster, MH370, Watford, Southall, Paddington, James Porter, Teebay, Barrow, Hatfield, Purley, Faversham, Britannia Air Crash, City of London Lift Case, Alton Towers, Greek Catamaran, inquests in Falklands and other sporting, aviation and construction cases. Gerard is also standing counsel to numerous unions, public limited companies and government departments, and visiting lecturer to universities and other institutions in the UK and worldwide. He was admitted to the NSW Bar in 2006 and is a member of Denman Chambers in Sydney.

“When a board is contemplating the recent changes to the law and what they need to consider as an organisation, it is important to highlight that your actions will be measured on the element of risk. You don’t need an injury or a death to come under question and you want to make sure that no one down the line can identify any cost-cutting or negligence at the expense of safety. This is not just about the paperwork - it needs to be living, breathing paperwork, probing to the bottom, walking the premises to ensure that what is in place on paper is actually in place in the day to day operations,” said Forlin.

## AICD Events

For more information about QLD events and courses, please contact the Queensland Division on [QLDMembershipTeam@aicd.com.au](mailto:QLDMembershipTeam@aicd.com.au) or 1300 739 119.

## SIA events

For more information about SIA events, and courses please go to [sia.org.au/events](http://sia.org.au/events) or contact [events@sia.org.au](mailto:events@sia.org.au)

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**About Safety Institute of Australia Ltd:** The Safety Institute of Australia Ltd is Australia’s peak body for the health & safety profession. Established more than 60 years ago, our membership comprises more than 4,000 individuals, many of whom work in the field of Occupational Health and Safety. Our vision is to harness the capabilities of the vast body of people working within the field, to work towards the elimination of workplace injury, illness and death. To learn more, visit [www.sia.org.au](http://www.sia.org.au), or call (03) 8336 1995.