Phil Preston

THE CHANGE NAVIGATOR

KEYNOTE SPEAKER • STRATEGIC FACILITATOR • EVENT & PANEL HOST

SPEAKER KIT 2026

INTRODUCTION

Phil Preston is a keynote speaker, facilitator and event host who helps leaders, teams and organisations improve their resilience, adaptability and performance amidst change.

He draws on decades of experience in both corporate and community leadership roles, and in facilitating complex stakeholder challenges across all sectors.

KEYNOTES

- **The Adaptability Advantage** - How to sustain performance, connection and momentum during disruption and change.
- **The Trust Advantage** - Why stakeholder expectations are reshaping the rules for business success.
- **The Power of Why** - How meaningful work drives engagement, energy and performance.

POPULAR WORKSHOPS

- **Decision-Making Under Pressure** - Better decisions for greater adaptability and performance.
- **Stakeholder Buy-In and Alignment** - Turning stakeholder challenges into momentum and results.
- **The Power of Why** - Turning meaning into momentum at work.

ABOUT PHIL

Disruption is no longer a temporary challenge - it has become the environment organisations operate within.

From workforce pressures and rising stakeholder expectations to technological change and increasing complexity, leaders and teams are being asked to adapt continuously while still delivering results. The challenge is not simply managing change - it is sustaining performance, momentum and clarity while navigating it.

That is where Phil Preston comes in.

Phil Preston is a keynote speaker, facilitator and event host who helps leaders, teams and organisations improve their resilience, adaptability and performance amidst change.

His approach is solutions oriented - bringing clarity, focus and strategies to make change feel achievable, not abstract - and ensuring client objectives are met.

Before moving into speaking and consulting, Phil spent 17 years in investment management leading high-performing analytical teams in commercially demanding environments.

Since then he has partnered with more than 150 organisations across the business, government and community sectors to help people navigate complexity, build alignment and make better decisions under pressure.

Phil's work blends practical insight with strategic thinking. His keynote presentations and workshops equip audiences with tools and frameworks that strengthen adaptability, stakeholder buy-in, trust and performance improvement through meaningful work.

Known for his down-to-earth style, thoughtful delivery and dry humour, Phil creates engaging experiences that challenge assumptions, encourage reflection and inspire practical action.

Featured in publications including The Australian Financial Review and The CEO Magazine, Phil helps organisations cut through noise, sustain momentum and lead with greater confidence in a rapidly changing world.

CLIENTS

Phil's client list includes

TESTIMONIALS

"Phil's session was excellent ... and got everyone in the room in the right frame of mind for the day ahead."

Divisional Chief Executive, Challenger Group

"It was absolutely magnificent and we can't thank you enough for your time, effort, preparation and energy on the day."

Executive Assistant Network

"Thanks for [the masterclass], I found it really inspiring!"

Executive Manager, IAG

"Your session really set the scene for the critical nature of purpose for our People Lead Team offsite."

General Manager, People, BlueScope

"The session was both engaging and immediately useful. The team left with clearer alignment, renewed energy, and actionable strategies we can apply straight away."

Property Council of Australia, Director Membership and Partnerships

"Your opening keynote was pitch perfect"

Conference Convenor, IACC

POPULAR KEYNOTES

KEYNOTE #1

"Best suited for conferences, leadership groups, off-site gatherings and industries facing rapid transformation."

THE ADAPTABILITY ADVANTAGE

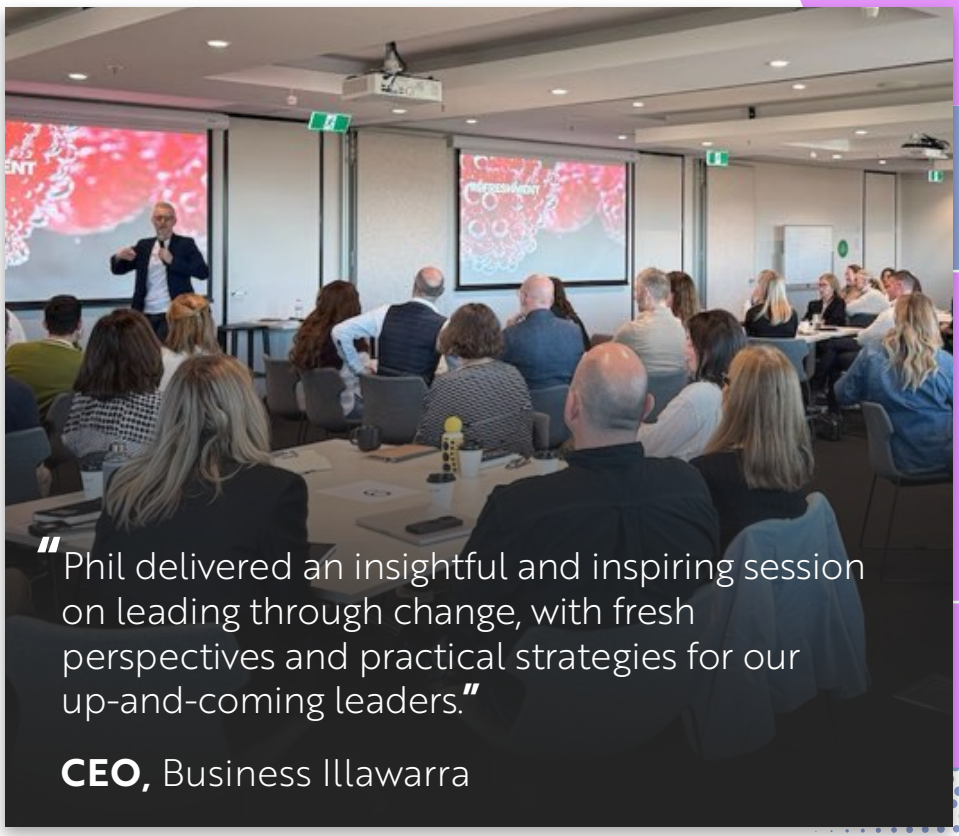
How to Sustain Performance, Connection & Momentum During Disruption and Change

As the pace of disruption, uncertainty and workplace change continues to accelerate - many teams are feeling the pressure.

In The Adaptability Advantage, Phil outlines why resilience alone is no longer enough and why adaptability has become a critical strategic capability for leaders, teams and organisations.

Blending practical tools, real-world experience and engaging insights, this keynote helps audiences understand how high-performing teams sustain momentum and adapt effectively during times of disruption and change.

The keynote concludes with a powerful challenge:
What area needs your focus - and what action is now required?



"Phil delivered an insightful and inspiring session on leading through change, with fresh perspectives and practical strategies for our up-and-coming leaders."

CEO, Business Illawarra

Audiences explore how to:

- Create a cultural setting where people contribute
- Build clarity around priorities and shared direction
- Strengthen alignment and navigate tension constructively
- Improve decision-making quality and speed
- Sustain energy, fulfilment and impact

KEYNOTE #2

"Best suited for conferences, executives, leadership groups, team retreats and industries facing stakeholder challenges."

THE TRUST ADVANTAGE

Why Stakeholder Expectations Are Reshaping the Rules for Business Success

The rules of business are changing.

Employees, customers, communities and business partners increasingly expect organisations to deliver more than commercial results alone. Trust, culture and stakeholder relationships are becoming critical drivers of long-term success.

In this keynote, Phil explores how rising stakeholder expectations are reshaping leadership, organisational culture and the future of business.

Drawing on practical experience, contemporary examples and decades of work across sectors, this keynote examines why organisations that build trust are often better equipped to innovate, attract talent, strengthen reputation and sustain performance.

This keynote challenges leaders to rethink what sustainable business success now requires - and how to lead accordingly.

"Phil's engaging style, thought leadership and practical case studies added huge value to each delegate."

Director, Australian Food & Grocery Council

Audiences will explore:

- The changing expectations shaping modern business
- Why trust has become a strategic advantage
- How culture and leadership influence stakeholder confidence
- Practical ways to strengthen alignment and positive impact

KEYNOTE #3

"Best suited to conferences, professional audiences, team retreats, leadership events and organisations experiencing change fatigue."

THE POWER OF WHY

How Meaningful Work Drives Engagement, Energy and Performance

When day-to-day pressures and competing priorities take over, work can begin to feel more like obligation than opportunity. What really matters often slips quietly into the background.

In The Power of Why, Phil explores how meaningful work fuels stronger engagement, energy and performance - and why helping people connect with the importance of what they do matters more than ever.

Drawing on practical experience and engaging insights, this keynote equips audiences with the mindset, tools and techniques to move purpose beyond a vague idea and into everyday action.

This keynote equips audiences with a powerful mindset and practical tools for harnessing the power of "why".

"Thank you for your amazing keynote and workshop last week!"

Conference Organiser, TSAA

Participants will explore:

- Why meaning influences motivation and performance
- How to reconnect with what matters most at work
- Practical techniques for strengthening purpose and engagement
- How clarity of "why" delivers greater job satisfaction and fulfilment

POPULAR WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP #1

DECISION-MAKING UNDER PRESSURE

Better Decisions for Greater Adaptability and Performance

Adaptability depends on decision-making.

Yet under the pressure of time, uncertainty and increasing complexity, poor decisions can quickly cascade - creating unnecessary stress, rework and momentum loss for individuals and teams alike.

In Decision-Making Under Pressure, Phil Preston introduces practical, cutting-edge approaches that strengthen critical thinking and decision-making quality in fast-moving environments, including those involving Gen AI tools.

Participants explore:

- Why pressure and stress can lead to reactionary responses
- Common decision-making traps and biases
- A 7-step critical thinking framework for improving clarity and judgement
- How diverse perspectives strengthen decision quality
- How to apply the process to a situation they face

This practical and interactive workshop equips attendees to improve decision-making quality under pressure through proven processes that improve judgement, adaptability and performance.

Best suited to professionals and leaders who are tasked with responsibility or have accountability for significant decisions made in their organisation.

WORKSHOP #2

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SMARTS

Turning Stakeholder Challenges into Momentum and Results

Success rarely happens in isolation.

As stakeholder expectations and organisational complexity continue to grow, the ability to engage, influence and align people has become a critical capability for leaders and teams.

In Stakeholder Buy-In & Alignment, Phil Preston equips participants with practical tools and proven approaches for engaging both internal and external stakeholders more effectively - turning resistance, uncertainty and competing interests into stronger collaboration and better outcomes.

Participants explore:

- Identifying key stakeholder risks, needs and opportunities
- Understanding stakeholder motivations and influence
- Alignment strategies that strengthen buy-in, collaboration and execution
- Communication and influence approaches that win hearts and minds
- Practical action planning for real-world stakeholder situationsV

Whether navigating change, leading projects or strengthening partnerships, this workshop builds the confidence and capability needed to engage stakeholders strategically and create the momentum that leads to success.

Best suited to leaders and teams involved in managing partnerships or stakeholder interests.

WORKSHOP #3

THE POWER OF WHY WORKSHOP

Turning Meaning Into Momentum at Work

Work is at its best when people understand how their strengths, values and contributions connect with something meaningful.

Designed as a companion to The Power of Why keynote - or as a impactful standalone session - this practical workshop gives participants the time, tools and space to explore the deeper drivers of meaningful and energising work.

Participants move beyond vague ideas of purpose to identify practical ways to bring greater clarity, direction and fulfilment into their professional lives.

Participants explore:

- Identifying personal strengths and professional passions
- Clarifying what matters most at work
- Uncovering their professional 'why'
- Aligning strengths, contribution and direction
- Creating meaningful actions with accountability

This workshop not only strengthens connection and shared understanding with peers - it provides participants with greater clarity, stronger motivation and a practical pathway for turning meaning into momentum at work.

Best suited to leaders and teams feeling the pressure of their roles and / or change that surrounds them.

IN-PERSON, HYBRID & ONLINE DELIVERY

FACILITATED SOLUTIONS

Phil is an accredited ‘master facilitator’ who ensures your sessions run smoothly and deliver results.

When facilitation is done well you might not even notice, but you certainly know when it’s not so good! Internally sourced facilitators carry some advantages but they do not suit all occasions.

Phil has been professionally facilitating for more than 16 years and attained 'master facilitator' accreditation with critical thinking specialists, Janellis.

From his extensive work with companies, non-profits and government agencies, he brings a safe and reliable pair of hands to the task, reducing risk and maximising your return-on-investment in people's time and availability.

It all starts with planning - the level of preparation prior to an event or project will largely dictate the quality of the outcome.

Phil works with you to understand your objectives and translates into the best approach for the people, audience and stakeholders involved.

Since leaving his corporate career, he's worked with hundreds of organisations across all sectors which gives him a level of experience that is seldom found in others.

He knows how to deal with and adjust to changing dynamics and situations as they arise, keeping things focused and on track.

EVENT & PANEL HOST

Experience counts for a lot when you're hosting the room from the stage

Great event hosting doens't happen by magic. The host must be fully up to speed on the topic, speakers, audience composition and sponsor's needs.

Phil's approach is to ensure your event objectives are met while minimising risk, working with you to get the most out of your investment in people's time and energy.

He's hosted events such as JLL's TEDxSydney VIP Lunch through to awards nights, offiste day(s) and interviews with distinguished guests.

Panel hosting requires preparation, pre-work and, on the day, managing the conversation so that contributions from guests are shared around and they have the opportunity to shine.

His business and leadership background provides accessibility to a wide range of topics and conversations.

For offsites, you may want to package in a keynote or other services to dramatically lift the quality of the experience at an attractive marginal cost.

Formats include in-person, hybrid and online.

LOGISTICS

Travel : Phil is based in Hobart, Tasmania (Australia) and he quotes travel from Hobart Airport

AV : For **in-person** and **hybrid**, slides can be run from his laptop (wi-fi connection desirable) or from mac-based house equipment.
An AV check is essential. Hand held or lapel mic preferred.

Virtual delivery from Phil's studio or your nominated venue.

Marketing : A short video can be provided on request, and he offers to post on social media both before and after your event if desired.

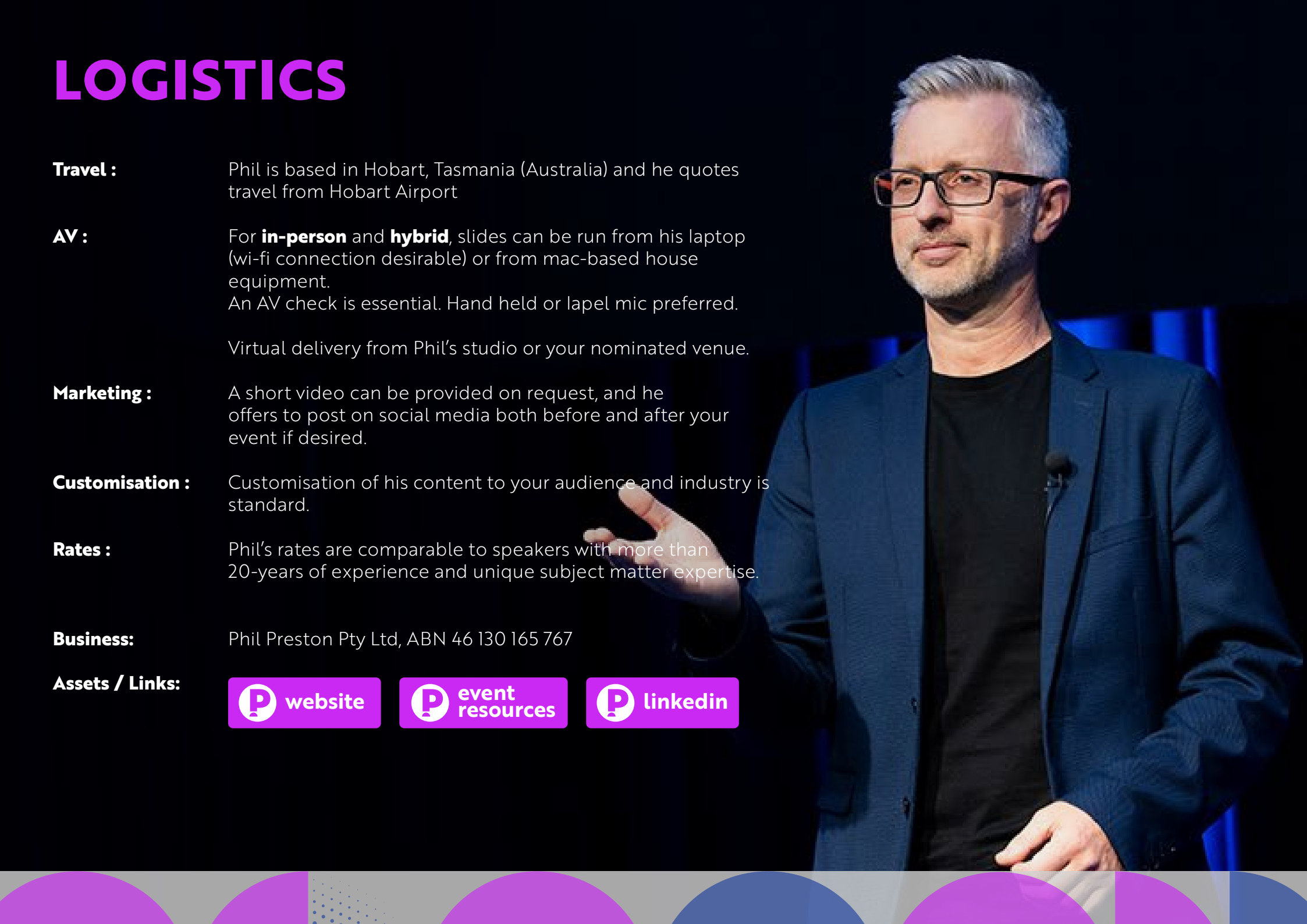
Customisation : Customisation of his content to your audience and industry is standard.

Rates : Phil's rates are comparable to speakers with more than 20-years of experience and unique subject matter expertise.

Business: Phil Preston Pty Ltd, ABN 46 130 165 767

Assets / Links:

website | event resources | linkedin



CONNECT

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