



Welcome to the third edition of the IANZ Argus. In this issue, we introduce the new members of the IANZ Council, update you on the latest APLAC general assembly held in Mexico and find out more about major IANZ client, Hill Laboratories.

### **1. New Chair and board members for IANZ Council**

Three new appointments have been made to the IANZ Council by Commerce Minister Craig Foss.



Auckland-based accountant Paul Connell is the new Chair of the Testing Laboratory Registration Council, which operates as International Accreditation New Zealand. With broad consulting and management experience, Mr Connell is a director of several companies and chair of Just Water International and the Hamilton City Council's audit and risk committee. He is a fellow of the Institute of Directors, an associate member of the Australian institute and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. He spent 11 years at Ferrier Hodgson and is a trustee of St Mary's College in Ponsonby, Auckland.

"Mr Connell has excellent financial literacy and management experience and I am confident he will be well supported by the other appointees," Mr Foss said in his announcement.

The other new council members are Lindsey Lawton, a chartered accountant with more than 25 years' experience in health and professional services, and John Boshier who has worked in senior management in the energy and engineering industries for many years.

Ms Lawton has a background in finance, consulting and healthcare management and is currently a director of Ascot Angiography Ltd and Nantwich Consulting Ltd. She was previously chief executive of Fertility Associates and chief operating officer for the Southern Cross Medical Care Society.

Mr Boshier has been a fellow of the Institution of Professional Engineers for more than 20 years. He has been Assistant Secretary at the Ministry of Energy, General Manager of electricity retailer Capital Power Ltd and General Manager, Strategic Development, at ECNZ. After the restructuring of the energy sector in the 1990s, he moved to Australia, where he was chief executive of the Institution of Engineers in Australia for five years and Executive Director of the National Electricity Generator's Forum. He now lives in Wellington and consults on energy economics.

The new appointments are for a term of three years and take effect on 1 August.

John Hay, who has been acting chair, continues as a member of the council. Wellington-based Richard Janes, who has been a strong supporter of IANZ, has stood down as his term has come to an end.

## **2. APLAC in Mexico**

New Zealand was one of 35 countries represented at the annual conference of the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (APLAC) in Guadalajara, Mexico, recently.

IANZ chief executive Dr Llew Richards attended the meeting, the main purpose of which was to consider evaluation reports for nine accreditation bodies in the APLAC region, all of which were granted continuation to their signatory status.



The conference also included the signing of a new Mutual Recognition Agreement for proficiency testing provider accreditation.

Proficiency testing involves a group of analysts performing the same testing on the same samples and comparing results, the aim being to ensure their analyses consistently produce the correct results.

Currently, IANZ accredits two proficiency testing providers – Proficiency Testing Australia and Global Proficiency Ltd – which test water and dairy samples on a monthly basis and provide comparative data on the results.

IANZ hopes to sign the new MRA next year following evaluation by APLAC in March 2015.

While in Mexico, Dr Richards also held in-depth discussions on trade-related matters with representatives of several APLAC economies, including China.

### 3. IANZ resources available online

IANZ has a number of useful resources available online which can be downloaded for your internal use or provided to your customers.

These include the recent Benefits of Accreditation brochure (A4 size) and a new poster suitable for laboratories which can be printed out as either an A4 or A3 version.



To find these communications materials, go to [www.ianz.govt.nz/resources/](http://www.ianz.govt.nz/resources/)

### 4. Meet the clients – Hill Laboratories

Celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, Hill Laboratories is one of New Zealand's leading analytical testing laboratories.

Hill Labs, as it's known to most customers, is a long-standing client of IANZ, having being associated with the organisation for more than a quarter of a century. In 1988, it was an 'early adopter' to achieve what was then called TELARC accreditation.



Launched by Dr Roger Hill in Hamilton in 1984, it's a 100% privately-owned New Zealand company with hundreds of clients here and around the world.

"I have a long-standing indebtedness to IANZ for teaching us about quality systems and the importance of running a tight ship," says Dr Hill, who is the company's managing director.

"When we first started the business and decided to get accredited, we wondered why we needed to have all of our procedures and manuals fully documented. It was quite a hard haul initially but we are very grateful we did it because, when the business really took off, we had the systems set up that enabled us to grow at the rate we did.

"If we hadn't got that level of documentation and formal processes early on and learnt about good quality systems Hill Labs wouldn't have been as successful and we wouldn't have enjoyed the same level of growth."

The largest independent laboratory in the country, Hill Laboratories has testing sites in Hamilton, Christchurch, Blenheim and an office in Tokyo in Japan.

Its 330 staff undertake a vast range of laboratory testing covering soil, plants, crops, dairy, milk, honey, wine, water, timber, environment, effluent and air quality. Recently, it has added asbestos and drug testing.

“We’ve been getting a lot of work from potential house buyers who want to make sure the property hasn’t been a bake house for methamphetamine so we started drug testing for that.

“We also do a lot of environmental contaminated site work but asbestos was a specialist area we hadn’t previously undertaken. However, demand is so high in Christchurch, we decided it was time to start offering that service,” says Dr Hill.

All of Hill Labs’ routine high-volume tests are accredited by IANZ. “We also get asked to do new tests from time to time and, in due course, seek accreditation for those too.”

The company’s three major testing areas continue to be in the agriculture, environmental and food sectors, with clients ranging from international global corporations to private individuals.

“Our motto is ‘better testing, better results’ and we are very proud of our track record over the past three decades. Under the IANZ accreditation system, Hill Labs uses the very latest technologies to supply the most accurate and reliable results available today.”

For more information, visit [www.hill-laboratories.com](http://www.hill-laboratories.com)