

## The PiSToL News

### Issue 4

February 2017

#### Sveiki un laba diena

Hello, and welcome to the first PiSToL of 2017. A very happy Lunar New Year to you! IANZ is still relatively quiet with a lot of staff still on leave or having just returned. It is difficult to schedule assessments in January as a lot of laboratory staff are away too. If you are back at work, I hope your first few weeks have been pleasantly productive!



The original uploader was 用心阁 at [Chinese Wikipedia](#) - Transferred from zh.wikipedia to Commons by Shizhao using CommonsHelper. CC BY-SA 3.0

#### In this feature

- ISO/IEC 17025 DIS published
- Minor update to Specific Criteria 3
- IANZ tip: endorsement rules
- The NZ Quality College

#### ISO/IEC 17025 DIS published

Recently the first draft of ISO/IEC 17025 was published (*note: not a final version* and you are definitely still accredited to NZS ISO/IEC 17025:2005!). IANZ received the following notification regarding the review of ISO/IEC 17025 in late October 2016:

*DIS ballot - ISO/IEC 17025*

*Dear Sir or Madam,*

*On behalf of the convenors of the CASCO WG44, Mr. Warren Merkel, Mr. Steve Sidney*

*and Mr. Heribert Schorn, the CASCO Secretariat is pleased to inform you that a three-month DIS ballot on ISO/IEC 17025, General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, will open on 2016-12-29 and close on 2017-03-22. In line with the ISO Directives, the ballot is preceded by a two-month period allocated for translation.*

New Zealand's representative to the CASCO working group ([more info](#)) for this review is Anne Hofstra, who is the manager of the chemical and biological testing laboratories programmes at IANZ.

Anne has been sent the DIS 1 (first draft) of ISO/IEC 17025. This will probably be circulated to members of the IANZ Professional Advisory Committees for the relevant programmes. Anne is tasked with collating comments on behalf of the whole of New Zealand and discussing them with the working group.

After the ballot closes in March, comments will be discussed within the working group and further changes may be made. My understanding is that if the changes are not significant, which is likely, the final version of the standard will be published. If the changes are significant, there is likely to be a DIS 2 published, followed by another round of comments.

I also saw [this article](#) (*The New ISO/IEC 17025 – DIS Stage* by Dr. George Anastasopoulos) in the Cal Lab magazine recently, which I thought was quite helpful and interesting. [Here](#) is the link to Dr Anastasopoulos's previous article on the same topic.

As always I am trying to keep general updates coming through the newsletter. If you would like more or specific information please feel free to contact me.

### Minor update to Specific Criteria 3

In November 2016, the fifth edition of IANZ Specific Criteria 3 for electrical testing laboratories was released. We received some feedback about the safety section (thank you) and changes have been made. There were no changes to other sections. As always, you can find the Criteria documents [here](#).

### IANZ tip: Endorsement rules

In Appendix 1 of the Procedures and Conditions of Accreditation, you will find the statement: “*The claims of IANZ accreditation can only be related to [...] the services covered by the scope of accreditation.*” What this means, generally, is that if results on a report are not covered by your scope i.e. you are not accredited for it, you cannot make claims via the report or any other means to be accredited for arriving at those results. In some cases a ‘claim’ to be accredited could be the accidental placement of an IANZ symbol or sticker.

Full details are in Appendix 1 of the PCA (download [here](#)). Have a quick read of the appendix (it’s only two pages) if you’d like to brush up on the rules for endorsement.

### The New Zealand Quality College

Some of you may know that the NZ Quality College (NZQC) is situated on floor 3 of the same building the IANZ offices are in, at 626 Great South Rd, Ellerslie. Recently NZQC launched their shiny new website (click on the logo to the right), where you can find information about offered and upcoming courses, course calendars and contact details.



I find myself recommending the Laboratory Quality Management course quite a lot, especially to new quality managers or senior laboratory technicians working with ISO 17025. The LQM course is 3 days, is run frequently and gives the opportunity for in-depth discussion about application of the requirements within ISO 17025. If you would like more information about the LQM or any of the other courses, contact Greg or Claire at NZQC or feel free to ask your assessor.

### Fun Bits and Internet Stuff

- Exploration of the Kermadec [underwater volcanoes](#);
- Recently I read about the [US Metric Association](#), which I didn’t know existed!
- [Short interview](#) from Radio NZ with Issy Riddell-Garner about the VEX Robotics competitions;
- A [fascinating post](#) about a team of NIST researchers adapting body armour testing to women’s bodies (think: female corrections officers).

Būtu laimīgs brīvdienas.  
Goodbye!



These photos, by Joel Sartore, are from the web article <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2017/02/photo-ark-little-cats/>. I’m looking forward to seeing it in my print edition, but the web article has one thing the print article won’t: a video (about halfway down the page).