

Metrology and Calibration Newsletter

Issue 8

May 2017

Nau mai

Welcome to issue 8! In this issue,

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World Metrology Day celebrations

Officially, WMD is on 20 May. Internationally, the theme for this year is [Measurements for Transport](#).

Metrology 2017
Measurements for transport



On Tuesday, 23 May, celebrations will be held by the Metrology Society of Australasia (MSA) in Auckland. These include a welcome address from Vic Crone, the (relatively) new CE for Callaghan Innovation, guest speakers, a presentation on calibration certificates, a site tour of the Defence Technology Agency (and associated ferry journey across the beautiful Waitemata harbour), and cake (not necessarily like the one below). The cost is \$18 for MSA members and \$63 for anyone else. Please [email Cynthia](#) for more details or to register your interest.



[source](#)

New look for MSL

At the end of March, MSL released the first issue of its new newsletter, *E-Laborate*. In it, MSL



announce the new branding of MSL, as well as their fresh new website at [measurement.govt.nz](#). If you'd like to be on the mailing list for the newsletter, please email info@measurement.govt.nz.

Intro to our Testing Programmes

Often I'm asked what other assessing/auditing is required in my role at IANZ. Some think that IANZ assessors do all types of assessments, meaning that I would be a medical laboratory assessor and an inspection body assessor as well as one for metrology and calibration. Some people think that Gavin and I do metrology and calibration laboratories only. But neither of these are the case! Some of you may not know that Gavin is also Programme Manager for the Applied Physics Testing and Electrical Testing Programmes (also accredited to ISO 17025).

Applied Physics comprises mostly what is referred to as controlled environment testing (e.g. operating theatres, cleanrooms, biological safety cabinets), but also includes some types of testing which is less common and more obscure. Examples of other applied physics testing: luminaire (streetlight) housing, insulation materials, energy efficiency of appliances, stove clearances.

Electrical testing is mostly safety tests of appliances (hairdryers, irons, hospital beds...) to international standards, but also includes EMC testing and testing of power cable joints.

There are only 20 laboratories accredited in these two programmes combined, while there are 57 in metrology and calibration. While the number of testing laboratories that Gavin and I visit is small compared to calibration laboratories, it provides for a bit more variety and challenge in our assessments.

Professional Advisory Committee

Some of you will be aware that for each accreditation programme within IANZ, there is an associated Professional Advisory Committee (PAC). For the laboratories who receive this newsletter, the PAC is known as MCPAC (MC = metrology and calibration). Members are: Anne Evans, Emile Bax, Dr Chris Sutton, Eleanor Howick, Geoff Clark, Martin Snashall and Russell Mann. PAC committee meetings are held nominally yearly, with the next MCPAC on 7 August 2017. The meetings are generally attended also by the relevant IANZ programme manager (Gavin), accreditation assessors (me), IANZ CE and GM, the programme coordinator (Maggie), and the relevant NATA programme manager (Paul McMullen).



Agendas usually include reports from the CE and GM, programme managers' reports, statistics from the programmes (number of applications for accreditation in progress, number of accredited laboratories, etc.), NATA manager's report, a review of current technical experts, a review of the spread of corrective actions and strong recommendations and any other agenda items requested.

The PAC is one of the connections between industry, accredited laboratories and IANZ management and practices.

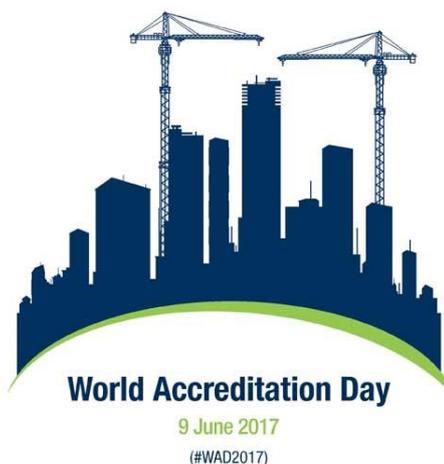
World Accreditation Day, 9 June

This year's focus is delivering confidence in construction and the built environment. To help explain the use of accredited conformity

assessment, the [Public Sector Assurance website](#) has been established to showcase different global examples where accreditation has been used to support construction and the built environment. You can see more information as well as a neatly animated illustrated map [here](#). (I can't find an example of calibration on the map, unfortunately! Can you?)



Accreditation: Delivering confidence in construction and the built environment



Metrology on the internet

Ben Aitken, an officer at Trading Standards, and his colleagues made [this video](#) which shows air bubbles escaping from water while doing a volume calibration/verification.

I thought the [Ultimate Guide to Proficiency Testing](#), by Isobudgets, might be helpful/interesting to some of you.

Fun Bits and Internet Stuff

- Why there are so many [ties in swimming](#) (short but enlightening article);
- A NZ Herald tech-[blog-post](#) on why your electricity meter might be reading incorrectly (or not).

Poroporoaki hoki inaianei!

