

The PiSToL News

Issue 6

June 2017

Nau mai

Welcome to issue 6! There are a few items in this issue which appear to relate to metrology and calibration labs only, but be assured they have been written specifically for you!

- World Metrology Day celebrations
- World Accreditation Day, 9 June
- Intro to our Metrology and Calibration programme
- Tickets to Brisbane, anyone?
- MSL course schedule out for August

World Metrology Day celebrations

Officially, World Metrology Day (WMD) was on 20 May. Internationally, the theme for this year was Measurements for Transport. Celebrations were organised by the Metrology Society of Australasia (NZ branch) and were held in Auckland on (a beautifully sunny) 23 May, with stimulating talks at the Callaghan Innovation offices on the waterfront and a fascinating whirlwind tour of the Defence Technology Agency afterwards.

Metrology 2017
Measurements for transport



Bureau International des Poids et Mesures



INM
Institut National de Métrologie de Nouvelle Zélande

World Metrology Day
20 May
www.worldmetrologyday.org

WMD is not just for metrologists and neither is the Metrology Society. If you want to be in on great events like the one mentioned above (there was also a Metrology Day chocolate mud cake), contact the MSA (or me) about how to become a member. We'd love to have you join in. Read further down for information on the MSA conference in September.

In line with the WMD theme, there was [a post from NIST recently](#) and it is a good read.

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](#).



Accreditation:

Delivering confidence in construction and the built environment



World Accreditation Day

9 June 2017

(#WAD2017)

Intro to our Metrology and Calibration Programme

As a lot of you will already know, Gavin Tasker is also Programme Manager for the IANZ Metrology and Calibration Accreditation Programme (also accredited to ISO 17025). There are 57 accredited calibration laboratories and indeed the majority of my and Gavin's time is taken up with calibration laboratories, not our testing laboratories (Gavin's testing programmes cover applied physics and electrical testing for which there are about 20 accredited laboratories combined).

Our accredited calibration laboratories include a huge variety of fields of calibration in NZ. In some cases there are only one or two laboratories within a field (for example, gas detectors, speed cameras) where in other fields there are up to 14 or 15 laboratories (for example, pressure gauge calibration). This makes it pretty hard for some of the labs to complete inter-laboratory proficiency testing but we are seeing some great professional relationships being made where laboratories are cooperating in order to meet requirements.



A "vintage" pressure gauge from one of our accredited laboratories that I saw recently on a farm in Ngongotaha. Source: me.

Other accredited calibration fields include: dimensional metrology (measuring tools such as Vernier callipers, artefacts such as squares and rules), energy metering (regulated by the Electricity Authority), thermometry, audiometers, electrical instrumentation (multi-meters, calibrators, insulation testers), pipettes, spectrophotometers and much more.

Tickets to Brisbane, anyone?

The biennial [MSA conference](#) this year is to be held in Brisbane from September 12 – 14. The theme this year is Realising the Value of Metrology which could be valuable and

interesting for a lot of testing laboratory staff. If it's to be anything like past events the only bad thing will be that there isn't enough time to see all the talks you want to see!



[Source.](#)

Could this finally be the excuse you've been looking for to take a trip to Brisbane?

MSL course schedule out for August

The yearly round of courses offered by the Measurement Standards Laboratory is coming up in August. Most of these courses are catered toward metrology and calibration laboratory staff but often there are attendees from testing laboratories who want to upskill on uncertainties or in-house calibrations. [Go here](#) for a schedule of the courses (in Auckland and Lower Hutt) [and here](#) for summaries of the courses. Register your interest ASAP to ensure MSL can cater for numbers and that you don't miss out.

Fun Bits and Internet Stuff

- Have you seen the Slow Mo Guys? This time they play with a [hydraulic press](#) and a deck of cards.
- ...which (are you surprised?) led me to the Hydraulic Press channel. [Hydraulic press vs. folding fabric](#). The narrator's accent is reason enough to listen (just listen to him say DESTROY).

Poroporoaki hoki inaianei!



That doesn't look like a traceable reference. Or is it? [Source.](#)