



NATIONAL CAR TESTING (NCT) GETS THE GREEN LIGHT

Applus Car Testing Service Ltd (Applus), the company who operate and manage the National Car Testing Service has been awarded INAB Accreditation in the field of inspection to ISO 17020.

The ISO 17020 standard is awarded to inspection bodies who demonstrate competence in the field of inspection, and the National Car Testing Service is the first inspection programme of its kind to be accredited to this standard by INAB.

Mr Grant Henderson, Managing Director of Applus Car Testing Service Ltd said he was delighted to accept the certificate on behalf of the NCTS operation and thanked all staff of NCTS whose commitment and expertise helped Applus gain the ISO 17020 accreditation standard.



(L-R) Mr Noel Brett, CEO RSA; Mr Pat O'Brien, INAB and Mr Paul Hetherington, INAB Board formally present the INAB Certification of Accreditation to Aisling McGuigan (Monaghan NCTS), Eamonn Power (Enniscorthy NCTS) and Grant Henderson (Managing Director) of NCTS.



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM INAB

INAB would like to wish all our clients, assessors and board members a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.



EQA FORMAL LAUNCH OF INAB ACCREDITED OHSAS SCHEME

EQA Ireland Ltd. has become the first and currently only certification body in Ireland to be granted accreditation to the International Occupational, Health and Safety Standard OHSAS 18001 by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB).

The formal launch of the new scheme took place at the National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) in Dublin where Martin O'Halloran, Chief Executive of the Health & Safety Authority (and INAB Board member), presented EQA with its certificate.

OHSAS 18000 is an international **occupational health and safety management system** specification. It comprises two parts, 18001 and 18002 and embraces BS8800 and a number of other publications. OHSAS helps minimise risk to employees; improve an existing OH&S management system; demonstrate diligence and gain assurance.



Martin O'Halloran, Chief Executive, HSA presents Christine Daly, Director, EQA with INAB Certificate.

CHANGES TO ACCREDITATION STANDARDS & MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

A number of accreditation standards have undergone revision recently and have been published in 2012.

The international accreditation forums (EA, ILAC and IAF) have agreed transition dates for each, whereby Accreditation Bodies and accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) will be required to operate to these new standard versions.

Accreditation to the old versions of these standards will not be recognised after the transition date.

The transition table below provides preliminary information on the transition periods for the applicable standards.

INAB is currently preparing detailed transition plans which will be issued to CABs and assessors in due course.

As a reminder, standards can be purchased at www.standards.ie

INAB would like to take this opportunity to remind its applicant and accredited CABs that in addition to INAB mandatory documents, the international accreditation forums (EA, ILAC and IAF) also publish documents which require mandatory implementation by INAB and the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB).

INAB assists our clients in publishing these mandatory documents on its publication DC1, available from the INAB website.

CHANGES TO ACCREDITATION STANDARDS – Transition Table

Standard	Type	Transition Timeframe (from date of publication)	Final Transition Date
ISO 17020 Published March 2012	Inspection	3 years	March 2015
ISO 17024 Published July 2012	Certification – Personnel	3 years	July 2015
ISO 15189 Published November 2012	Medical	3 years	November 2015
ISO 17065 Published September 2012	Certification – Product	3 years	September 2015
ISO 27006 Published December 2011	Certification – Management Systems (Information Management Systems ISMS)	18 months	June 2013
ISO 17021-2 Published August 2012, recognised normative document	Certification – Management Systems (Environmental Management Systems)	2 years	August 2014

IAF/ILAC GENERAL ASSEMBLY



The annual IAF/ILAC general assembly and associated meetings were held in Rio de Janeiro from 16th to 26th October 2012

The IAF/ILAC General Assembly takes place once a year and runs in conjunction with technical committee meetings, working group sessions and seminars.

Accreditation Bodies, stakeholders, regulators and others with an interest in accreditation use the meetings to develop and harmonise accreditation practices further so that through the application of national and international standards, government, procurers and consumers can have confidence in the calibration and test results, inspection reports and certifications provided.

There was a busy schedule for attendees at the 2012 assembly hosted by General Coordination for Accreditation (Cgcre), a unit of the Brazilian National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology (Inmetro).



Attendees at the IAF/ILAC General Assembly - Brazil.

The technical committees of both ILAC and IAF meet during this week and discuss key issues relating to laboratories, inspection bodies and certification bodies. In addition to the ongoing work of these committees, it was an opportunity to discuss issues and decide upon transition periods for revised accreditation standards.

The multi-lateral committees of both ILAC and IAF decided upon new and continued signatory status for both individual accreditation bodies and regional associations.

A key event at the ILAC General Assembly was the introduction of the ILAC mutual recognition agreement for inspection, which was signed by INAB.

Glossary

ILAC – the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation

IAF – International Accreditation Forum

EA – European Accreditation Co-operation

The full list of resolutions and other useful information is available on www.ilac.org and www.iaf.nu



Peter Unger, ILAC President and Randy A. Dougherty, IAF President.

INAB PRESENTED WITH ILAC MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT CERTIFICATE (MRA) FOR INSPECTION IN BRAZIL

The scope of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) was extended to include the accreditation of inspection bodies at the **annual ILAC/IAF meetings held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**

The Irish National Accreditation Board, including thirty-nine other accreditation bodies, became the inaugural signatories (www.ilac.org/ilac arrangement) to the ILAC MRA for the accreditation of inspection bodies. INAB is signatory to the ILAC MRA for calibration and testing (ISO 17025).



Adrienne Duff, INAB Manager, receiving the ILAC MRA Certificate for the accreditation of inspection bodies from Mr Peter Unger, ILAC President.

WHAT IS THE ILAC MRA?

As with the accreditation of laboratories, the ILAC MRA for inspection is based on the recognition of the mutual recognition arrangements for inspection that have been established and evaluated in the three regional cooperation bodies of ILAC, namely APLAC (www.aplac.org), EA (www.european-accreditation.org) and IAAC (www.iaac.org.mx).

Accredited once, accepted everywhere!

The accreditation bodies that are signatories to the ILAC MRA for inspection, use the international standard *ISO/IEC 17020 Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection* to accredit the inspection bodies. This ensures a uniform approach to assessing inspection body competence.

This consistency allows economies to establish cross-border agreements, based on mutual evaluation and acceptance of each other's inspection body accreditation systems. Such international agreements, called mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs), are crucial in enabling the acceptance of inspection reports and/or certificates and therefore facilitating the acceptance of goods and services between economies.

Each signatory to the ILAC MRA recognises the accreditation and results of an inspection body accredited by another signatory, as if it were one of its own accredited inspection bodies.

INAB ACCREDITED INSPECTION BODIES

INAB currently has 8 inspection bodies accredited to ISO 17020.

Applus Car Testing Services Ltd

In Service Inspection of Passenger Vehicles
Dublin 24

Aviva Insurance Europe SE

Aviva Engineering Inspection
Dublin 2

BOC Gases Ireland Ltd

Cylinder Pressure Testing & Inspection
Dublin 12

Compliance Engineering Ireland Ltd

Type A Inspection. Body Inspection of Technical Files to determine conformity with Directive
Co. Meath

Industrial Pressure Testing Ltd

Cylinder Pressure Testing & Inspection
Co. Cork

Occupational Hygiene and Safety Services

Surveying for Asbestos in Premises
Co. Dublin

Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland

Inspection of locations and assessment survey of premises and facilities incl. administrative aspects of RPII licence
Dublin 14

SWS Auditing Services

Farm Inspection
Co. Cork

All INAB accredited organisations, scopes of accreditation can be viewed on the website www.inab.ie

UPDATE ON THE INAB BOARD

INAB welcomes new member

Dr Caitríona Fisher was appointed in July 2012 to the INAB Board and replaces Mr Pat O'Mahony Irish Medicines Board (IMB), who had completed two terms of office.



*Dr Caitríona Fisher –
New INAB Board Member*

Dr Caitríona Fisher works in the Irish Medicines Board as the Manager of the Chief Executive's Office and the Quality Manager.

Dr Fisher has worked with IMB since 1996 and prior to her current position was Quality and Regulatory Affairs Manager. Dr Fisher is a Pharmacist who worked as an assessor in the National Drugs Advisory Board from 1988 to 1996.

INAB BOARD 2012

The INAB Board met 6 times in 2012 and awarded 64 new accreditations. The hard work of the INAB Board during 2012 is acknowledged and appreciated.

INAB BOARD MEMBERS

Mr Tom O'Neill – Chair

CEO, Pfizer Little Island Manufacturing

Dr Nuala Bannon

Senior Advisor, Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government

Mr Paul Hetherington

Director of the National Metrology Laboratory

Mr Jan van der Poel

Chief Executive, Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA)

Dr Caitríona Fisher

Manager, Chief Executive Office, The Irish Medicines Board

Mr Martin O'Halloran

Chief Executive, The Health and Safety Authority

Dr Adrienne Duff

Manager INAB, Ex Officio Member

Mr Tom Dempsey

Former Manager, INAB

Dr Andrew Hodgson

Consultant Haematologist, Sligo General Hospital

Mr John Shine

Director of Commercial Practises, National Consumer Agency

Prof Alan Reilly

Chief Executive, Food Safety Authority Ireland

Mr Dermot Hayes

State Chemist, State Laboratory

BOARD MEETING DATES 2013

There are 6 INAB Board meetings planned in 2013.

19th February, 16th April, 11th June, 10th September, 15th October and 3rd December.

TRANSITION STATEMENT FOR ISO 14065:2007 AND 600/201

The European Co-operation for Accreditation (EA) has adopted ISO 14065 as the standard to be used by its member accreditation bodies to assess requirements for greenhouse gas (GHG) verification bodies.

The timeline specified by EA is that all GHG verifiers should be accredited to this standard by January 2013.

In order to meet this deadline, INAB conducted conformity assessments to this standard during surveillance visits in 2012.

The Regulation 600/2012 issued in July 2012 is also a requirement for all GHG verifiers. All applicant/accredited verifiers are required to submit application forms/extension to scope application forms (if already accredited) for assessment of compliance to this new Regulation by December 2012. When submitting the required application form, all verifiers are required to submit updated documentation reflecting the organisations' changes to ensure conformance to the requirements of the Regulation.

As all accredited GHG verifiers are expected to be in full compliance with 600/2012 by 1st January 2014, any identified nonconformities related to the new Regulation must be fully cleared by end of 2013.

Verifier Services, an INAB accredited verifier, has successfully transferred its accreditation to ISO 14065, in November 2012.

DEVELOPMENTS IN INAB

INAB have been looking at a number of ways to improve and streamline current processes which assist in the Accreditation route.

Organisation Extranet Site

INAB is currently undertaking a pilot project to investigate the feasibility of a web based system for uploading assessment documents (PS10 and corrective actions) using our Extranet. We have invited some laboratories to take part in this pilot project and to trial submitting documents in relation to the INAB visit.

The pilot phase involves the participation of 8 organisations and 12 assessors.

Put simply it's an online post box, which can only be accessed by the organisation and the relevant assessors that have been assigned to a visit. The organisation uploads the documents required for a visit, and the Assessor can access same through secure username and password – removing the inconvenience of photocopying, scanning, emailing and following up on failed delivery(s).

INAB is currently getting feedback from our pilot phase users and hope to roll out to all our clients and assessors in 2013.

New AF117 Forms – Non Conformity Report

INAB is working on streamlining the process of reporting at the end of an assessment visit. Previously, every nonconformity was separately recorded on an individual AF117 report form. For a large organisation with a large scope, this usually meant quite a few forms were completed at the end of a visit, requiring a multitude of signatures.

The AF117 nonconformity report form has now been amended to list all nonconformities on one form, with just one signature from the conformity assessment body, keeping all nonconformities together in one place, and hopefully making the process simpler for all concerned.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM EXPERTS TO ASSESS FOR INAB

INAB welcomes receipt of expressions of interest from experts seeking to provide contracted professional technical services to INAB in support of its accreditation programmes.

Expertise demand will vary from time to time but INAB would welcome contact from potential assessors in the following sectors: food, environment, construction materials testing, calibration, forensic science, medical testing and technical expertise to assess building air tightness/building air leakage permeability testing to BS Standards.

The full range and scope of INAB activities is documented on www.inab.ie

Candidates should have a third level qualification and greater than 5 years experience working in the applicable sector. Formal assessor training and previous work experience with an accreditation body would be a distinct advantage.

If interested, please complete the form (IP25 EX) which is available in the contact us section of the INAB website www.inab.ie

ACCREDITATIONS AWARDED UP TO NOVEMBER 2012

- **Gynae-Screen Ltd, Dublin 8**
Cytopathology
- **Hanley Calibration Services Ltd, Co. Cork**
Balance Calibration
- **Oldcastle Laboratories Ltd, Co. Meath**
Biological & Veterinary Testing Laboratory
- **Applus Car Testing Services Ltd, Dublin 24**
Inspection Body
- **Mid Western Regional Hospital, Limerick**
Medical Testing
- **EPA Dublin Regional Inspectorate Laboratory**
Chemical Testing

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The INAB Standard is published twice yearly and is available on www.inab.ie

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