



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM INAB

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



INAB TO HOLD 5TH ASSESSOR FORUM IN 2014

On 30th January 2014, INAB will welcome national and international assessors to Dublin, where it will hold its 5th Assessor Forum. The Forum was established in 2005, with the objective of harmonising the INAB accreditation process and assessment team. Every two years the Forum is held to encourage ongoing training of our assessment teams.

Participation at the Forum ensures that active and new assessors, experts and technical experts benefit from an open platform, where new INAB policy issues are discussed and where INAB and the assessor has the opportunity to unite and work together sharing experiences.

In 2014, the Forum will focus on key changes to the standards ISO 15189, ISO 17065 and ISO 17020. A review of the current forms for reporting and the extranet which is currently being phased in on a full time basis will all be covered. INAB assessors have been asked to contribute to the day by forwarding any suggestions or areas for discussion.

INAB look forward to welcoming assessors to Dublin in 2014.



INAB UNDER THE MICROSCOPE EA PEER REVIEW 2014

In 2014, date yet to be agreed, a team of EA (European Co-operation for Accreditation) Peer Evaluators will descend on Dublin, as the week long audit of the Irish National Accreditation Board and its accreditation activities begins.



**European
co-operation for
Accreditation**

Peer Evaluation 2014

A team of approximately six persons will make up the EA Peer Review team.

The EA team will review and scrutinise INAB accreditation activities specifically laboratory and calibration testing, inspection, management systems, and product certification.

The EA Team will typically witness at least one assessment off site per standard. Time will also be spent at INAB offices evaluating files, procedures, policy and records against requirements of ISO 17011. The evaluation will last approximately 5 days.

Why is INAB subject to this Peer Review?

INAB is signatory to the EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA).

As a signatory we are subject to participate in these reviews of our activities to show our compliance with the internationally agreed standard for accreditation bodies, ISO/IEC 17011 and the specific requirements of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008.

It is extremely important to INAB to have a successful outcome, so we can remain within the EA MLA, and by extension the MLA's of the IAF and ILAC.

INAB had our last peer evaluation in 2010 and it was successful.

What is the EA Multilateral Agreement (MLA)?

The EA MLA is a signed agreement between EA accreditation body members, to recognise and accept the equivalence and reliability of their individual accreditation services and thus the certificates and reports issued by the organisations they accredit.

International markets have confidence in the EA MLA and the conformity assessment results provided by organisations accredited by EA MLA signatories.

Because of this, there is no need for products and services to be re-tested, re-calibrated, re-inspected or re-certified in each country into which they are imported and sold. This helps the free movement of goods and services in Europe and the rest of the world.

EA and its National Accreditation Body members, invest considerable effort and resource in maintaining the integrity and robustness of the EA MLA.

EA MLA promotes confidence

- The process is observed by personnel from the European Commission, national authorities, and the EA Advisory Board consisting of stakeholders and other interested parties in the business and regulatory community.
- Evaluations include office-based scrutiny as well as the observation of assessor visits in order to determine that before being accredited, conformity assessment bodies are examined in sufficient depth to establish their competence, impartiality and performance capability.
- To ensure consistency, transparency and acceptability to all, the peer-evaluation process is itself continuously updated to take into account the changing needs of business, regulators and national authorities. In this way, stakeholders and regulators can be assured that the National Accreditation Body's technical competence is thoroughly and appropriately evaluated.
- Outside Europe, the EA MLA is recognised by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

INABs participation in the peer evaluation activity ensures that INAB maintains its respected reputation in the EA and International community.



INAB look forward to a successful Peer Evaluation in 2014.

New appointments – In July 2013 the Forfás Board approved the appointment of three new members to the INAB Board. INAB would like to welcome our newest members.



Mr Jim O'Toole

*Director of Meat and Livestock Division
Bord Bia*

Jim O'Toole has been the Director of the Meat and Livestock Division since March 2012 where he has responsibility for the provision of Bord Bia's marketing and promotion services for this sector.

He is also involved in developing Bord Bia's sustainability initiative for the Irish farming and food sector, Origin Green.

Prior to this he was appointed as Quality Assurance Manager for Bord Bia in October 2007 where he managed a suite of quality assurance schemes accredited to EN45011 at producer and processor level for beef, lamb, pigs, poultry, eggs and horticulture.

He currently sits on the Technical Committee, Livestock, of GlobalGAP and is a Board Member of Agri Aware.

Previously he has managed Bord Bia offices in Paris and Milan and gained experience earlier in his career in Bord Bia's London office. He holds a M.Agr. Sc. from University College Dublin.



Dr Emer Lawlor

*Acting Locum haematologist in Blood
Transfusion, National Maternity Hospital
(up to Jan 2014)*

Emer Lawlor graduated MB, BCh, BAO from UCD. She specialised in haematology after graduation in the Federated Dublin Voluntary Hospitals and later in St James's Hospital Department of Haematology in both service and research posts.

She has been a consultant haematologist in the Irish Blood Transfusion Service from 1989 to October 2011 where she was Medical Director of the Irish Bone Marrow Registry from 1990, Deputy Medical Director from 1997, and Director of the National Haemovigilance Office from 1999-2010.

She was Consultant Haematologist in St James's Hospital in charge of the Department of Transfusion Medicine from 1996-2010 and Senior Lecturer in Haematology in Trinity College, Dublin.

She is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and Fellow of Royal College of Pathologists (UK) and the Faculty of Pathology, RCPI. She has an MSc in Healthcare Ethics and Law from RCSI and is also a qualified barrister.

Her interests include blood transfusion safety through investigation of near miss events and errors leading to enhancement of safe transfusion practice.



Ms Ita Kinahan

*State Chemist
The State Laboratory*

Ita Kinahan was appointed to the position of State Chemist in September 2012. As head of the State Laboratory she has overall responsibility for the management and development of the laboratory, which provides a comprehensive analytical and advisory service to government departments and offices.

Ms Kinahan joined the State Laboratory as a Chemist in 1990 and has worked in a number of roles mainly in the areas of occupational health and safety, official control of animal feeding stuffs and food safety. She was appointed as Principal Chemist in 2007 and was responsible for managing a senior team. She also acted as the laboratory's Finance Officer and as Technical Manager for the laboratory's Quality System.

Ms Kinahan completed the Graduateship of the Royal Society of Chemistry in 1987 and obtained an MSc in Instrumental Analysis from Dublin City University in 1990. She is a member of the Irish Codex Advisory Committee and represents Ireland on the Codex Alimentarius Committee for Methods of Analysis and Sampling. She has also been a member of CEN and ISO technical committees since 2001 and provides input into the standardisation of EU and international methods of analysis.

Retirements from Board – INAB would like to thank all our recent retired members for their contribution to the INAB Board. Dr Andrew Hodgson from Sligo General Hospital was a member of the Board since 2009 and resigned in May 2013. Mr Tom Dempsey has represented accreditation interests since 2008 and retired on 30th June 2013. Mr Dermot Hayes has represented laboratory interests since 2010 and retired from the INAB Board on 30th June 2013.

ACCUSCIENCE IRELAND LTD AWARDED ACCREDITATION FOR THEIR TEMPERATURE CALIBRATION LABORATORY

In February 2013, Accuscience were accredited by INAB as a calibration laboratory as detailed in their scope, registration number 309C, in compliance with the International Standard ISO/IEC 17025:2005 2nd Edition "General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories".

Accuscience Ireland Ltd, established in 1982, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pharmed Holdings, a non trading holding company. The company operates from a permanent facility in Naas, Co Kildare, and performs calibrations on-site. Accuscience Ireland Ltd is involved in activities other than calibration; including the distribution and servicing of products in the medical sector such as surgical, blood transfusion and near patient testing systems and supplies to medical laboratories.



(L-R) Rory Brennan, Service Manager; Dara Murphy, Finance and Operations Director; Seamus Carpenter, Technical Manager; Patrick O'Brien, Accreditation Officer, INAB; Caroline Daly, Quality Manager and John Gannon, Sales and Marketing Director.

POLICY ON WITNESSING ACTIVITIES AND SCOPE MANAGEMENT FOR CERTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION BODIES

INAB has developed a policy on witnessing activities and scope management for certification and verification bodies and this has been issued as INAB policy statement PS22. The purpose of this policy statement is to ensure the consistent application of mechanisms and criteria in assessing the scopes of applicant and accredited organisations. This policy statement will also be used for surveillance purposes during the each accreditation cycle.

The policy statement primarily deals with management system certification but also covers verification and product and personnel certification. INAB PS22 is based on original source material developed by EA and other accreditation bodies and involved a consultation process with our accredited certification and verification bodies. PS22 is available on www.inab.ie

STELLAR CERTIFICATION SERVICES LTD AWARDED ACCREDITATION

In April 2013, Stellar Certification Services Ltd was accredited by the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) to undertake product certification in compliance with I.S. EN 45011:1998 (ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996).

Stellar provide auditing services to the security industry. Their accredited status applies to the following Private Security Industry (PSI) standards:

- EN 50131 – alarm systems, intrusion and hold up systems.
- CLC/TS EN 50131- 7 :2008. Alarm system, intrusion system.
- SR 40.



(L-R) Jenni Clifford, Office Administrator, Stellar; Andrew Stratford, INAB; Liam Murphy, Technical Director, Stellar; and Philip Duffy, Director, Stellar.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

For 2014, INAB are pleased to announce that the fees will remain unchanged.

Please note that these schedules apply only to work carried out in Ireland. Please feel free to contact the INAB officer responsible for dealing with your organisation should you have any queries.

The INAB Schedule of Fees will be available from the INAB Website www.inab.ie in January 2014.



ISO 15189:2012 TRAINING DAY FOR INAB ASSESSORS

On the 23rd October 2013, Dr Johanna Andersson and Dr Joannis Mytilineos presented the new revisions to standard ISO 15189:2012 for INABs qualified assessors and experts.

The presentations on the day included an introduction to the INAB transition plan from ISO 15189:2007 to ISO 15189:2012. The key changes in Section 4 and 5 of the standard which related to the quality management system and technical management systems were covered.

INAB Transition Plan to ISO/IEC 15189:2012 Third edition is available on www.inab.ie



INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION FORUM (IAF) – 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The IAF the world association of Conformity Assessment Accreditation Bodies in the fields of management systems, products, services, personnel celebrates its 20th Anniversary.

It has been established since 1993, with a primary function to develop a single worldwide program of conformity assessment which reduces risk for business and its customers by assuring them that accredited certificates may be relied upon.

Accreditation assures users of the competence and impartiality of the body accredited.



FEEDINGSTUFF LABORATORY AT DEPT OF AGRICULTURE FOOD AND MARINE EXTENDS SCOPE OF ACCREDITATION

In October 2013, the Feedingstuff laboratory at DAFM, Kildare, extended its existing scope of accreditation with the addition of new chemical tests.

Dr Adrienne Duff, Manager of INAB, presents the INAB Certificate of Accreditation to Mr Ruairi Colbert, Quality Manager of the Feedingstuff Laboratory.



(L-R) Dr Tom Keating, DAFM; Mr PJ Conway, DAFM; Mr Ruairi Colbert, DAFM; Dr Adrienne Duff, INAB and Dr James Choiseul, DAFM.

NSAI EXTENSION TO SCOPE IN PRODUCT AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Dr Adrienne Duff, Manager of the Irish National Accreditation Board, attended the NSAI Certification Awards on 12th November 2013. At the Awards, Minister of State for Small Business, Mr John Perry T.D. presented NSAI with their updated INAB accreditation certificates which included extensions in both Product and Management systems.

Presentation of INAB Certificates to NSAI

In September, NSAI extended their product for the purposes of notification under the PEFC's Chain of Custody scheme. The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) is a mechanism for tracking certified material from the forest to the final product to ensure that the wood, wood fibre or non-wood forest produce contained in the product or product line can be traced back to certified forests. The aim of the programme is to deliver confidence to customers and the end consumers that the raw materials originate from sustainably managed forests.

In July, NSAI also extended their management systems scope of accreditation to include Construction Products Regulations (CPR).



(L-R) Dr Adrienne Duff, Manager, INAB; Maurice Buckley, CEO, NSAI and Minister of State for Small Business, Mr John Perry T.D.

ISO/IEC TS 17021-3 COMPETENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR AUDITING AND CERTIFICATION OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The International Accreditation Forum (IAF) at its general assembly held in Seoul, South Korea, on 23rd and 25th October 2013, endorsed ISO/IEC TS 17021-3 as a normative document to be applied in conjunction with ISO/IEC 17021 for QMS.

This technical specification contains specific competence requirements for personnel involved in the certification process for quality management systems (QMS) and complements the existing requirements of ISO/IEC 17021. INAB expects that certification bodies will prepare plans for implementation of this standard and will review progress towards implementation at assessment and surveillance visits in 2014.

ACCREDITATIONS AWARDED IN 2013

306MT	BreastCheck	Galway
307MT	Barrington's Hospital	Limerick
308T	Atlantic Industries Ltd	Co Waterford
309C	Accuscience (Ireland) Ltd	Co Kildare
310C	Smithstown Light Engineering	Co Clare
311C	Environmental Protection Agency	Dublin 14
312T	Independent Milk Laboratory Limited	Co Cavan
6011	Stellar Certification Services Ltd	Dublin 3
313T	Wills Bros Ltd	Mayo
314T	Limerick County Council	Limerick
315T	Advanced Laboratory Testing	Kildare
316T	Weatherbys Ireland Ltd	Kildare
317T	SDD Shanganagh (Water Treatment) Ltd	Co Dublin
6012	Management Systems Certification Ltd	Wexford

For further information, please refer to the Directory of Accredited Bodies www.inab.ie.
(Awards up to October 2013)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

EA	European Co-operation for Accreditation
IAF	International Accreditation Forum
ILAC	International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation

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The INAB Standard is published bi annually and is available on www.inab.ie

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