### WORLD ACCREDITATION DAY 2017

## **Accreditation:** Delivering confidence in construction and the built environment.

Each year World Accreditation Day (WAD) is marked on 9<sup>th</sup> June and the international accreditation community select a theme to demonstrate how accreditation supports business, regulators, the environment and public policy.

Additionally, promotional material and a WAD brochure are issued and can be accessed from the INAB website. This year the WAD theme is Accreditation: Delivering confidence in construction and the built environment.

To support this theme, INAB have prepared a dedicated newsletter to promote the benefits of INAB accreditation, its accredited clients and demonstrate how accreditation delivers confidence in construction and the built environment.

### **INAB - Irish National Accreditation Board**

INAB is recognised by DJEI and the European Commission as the sole national accreditation body for Ireland. It was established in





INAB clients issue accredited test & inspections reports/certificates bearing the **INAB** accreditation symbol. This symbol represents INAB's confirmation that the client is in compliance with the international requirements and their testing, inspection and certification processes are fit for purpose.

INAB accreditation is internationally recognised and this enables Irish goods and services to be successfully traded and removing barriers to market access.

#### Accreditation in Construction and the Built Environment

The building sector is important for economic development, employment creation and the environment. It is clearly important to Ireland's economic recovery and sustainability. Accreditation can support the sector to meet its need for smarter, cleaner and safer construction by providing assurance into the safety of the workforce on-site, the quality and origin of construction products and raw materials, the energy efficiency of buildings, the quality of design and architecture, the safe installation of electrical and gas networks, and the long-term sustainability of buildings.



# How are INAB accredited clients supporting construction and the built environment?



**Testing laboratories** are accredited to ISO 17025. Currently INAB has laboratories accredited for testing construction materials used in the construction of roads and other constructs. These laboratories test aggregates, soils, cement etc.to industry accepted standards and it is a requirement from the National Authorities that these materials are tested in an accredited laboratory. Such laboratories may be permanent fixtures or move locations depending on the particular construction in hand.

INAB has 9 laboratories accredited for this type of testing.

Other accredited testing activity within the INAB programme includes building (commercial and domestic) air tightness and asbestos testing.

**Inspection bodies** accredited to ISO 17020 carry out a range of inspection activities supporting construction and the built environment. These include asbestos surveys and the inspection of electrical equipment and installations.

New areas of development for INAB include accreditation of inspection bodies inspecting building fixtures for product safety such as lifts and fire alarm systems.



**Certification bodies** are accreditation to ISO 17065 (product certification), ISO 17021 (systems) or ISO 17024 (personnel). There are numerous examples where INAB accredited certification bodies

– CBs - contribute to safety and quality in the built environment.



CBs can certify Organisation's quality and environmental management systems along with energy management systems measuring energy efficiency of processes. INAB accredited CBs will also certify construction products for quality and safety and building/construction sites managed by health and safety management systems.

## **INAB Supporting Public Policy & Trade**

INAB accreditation can support enterprise, trade and regulation. INAB is keen that accreditation plays a central role in public policy and the quality infrastructure.

Should your company be interested in gaining accreditation or as a national policy maker or you can identify a role for accreditation? contact us.

**Accredited Testing** is 3<sup>rd</sup> party confirmation (by INAB) that laboratories are performing tests that are fit for purpose, have been fully validated, equipment has been calibrated and the testing is assured through independent quality control mechanisms.

**Accredited Inspection** is 3<sup>rd</sup> party confirmation (by INAB) that inspection bodies are competent to exercise professional, impartial judgements on items inspected and determine conformity, or otherwise, to specifications.

**Accredited Certification** is 3<sup>rd</sup> party confirmation (by INAB) that certification bodies are competent to certify products, processes or systems to scheme, standard of technical requirements.

# Accreditation assures

- **√** Competence
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Reliability
- ✓ Independence
- √ impartiality

For further information you can view all our Accredited Organisations on our online Directory click here.

# CONTACT US IRISH NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD

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