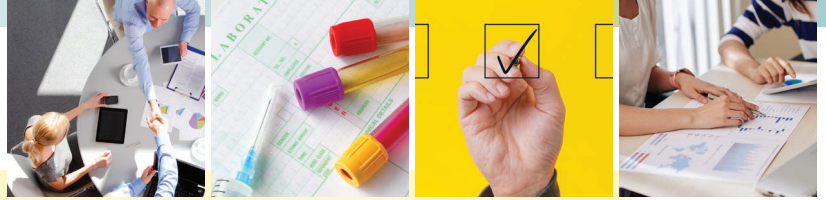




Bord Náisiúnta na hÉireann um Chreidiúnú Irish National Accreditation Board



IRISH NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD (INAB) SUPPORTING NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

INAB is the national body with responsibility for the accreditation of laboratories, certification, inspection, validation and verification bodies, biobank facilities and reference material producers. It provides accreditation in accordance with the relevant International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) 17000 series of standards. Accreditation is the confirmation that these organisations are competent to carry out their activity.

THE BENEFITS OF ACCREDITATION TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES INCLUDE:

- Purpose – recognition of competence, impartiality, and integrity
- Adding Value – protect business and consumers, providing confidence and assurance
- Supporting Government – as an alternate/complement to regulation
- Consumer protection – consistent and reliable quality
- Accreditation supports innovation by helping to generate public confidence in new areas



HOW CAN ACCREDITATION SUPPORT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN IRELAND?

Accreditation provides assurance that Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) are capable of producing results that can be relied upon by government to meet national regulatory and legislative responsibilities.

By relying on accreditation regulators rely on National Accreditation Bodies who verify the competence of CABs. Accreditation

supports the market in assisting the movement of goods and services where demand for quality is expanding. In addition, it can support regulations by ensuring implementation of the European or national legislation, by confirming compliance with standards.

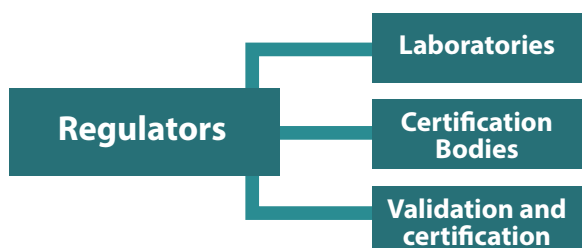
ACCREDITATION AND THE BENEFITS FOR NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN IRELAND

Accreditation in Ireland is used to identify bodies competent for the implementation of government policies and regulations and is used across a wide range of policy areas to support for example product safety, good governance, climate change, public confidence. It can also support the implementation of the European or national legislation to achieve compliance.

Regulators make decisions related to:

- Protecting the health and welfare of consumers and the public
- Safeguarding the environment
- Development of new regulations
- Measuring compliance with regulatory requirements

Regulators rely on National Accreditation Bodies, which verify the competence of testing, calibration, examination, inspection, certification, validation and verification. Below are examples of conformity assessment activities which INAB carry out and the benefits of these activities:



LABORATORIES (TESTING AND CALIBRATION)

Our accredited laboratories are testing in the medical, chemical, biological, veterinary, forensic, mechanical and construction fields; metrological traceability underpinning all this testing is secured through the calibration laboratories for mass, volume, electrical, dimension, temperature and flow.

Government bodies and regulators must have confidence in the data generated by laboratories in order to make these decisions. Using an accredited laboratory can help establish and assure this confidence.

Legislation (S.I. 360 of 2005) requires blood bank laboratories to operate to ISO 15189, the implementation of this legislation ensures high standards of quality and safety, nationally and across EU Member States.

Using an accredited testing and calibration laboratories benefits government and regulators by:

- Increasing confidence in data that is produced
- Strengthening public confidence in accreditation
- Secures the access of Irish products and services to the EU market
- Provides reliability of standards and measurement instruments

Certification of products/services

A product, service or a process (i.e. food quality assurance schemes) can be subject to certification. In the area of product certification, INAB accredits certification bodies who certify the quality of a product. The word “product” is used in its widest sense, and as the title of the standard suggests, it includes processes and services. The certification of such a product is a means of providing assurance that the product in question conforms to standards and/or other normative documents. Certification

bodies providing product certification issue product certificates or licences to organisations which entitles them to display a mark of conformity on their product or to issue a certificate indicating the product’s conformity with specified requirements. In this way consumers are assured that the product they are purchasing has reached a set standard. One of the big growth areas for product certification has been in the food area.

Validation and Verification:

According to Regulation (EU) 2018/2067, greenhouse gas emissions shall be verified by accredited verifiers, which can operate in more than one EU Member State. Accredited verification reports can be accepted through all Europe. According to Regulation (EU) 2015/757, assessment of monitoring plans and verification of emissions reports concerning CO2 emissions from maritime transport, shall be done by accredited verifiers from EU Member States. This developing area is expected to be expanded to other environmental area such as water footprint, or quantities of generated waste, and subsequently also to fields outside the environmental area.

For further information refer to: https://european-accreditation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/accreditation-a-tool-to-support-regulators_1.pdf



CONTACT US

INAB is part of HSA. You can contact us through any means below and we will discuss further INAB Supporting National Authorities

[Contact us](#) | inab@inab.ie | Tel: 01-6147182

IRISH NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD

Health and Safety Authority, Metropolitan Building, James Joyce Street, Dublin 1, Ireland
Eircode: D01 KOY8

HSA

An tÚdarás Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta
Health and Safety Authority