

Background Memo

Document:	<i>Specific Accreditation Criteria: ISO/IEC 17025 Application Document, Infrastructure and Asset Integrity - Annex, Surface friction testing</i>
Date:	2 December 2024
Key changes:	n/a — This will be a new NATA Accreditation Criteria document.
Background:	
<p>Previous drafts of this document have been subject to two public comment periods in January 2023 and July 2023. In response to the feedback received, the draft underwent several amendments that included an additional section on accelerated wear testing. Due to the significance of these amendments, it was decided to hold a third round of public commenting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each year in Australia, thousands of injuries in workplaces and public environments are attributed to slips, trips and falls. This was recognised by the Australian government and in 2014, slip resistance provisions were introduced into the National Construction Code. ▪ There are approximately 30 facilities accredited by NATA to conduct slip resistance testing and/or associated calibration services. ▪ NATA-endorsed test reports for slip testing may constitute evidence in legal proceedings, so it is important that they are not prone to misinterpretation. ▪ At the 57th meeting of the Physical Performance Testing Accreditation Advisory Committee, the committee reviewed all technical decisions made by NATA regarding slip testing, dating back to 2014. It was agreed there was sufficient information to warrant a new Specific Accreditation Criteria document for this industry. ▪ The purpose of this new Specific Accreditation Criteria document is to ensure that our requirements are clear and unambiguous. Accredited slip testing not only underpins confidence in public safety but also facilitates trade, as the associated test standards and specifications are used by manufacturers of pedestrian surfaces. 	
Sector Manager:	Diane Hobday, Sector Manager - Materials, Assets and Products diane.hobday@nata.com.au