



## Integrity of Equipment and Structures

### Summary of the 50th Accreditation Advisory Committee Meeting

This meeting took place on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024 in NATA's office at 2-6 Railway Pde, Camberwell, Victoria, 3124.

#### Committee Membership

Since the last meeting in October 2022:

- Mark Boot was appointed as the Committee Chair by the NATA Board in September 2024, effective 1 October 2024.
- Geoff Williams and Paul Grosser have retired from the Committee.
- Sam Hallifax and Mark Welland were reappointed.

#### Reports from Members

- Emerging Technologies and Industry Shifts:
  - Increasing adoption of advanced NDT techniques (e.g., PAUT, TOFD) and digital transformation tools.
  - Focus on renewable energy projects, including hydrogen and wind energy, driving new NDT requirements.
- Workforce and Training Challenges:
  - High demand for NDT technicians due to large-scale infrastructure projects and emerging industries.
  - Concerns over gaps in technical knowledge, particularly in advanced methods and specific material testing.
  - Push to expand local expertise in critical sectors (e.g., AUKUS submarine project).
- Global and Domestic Developments:
  - Significant industry projects, including carbon capture and storage initiatives.
  - Notable progress in renewable energy and infrastructure expansions in Australia and internationally.

#### Stakeholder Engagement

- Emphasis on fostering partnerships with national and international bodies to address emerging industry needs, including compliance with new standards and advanced NDT technologies.



- Stakeholder input is sought to shape the content of future events, such as the Accreditation Matters Conference, with a focus on industry-relevant topics and workshops.

Miscellaneous Discussion

- Discussions on the accreditation of qualitative and screening tests, with emphasis on defining their scope, limitations, and technical validity.
- Concerns raised about the impartiality of laboratories affiliated with manufacturers and strategies to ensure the integrity of their results.