National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia



PROFICIENCY TESTING AND REFERENCE MATERIALS PROGRAMS ACCREDITATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary of the 5th Accreditation Advisory Committee Meeting

The Committee met on 14th November 2024 and considered the following matters

Committee membership

The new three committee members were welcomed to their first meeting.

Review of Accreditation Criteria and Processes

Review the ISO 17034 - Reference Materials Producers - Annex - Reference Producers in relation to the release of ISO 6142-2 - Preparation of calibration gas mixtures — Part 2: Gravimetric method for Class II mixtures.

Technical Matters

The following Reference Materials ISO 3340# standards were recently published. These standards replace many of the ISO guides 3# or ISO guides 8#:

- ISO 33401 Reference materials Contents of certificates, labels and accompanying documentation
- ISO TR33402 Good practice in reference material preparation
- ISO 33403 Reference materials Requirements and recommendations for use
- ISO 33405 Reference materials Approaches for characterization and assessment of homogeneity and stability
- ISO 33406 Approaches for the production of reference materials with qualitative properties
- ISO 33407 Guidance for the production of pure organic certified reference materials
- ISO 33408 Guidance for the production of pure inorganic substance certified reference materials (Not published yet)

Note that ISO 33406 Approaches for the production of reference materials with qualitative properties is a useful reference for Proficiency Testing providers.

Transition of facilities to the ISO/IEC 17043:2023 is progressing well.

The introduction of a service, which encompasses all proficiency tests provided in an identical manner, was also discussed. The AAC confirmed a previous resolution that the forensic science disciplines (fingerprints, document examination, etc.) where required to be current specific service groups in the scopes of accreditation in order to ensure all technical disciplines of forensic science programs are assessed over an assessment cycle.

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