

Physical Performance Testing Summary of the 57th Accreditation Advisory Committee Meeting

The 57th meeting of the Physical Performance Testing (PPT) Accreditation Advisory Committee was held at NATA's Melbourne Office on 10th October 2019.

Review of current membership and composition

The Committee discussed the breadth of testing covered by the current membership and future requirements for additional expertise. Fire safety was recognised as an industry with a potentially increased demand for testing over the following year.

Reports from members

The Committee discussed the varied application and understanding of measurement uncertainty encountered at assessments, especially with regards to the transition to ISO/IEC 17025:2017.

Review of relevant Accreditation Criteria

The current Criteria and Guidance documents applicable to PPT were reviewed. The Committee supported the development of a criteria document specifically for facilities conducting slip resistance testing.

Review of Scope of Accreditation descriptors

The Committee discussed the overlap of PPT competencies across multiple Activities (*Manufactured Goods* and *Infrastructure & Asset Integrity*) and thus two sets of Accreditation Criteria documents. The Committee supported exploring the creation of a new Activity to simplify this structure.

Stakeholder engagement

Technical assessor and laboratory forums will commence in 2020 and will be targeted to specific categories of testing. NATA continues to engage with industry bodies, regulators and specifiers.

Assessors

The Committee discussed Technical Assessor usage, identification of disciplines requiring recruitment, new appointments, retirements, training programs and needs. The Committee also discussed the definitions of 'technical competence', noting that the majority of testing in PPT is product-based.

The next meeting is tentatively set for the 1st quarter of 2021.