

## PTA Awarded Accreditation Under IANZ Accredited Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditation Program

In May 2012, following an on-site assessment to the International Standard ISO/IEC 17043:2010 Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing, PTA was awarded accreditation under International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) Accredited Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditation Program.

PTA's accreditation with IANZ reflects our continued compliance with the latest international standards in proficiency testing.

PTA has continuously maintained its accreditation as a proficiency testing provider since the company was formed in 2006.

## PTA Proficiency Testing Australia

The PTA team hosted its first Proficiency Testing Seminar on 10 May 2012 in the PTA Sydney Office, Rhodes. The theme of the seminar was "Using proficiency testing to improve laboratory perfor-

mance," covering a number of topics, including statistics for proficiency testing evaluation, corrective actions for poor performance and the benefits of proficiency testing. Attendees from a wide range of industries attended, including the Coal, Forensic, Water and Construction Materials industries. Due to the success of this seminar, PTA will be presenting the seminar in other states, starting with Brisbane later in 2012. Stay tuned to the PTA Website for further details.

## PTA in Iran

In April 2012, PTA General Manager Philip Briggs travelled to Tehran Iran to conduct an ISO/IEC 17043 compliance audit for Pasagrad Quality Pioneers (PQP Co.), who act as a local agent for a range of PTA's proficiency testing programs. The aim of the audit was to assist PQP in their preparations for future proficiency testing accreditation. PTA will also provide an off-site mentoring role for PQP proficiency testing planning and operations prior to the finalisation of the PQP accreditation process.



PTA General Manager Philip Briggs (left) with staff members of Pasagrad Quality Pioneers (PQP Co.) Iran - Hamidreza Dehnad (middle) and Bahar Hosseinzadeh (right).

## Staff

PTA's Waters (Chemical) Program Coordinator Yvette Christie and her husband Steve welcomed a healthy baby girl – Rianna Anne Christie on 19 January 2012. Delfina Mihaila replaces Yvette as Program Coordinator of the Waters (Chemical) Proficiency Testing Program whilst Yvette is on maternity leave for 2012. Delfina may be contacted at [Delfina.Mihaila@pta.asn.au](mailto:Delfina.Mihaila@pta.asn.au)

# Upcoming Programs Jul – Dec 2012

Chemical	Determinations
Waters/145	Metals (Antimony, Beryllium, Cadmium, Vanadium)
Waters/146	Hardness
Waters/147	Minerals
Waters/148	Volatile Aromatics
Waters/149	Metals (Arsenic, Mercury, Selenium)
Waters/150	Total Recoverable Oil and Grease
CFR	Correlated Fuel Research (MON, RON and AVGAS)
Asbestos ID/11	Bulk sample identification
Asbestos in Soil/3	Sample identification in soil
Food/36	Protein, Fat, Moisture, Ash, Carbohydrate, Energy
Paint/18	To be determined
Metal Alloys/24	Ferrous
Soils(Chemical)/6	Metals
Wine/20	Total Acidity, Volatile Acidity, Actual Alcohol, Total Sulphur Dioxide, Residual Sugars, Reducing Sugars (glucose and fructose), pH, Specific Gravity
Coal/28	Proximate analysis
Bitumen/4	Viscosity, Density, Penetration, RTFOT, Vacuum viscosity
Cement/4	Chemical composition, Loss on ignition, Insoluble residue, Specific surface area, Fineness, Laser granulometry
Geochemical/8	Iron ore sample – chemical compositional analysis and loss on ignition

Biological	
Waters/44	Effluent - E. coli, Faecal & Total Coliforms, Plate, Strep.
Waters/45	Potable - E. coli, Faecal & Total Coliforms, Plate, Strep.
Pathogens in Food/26	Salmonella & Listeria
Legionella/45	Enumeration & identification
Non-Pathogens in Food/13	E. coli, Total plate count, Thermophiles
Algae/15	Enumeration & identification
Crypto & Giardia/30	Enumeration & identification
Construction Materials	
Soils/15	Classification
Concrete/16	Compressive strength, dimensions
Aggregates/11	Particle size distribution, particle shape, particle density, bulk density, wet/dry strength
Mechanical	
Hardness Testing of Metals/4	Hardness testing of metal
NDT	
Ultrasonics/2	Steel pipe and plate

Note: Various Calibration and Measurement Audits may be conducted upon request.

More information can be found on these and other PTA programs on the PTA website at [http://www.pta.asn.au/pta\\_Schedules.html](http://www.pta.asn.au/pta_Schedules.html)

## PTA Attendance at the 9th IOHA International Scientific Conference, Kuala Lumpur 18-20th September 2012

PTA will be hosting a trade booth at the 9th IOHA (International Occupational Hygiene Association) International Scientific Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 18-20th September 2012. This will be a good opportunity for PTA to promote its asbestos programs in the Asia-Pacific region.

Contact PTA

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