

PTA Granted Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17043:2010

In July 2011, following an annual documentation review, the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA) transferred PTA's accreditation to the new International Standard ISO/IEC 17043:2010 *Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing*.

The transfer of PTA's accreditation to ISO/IEC 17043:2010 reflects PTA's continued compliance

with the latest international standards in proficiency testing.

PTA was previously accredited to ILAC Guide 13:2007 *Guidelines for the Requirements for the Competence of Providers of Proficiency Testing Schemes*. PTA has continuously maintained its accreditation as a proficiency testing provider since the company was formed in 2006.

PTA In Romania



PTA General Manager Mr Philip Briggs presenting at PT Conf - The Third International Proficiency Testing Conference, September 2011.

PTA provided two presentations on proficiency testing at the PT Conf - The Third International Proficiency Testing Conference held in Iasi, Romania from 27-30 September 2011. The conference was held for the benefit of academia, research laboratories, supplier bodies of proficiency testing schemes and laboratories of analyses and tests from a vast range of industries.

Philip Briggs, PTA General Manager presented on two topics:

1. Proficiency Testing for Non-Destructive Testing Laboratories.
2. PTA - Our Experience of Conversion of Accreditation from ILAC G13 to ISO/IEC 17043.

PTA has been involved in previous PT Conf in 2007 and 2009 and are pleased to have been involved again.

Staff

Staff Yvette Christie, Program Co-ordinator of the Waters (Chemical) Proficiency Testing Program will be on maternity leave in 2012. We wish Yvette and her husband Steve the very best wishes for the birth of their first baby, due January 2012. The relief arrangements for the co-ordination of the Waters (Chemical) program are being finalised at present. In the meantime, please direct all email correspondence to ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au.

Did you know?

PTA can create customised proficiency testing programs for industry organisations. Please contact PTA for further information.

Upcoming Programs January – June 2012

Chemical	Determinations
Waters/139	Ca, Mg, K, Na
Waters/140	Sulphate, Conductivity, pH, Colour
Waters/141	Bromide, Chloride, Fluoride, Iodide
Waters/142	Total Solids, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Suspended Solids
Waters/143	BOD, TOC, COD
Waters/144	Total Cyanide, Weak Acid Dissociable Cyanide
CFR	Correlated Fuel Research (MON, RON, AVGAS)
Asbestos/31	Slide fibre count
Asbestos in Soil/3	Sample identification in soil
Paint/17	To be determined
Metal Alloys/23	To be determined
Soils (Chemical)/5	PCBs, OCs, OPs
PCBs in Oil/5	Arochlor 1016, 1221, 1232, 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260, 1262, 1268
Biological	
Waters/43	Potable - E.coli, Faecal & Total Coliforms, Plate, Strep.
Pathogens in Food/25	Salmonella & Listeria
Legionella/44	Enumeration & identification
Non-Pathogens in Food/12	E.coli, Total plate count, Thermophiles
Cryptosporidium & Giardia/29	Enumeration & identification
Construction Materials	
Soils/14	Classification
Concrete/15	Compressive strength, dimensions
Aggregates/10	Particle size distribution, particle shape, particle density, water absorption Mechanical Tensile Testing of
Metals/4	Tensile testing of metal
Textiles/2	Composition and physical tests
NDT	
Ultrasonics/2	Steel pipe, Plate and Tee

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

Christmas Greetings

The PTA team would like to thank all participants involved in its proficiency testing programs for 2011. We would also like to thank all of our Technical Advisors and Suppliers for the assistance and continued support provided to PTA in its proficiency testing programs. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2012. We look forward to working with you in the new year.

PTA Project in Philippines

In November 2011 PTA General Manager, Philip Briggs conducted training for the Philippine Accreditation Office (PAO) in Manila, Philippines. The training was funded as a joint project of the European Union and the Republic of the Philippines as part of the Trade Related Technical Assistance Project. The 11 day project covered the planning, conduct and debrief for the provision of two separate proficiency testing training courses to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17043. Also conducted were advisory and mentoring services for existing Philippines-based proficiency testing providers and for PAO staff and assessors. PTA is pleased to offer our services for capacity building projects in the Asia-Pacific region and will continue to rely on laboratory participation in PTA programs in this region to enhance our international recognition.

Contact PTA

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