

**New PTA Website** - PTA was pleased to launch the new PTA website on 24th October 2015. Participants can now lodge their early registration for a program via the site. To view our new and improved website, please visit [www.pta.asn.au](http://www.pta.asn.au).

## Staff News

Laura Galbraith celebrated her wedding on 17th October 2015 and will now be known as Laura Mak. Congratulations Laura!

### Did you know?

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

## PTA Hosts Ministry of Health, Malaysia

On the 12 - 14th October 2015, PTA hosted two staff from the Food Safety and Quality Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia.

The training was held in the PTA Sydney office to provide training on the conduct of proficiency testing to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17043.

Attachment training projects provide a valuable benefit to PTA staff and our operations. PTA considers that such training will be beneficial for the visiting organisation and provides us with an expanding proficiency testing network and also recognition of our services.



Front Row (L-R) Nurul Hidayati Surawi (Ministry of Health, Malaysia) and PTA Staff Yvette Christie, Delfina Mihaila, Laura Mak, Karen Cividin and Michael Li; Back Row (L-R) Mohamad Suhaimi Bin Ismail (Ministry of Health, Malaysia) and PTA Staff Mark Bunt and Philip Briggs.

## On-Demand Program Schedule

Spares samples may be available from completed rounds and are charged at a reduced rate (approximately 80% of the quoted participation fee).

For further information, please email: [ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au](mailto:ptaenquiry@pta.asn.au)

## PTA attends the AAPA 2015 International Flexible Pavements Conference

PTA participated as an exhibitor at the AAPA 2015 International Flexible Pavements Conference held on the Gold Coast on the 13-16th September 2015. PTA Staff Ms Laura Mak and Ms Christine Hirst were there to meet and greet delegates, which included many PTA proficiency testing participants, Suppliers and Technical Advisers, as well as discuss PTA's Construction Materials programs.



PTA staff Christine Hirst (L) and Laura Mak (R).

## Participation at the Fifth International Proficiency Testing Conference

PTA participated at the Fifth International Proficiency Testing Conference, which took place in Timisoara, Romania, on (15)16th – 18th September 2015.

On this occasion, Mr Philip Briggs delivered a presentation on the National Asbestos Program and Mrs Delfina Mihaila presented an Overview of a Long-Lasting Proficiency Program for Water Testing.

# Upcoming Programs January – June 2016

Chemical	Determinations
Waters/191	Metals (Chromium, Copper, Iron, Lead, Nickel, Thallium, Zinc)
Waters/192	Total Solids, Total Suspended Solids, Total Dissolved Solids
Waters/193	Sulphate, Conductivity, pH, Colour, Turbidity
Waters/194	BOD, CBOD, COD, TOC
Waters/195	Minerals (Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> , Chlorine, Fluoride, Potassium, Sodium, Conductivity, Sulphate, Total Dissolved Solids, Total Solids)
Waters/196	Nitrate, Ammonia, Orthophosphate
Waters/197	Hardness
Waters/198	Metals (Antimony, Beryllium, Cadmium, Vanadium, Palladium)
CFR	Correlated Fuel Research (MON, RON and AVGAS)
Asbestos ID/14	Bulk sample identification
Asbestos/35	Slide fibre count
Asbestos in Soil/7	Sample identification in soil
Paint/24	Paint panel - tests to be determined
Metal Alloys/30	Ferrous
Soils (Chemical)/13	To be determined
Coal/34	Proximate analysis + trace elements
Air & Emissions/8	To be determined
PCBs in Oil/8	Aroclors 1016, 1242, 1254 & 1260
Biological	
Waters/55	Potable - <i>E. coli</i> , Faecal & Total Coliforms, Plate, Strep.
Waters/56	Effluent - <i>E. coli</i> , Faecal & Total Coliforms, Plate, Strep.
Pathogens in Food/33	Salmonella & Listeria

Legionella/52	Enumeration & identification
Non-Pathogens in Food/20	<i>E. coli</i> , Total plate count, Coliforms, Yeast, Moulds
Algae/18	Enumeration & identification
Crypto & Giardia/37	Enumeration & identification
Construction Materials	
Soils/21	Classification
Concrete/21	Compressive strength, dimensions
Aggregates/16	Particle size distribution, particle shape, particle density, water absorption
Asphalt/7	Bitumen content, density, gradings
Mechanical	
Hardness Testing of Metals/10	Hardness testing of metal
Tensile Testing of Metals/10	Tensile testing of metal
NDT	
Ultrasonics/3	Steel pipe, plate and tee and Y
Magnetic Particle Inspection	Steel pipe, plate and tee and Y
Radiography	Steel pipe, plate and tee
Calibration	
Digital Multimeter/4	HP 34401A Digital Multimeter - DC Voltage (0.1 ~ 1000 V), AC Voltage (0.1 ~ 750 V), DC Current (0.01 ~ 3 A), AC Current (1 ~ 3 A), and Resistance (1 Ohm ~ 10 Meg Ohm)
Mass/3	10mg, 1g, 10g, 200g
Temperature/3	Digital Temperature Indicator System - 0°C to 420°C in 20°C steps
Gauge Blocks/2	Nominal lengths - 2mm, 8mm, 20mm and 100mm

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

## Christmas Greetings

The PTA team would like to thank all participants involved in its proficiency testing programs for 2015. We would also like to thank all of our Technical Advisers 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 2016. We look forward to working with you in the new year.



More information can be found on these and other PTA programs on the PTA website at <http://www.pta.asn.au/programs/schedules>

Contact PTA

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