

# National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia



## Mutual Recognition Arrangements

The National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA) is recognised by the Australian government as the national authority for accreditation of laboratories and inspection bodies. Formal agreements also exist between NATA and the national laboratory accreditation bodies listed in the attached table, *NATA's Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) Network*, for recognition of test and calibration reports from accredited laboratories, and between NATA and some of the national inspection body and reference material producer (RMP) accreditation bodies, also as listed in the attached table, for recognition of inspection reports from accredited inspection bodies, and of reference material certificates from accredited RMPs.

Under the mutual recognition arrangements between accreditation bodies, each organisation recognises the equivalence of accreditations granted by its overseas counterparts, and promotes the equivalence of such accreditations, covered by each scope of recognition, within its own economy. This reduces the need for re-testing, re-calibration or re-inspection of products or re-certification of reference materials in an importing economy and saves time and money for exporters. Before entering into such arrangements, accreditation bodies have the responsibility to thoroughly evaluate each other's systems of accreditation. These arrangements also include mechanisms to ensure that test, calibration and inspection reports, and reference material certificates, covered by the arrangement, carry the same degree of accuracy and credibility on an ongoing basis.

Each NATA-accredited laboratory, inspection body and RMP is recognised for its technical competence to perform specific tests, measurements, or inspections, or certification of specific reference materials. For those specific tests, measurements, inspections or certifications, for which it is accredited, the accredited organisation is entitled to place the appropriate NATA endorsement on its reports, details of which are listed in the Second Schedule of NATA's Rules, copies of which can be obtained from the NATA web site. Each NATA-endorsed report must be signed by a person recognised by NATA as an approved signatory.

Accreditation is granted only after detailed assessment and regular reassessments of the technical competence of the laboratory, inspection body or RMP and its staff against defined technical and management system criteria. NATA assessments are carried out by teams that include independent technical experts.

For recognition of reports and certificates issued by laboratories, inspection bodies or RMPs accredited by NATA's overseas mutual recognition partners, reports and certificates received from overseas accredited organisations must bear the accreditation mark ("endorsement") of one of the accreditation bodies listed in the attached table.

While NATA promotes that the endorsed reports and certificates issued by organisations accredited by its MRA partners are equivalent to NATA-endorsed reports, NATA is not able to compel a regulator or other client to accept the overseas reports or certificates. To meet Australian regulatory requirements the overseas organisation must be accredited for the test, calibration or inspection procedure prescribed by the Australian regulator.

The attached table includes the web site details for each of NATA's MRA partners. These web sites can be checked for details of accredited organisations, and for the accreditation mark of each accreditation body. NATA does not itself maintain a list of organisations accredited by its MRA partners.

Additional information about mutual recognition arrangements can also be found on the web sites of ILAC (<http://www.ilac.org>), APLAC (<http://www.aplac.org>), EA (<http://www.european-accreditation.org>) and IAAC (<http://www.iaac.org.mx>).

Further details about NATA accreditation of laboratories, inspection bodies and RMPs, and NATA's mutual recognition arrangements are available by contacting either Michael Fraser (email: [Michael.Fraser@nata.com.au](mailto:Michael.Fraser@nata.com.au); tel: +61 8 8179 3400) or Regina Robertson (email: [Regina.Robertson@nata.com.au](mailto:Regina.Robertson@nata.com.au); tel: +61 2 9736 8222) or by visiting NATA's internet web site at <http://www.nata.com.au>. Please also see NATA Information Paper No. 3, *Guide to Use of NATA's MRA Network*, available from the "publications" page of NATA's web site.

### NATA's Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) Network

Economy	Organisation	Acronym	Area/s Included	Year
Argentina	Organismo Argentino de Acreditacion Website: <a href="http://www.oaa.ar">www.oaa.ar</a>	OAA	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,4</sup>	2005
Austria	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Angelegenheiten Website: <a href="http://www.bmwa.gv.at">www.bmwa.gv.at</a>	BMwA	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,3</sup>	1997 / 1998
Belgium	Belgian Organisation for Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.belac.fgov.be">www.belac.fgov.be</a>	BELAC	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1997; 2008
Brazil	Directoria de Credenciamento e Qualidade/Instituto Nacional de Metrologia, Normalizacao e Qualidade Industrial Website: <a href="http://www.inmetro.gov.br">www.inmetro.gov.br</a>	INMETRO	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,4</sup>	2000
Canada	Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.cala.ca">www.cala.ca</a>	CALA	Testing <sup>1,2</sup>	2005
	Standards Council of Canada/Conseil canadien des normes Website: <a href="http://www.scc.ca">www.scc.ca</a>	SCC	Testing/Calibration <sup>1</sup> <sub>2,4</sub>	2000
Chile	Instituto Nacional de Normalización Website: <a href="http://www.inn.cl">www.inn.cl</a>	INN	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,4</sup>	2010
People's Republic of China	China National Accreditation Service for Conformity Assessment Website: <a href="http://www.cnas.org.cn">www.cnas.org.cn</a>	CNAS	Testing/Calibration <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA); ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA); RMP (APLAC MRA)	1999; 2004; 2007; 2007
Costa Rica	Enta Costarricense De Acreditacion Website: <a href="http://www.eca.or.cr">www.eca.or.cr</a>	ECA	Testing; Calibration <sup>1,4</sup>	2007; 2010

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Cuba	National Accreditation Body of Republica de Cuba Website: <a href="http://www.onarc.cubaindustria.cu">www.onarc.cubaindustria.cu</a>	ONARC	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,4</sup>	2005
Czech Republic	Czech Accreditation Institute Website: <a href="http://www.cai.cz">www.cai.cz</a>	CAI	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2000; 2008
Denmark	Dansk Akkreditering (Danish Agency for Trade and Industry) Website: <a href="http://www.danak.dk">www.danak.dk</a>	DANAK	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
Egypt	National Laboratories Accreditation Bureau Website: <a href="http://www.nlab.org">www.nlab.org</a>	NLAB	Testing/Calibration <sup>1</sup>	2005
Estonia	Estonian Accreditation Centre Website: <a href="http://www.eak.ee">www.eak.ee</a>	EAK	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>3</sup>	2004; 2008
Finland	Finnish Accreditation Service Centre for Metrology and Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.finas.fi">www.finas.fi</a>	FINAS	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
France	Comité Francais d'Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.cofrac.fr">www.cofrac.fr</a>	COFRAC	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
Germany	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Akkreditierung mbH (German Society for Accreditation) Website: <a href="http://www.dga-mbh.de">www.dga-mbh.de</a> (formed by merger of DAP, DACH and DATech in TGA GmbH)	DGA	Testing; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994; 2008
	Deutscher Kalibrierdienst (German Calibration Service) Website: <a href="http://www.dkd.ptb.de">www.dkd.ptb.de</a>	DKD	Calibration <sup>1,3</sup>	1995
Greece	Hellenic Accreditation System Website: <a href="http://www.esyd.gr">www.esyd.gr</a>	ESYD	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2004; 2008

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Hong Kong, China	Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme Website: <a href="http://www.itc.gov.hk/hkas">www.itc.gov.hk/hkas</a>	HKAS	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA); ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	1990; 2003; 2007
India	National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories Website: <a href="http://www.nabl-india.org">www.nabl-india.org</a>	NABL	Testing/Calibration; <sup>1,2</sup> ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	2000; 2008
Indonesia	Komite Akreditasi Nasional Website: <a href="http://www.bsn.or.id">www.bsn.or.id</a>	KAN	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA)	2001 / 2003; 2004
Ireland	The Irish National Accreditation Board Website: <a href="http://www.inab.ie">www.inab.ie</a>	NAB	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
Israel	Israel Laboratory Accreditation Authority Website: <a href="http://www.israc.gov.il">www.israc.gov.il</a>	ISRAC	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1</sup>	2001; 2008
Italy	Sistema Italiano di Accreditamento (Italian System for Accreditation) Website: <a href="http://www.sinal.it">www.sinal.it</a> (formed by the merger of SINAL and SINCERT)	ACCREDIA	Testing <sup>1,3</sup> ; Inspection	1994; 2008
	Consorzio Pubblico per l'Accreditamento (Public Union for Accreditation) Website: <a href="http://www.sit-italia.it">www.sit-italia.it</a>	COPA	Calibration <sup>1,3</sup>	1995
Japan	Japan Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Website: <a href="http://www.jab.or.jp">www.jab.or.jp</a>	JAB	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	1998 / 2003; 2007

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	International Accreditation Japan Website: <a href="http://www.nite.go.jp/asse/iajapan/">www.nite.go.jp/asse/iajapan/</a>	IAJapan	Testing <sup>1,2</sup> ; Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; RMP (APLAC MRA)	1998; 1999; 2007
Japan (cont)	Voluntary EMC Laboratory Accreditation Centre Website: <a href="http://www.vlac.co.jp">www.vlac.co.jp</a>	VLAC	Testing <sup>1</sup>	2003
Republic of Korea	Korea Laboratory Accreditation Scheme Website: <a href="http://www.kolas.ats.go.kr">www.kolas.ats.go.kr</a>	KOLAS	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup>	1998 / 2001
Latvia	Latvian National Accreditation Bureau Website: <a href="http://www.latak.lv">www.latak.lv</a>	LATAK	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>3</sup>	2002; 2008
Lithuania	Lithuanian National Accreditation Bureau Website: <a href="http://www.nab.lt">www.nab.lt</a>	LA	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>3</sup>	2001; 2008
Malaysia	Standards Malaysia Website: <a href="http://www.standardsmalaysia.gov.my">www.standardsmalaysia.gov.my</a>		Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	2002 / 2003; 2007
Malta	National Accreditation Board – Malta Website: <a href="http://www.nabmalta.org.mt">www.nabmalta.org.mt</a>	NAB – Malta	Testing <sup>3</sup>	2008
Mexico	Entidad Mexicana de Acreditación Website: <a href="http://www.ema.org.mx">www.ema.org.mx</a>	ema	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA); ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	2005; 2007

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Netherlands	Raad voor Accreditatie – (Dutch Council for Accreditation) Website: <a href="http://www.rva.nl">www.rva.nl</a>	RvA	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1993 / 1995; 2008
New Zealand	International Accreditation New Zealand Website: <a href="http://www.ianz.govt.nz">www.ianz.govt.nz</a>	IANZ	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA); ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA )	1981; 1999; 2007
Norway	Norsk Akkreditering Website: <a href="http://www.akkreditert.no">www.akkreditert.no</a>	NA	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
Pakistan	Pakistan National Accreditation Council Website: <a href="http://www.pnac.org.pk">www.pnac.org.pk</a>	PNAC	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup>	2009
Philippines	Philippines Accreditation Office Website: <a href="http://www.bps.dti.gov.ph">www.bps.dti.gov.ph</a>	PAO	Testing, Calibration <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>	2005
Poland	Polskie Centrum Akredytacji Website: <a href="http://www.pca.gov.pl">www.pca.gov.pl</a>	PCA	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2004; 2008
Portugal	Institutio Portuges de Acreditacao Website: <a href="http://www.ipac.pt">www.ipac.pt</a>	IPAC	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2006; 2008
Romania	Romanian Accreditation Association* Email: <a href="mailto:renar@renar.ro">renar@renar.ro</a>	RENAR	Testing <sup>1,3</sup>	2005
Russia	AAC Analitica Website: <a href="http://www.analitica.org.ru">www.analitica.org.ru</a>	AAC	Testing <sup>1,2</sup>	2009
Singapore	Singapore Accreditation Council Website: <a href="http://www.sac-accreditation.org.sg">www.sac-accreditation.org.sg</a>	SAC	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA); ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	1996; 2003; 2007

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Slovakia	Slovak National Accreditation Service Website: <a href="http://www.snas.sk">www.snas.sk</a>	SNAS	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2001; 2008
Slovenia	Slovenian Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.gov.si/sa/">www.gov.si/sa/</a>	SA	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2003; 2008
South Africa	South African National Accreditation System Website: <a href="http://www.sanas.co.za">www.sanas.co.za</a>	SANAS	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1</sup>	1998; 2008
Spain	Entidad Nacional de Acreditacion Website: <a href="http://www.enac.es">www.enac.es</a>	ENAC	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment Website: <a href="http://www.slab.lk">www.slab.lk</a>	SLAB	Testing <sup>1,2</sup> ; ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	2009; 2009
Sweden	The Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment Website: <a href="http://www.swedac.se">www.swedac.se</a>	SWEDAC	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1993 / 1995; 2008
Switzerland	Swiss Accreditation Service Website: <a href="http://www.sas.admin.ch">www.sas.admin.ch</a>	SAS	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1994 / 1995; 2008
Chinese Taipei	Taiwan Accreditation Foundation Website: <a href="http://www.taftw.org.tw">www.taftw.org.tw</a>	TAF	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> , Inspection (APLAC MRA); ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	1997; 2005; 2007

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Economy	Organisation	Acronym	Area/s Included	Year
Thailand	NSC – Office of the National Accreditation Council Website: <a href="http://www.thainac@tisi.go.th">www.thainac@tisi.go.th</a>	NSC-ONAC	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> Inspection (APLAC MRA)	2001/2009
	Department of Medical Sciences Website: <a href="http://www.dmssc.moph.go.th">www.dmssc.moph.go.th</a>	DMSc	Testing <sup>1,2</sup> ; ISO 15189 (APLAC MRA)	2002; 2007
	Department of Science Service Website: <a href="http://www.dss.go.th">www.dss.go.th</a>	DSS	Testing <sup>2</sup>	2006
Tunisia	Tunisian Accreditation Council Email: <a href="mailto:tunac@planet.tn">tunac@planet.tn</a>	TUNAC	Testing/Calibration <sup>3</sup>	2008
Turkey	Turkish Accreditation Agency Website: <a href="http://www.turkak.org.tr">www.turkak.org.tr</a>	TURKAK	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	2006; 2008
United Arab Emirates	Dubai Municipality – Accreditation Department Website: <a href="http://www.dac.gov.ae">www.dac.gov.ae</a>	DAC	Testing/Calibration <sup>1</sup>	2009
United Kingdom	United Kingdom Accreditation Service Website: <a href="http://www.ukas.com">www.ukas.com</a>	UKAS	Testing/Calibration; Inspection <sup>1,3</sup>	1985; 2008
United States of America	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.a2la.org">www.a2la.org</a>	A2LA	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2,4</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA); RMP (APLAC MRA)	1990; 2006; 2007
	ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board LLC dba ACLASS Website: <a href="http://www.aiclasscorp.com">www.aiclasscorp.com</a>	ACLASS	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2,4</sup> ; RMP (APLAC MRA)	2006; 2008
	International Accreditation Service, Inc. Website: <a href="http://www.iasonline.org">www.iasonline.org</a>	IAS	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA)	1999/2005; 2004
	Laboratory Accreditation Bureau Website: <a href="http://www.l-a-b.com">www.l-a-b.com</a>	L-A-B	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup>	2007

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Economy	Organisation	Acronym	Area/s Included	Year
	National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program Website: <a href="http://www.nist.gov/nvlap">www.nist.gov/nvlap</a>	NVLAP	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup>	1982
	Perry Johnson Laboratory Accreditation Inc Website: <a href="http://www.pjlabs.com">www.pjlabs.com</a>	PJLA	Testing; Calibration <sup>1,2</sup>	2008; 2009
	American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board Website: <a href="http://www.ascd-lab.org">www.ascd-lab.org</a>	ASCLD/LAB	Testing <sup>1,4</sup>	2009
	Forensic Quality Services Website: <a href="http://www.forgquality.org">www.forgquality.org</a>	FQS	Testing <sup>1,4</sup>	2010
Vietnam	Bureau of Accreditation Website: <a href="http://www.boa.gov.vn">www.boa.gov.vn</a>	BoA/VILAS	Testing/Calibration <sup>1,2</sup> ; Inspection (APLAC MRA)	2000; 2004
Australasia	Joint Accreditation System – Australia and New Zealand Website: <a href="http://www.jas-anz.com.au">www.jas-anz.com.au</a>	JAS-ANZ	Inspection <sup>2</sup>	2006

1. party to the global ILAC Arrangement
2. party to the APLAC (Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation) multilateral MRA
3. party to the EA (European cooperation for Accreditation) multilateral MLA
4. party to the IAAC (Interamerican Accreditation Cooperation) multilateral MLA