



# CAPABILITY STATEMENT

## NATA's Role

The National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia's (NATA) role is the delivery of accreditation programs that facilitate a network of competent scientific and technical facilities throughout Australia, to meet national interest and public benefit objectives.

NATA accreditation provides a globally recognised foundation for confidence in Australia's calibration, testing, inspection and related technical activities. Through the facilitation of a reliable conformance infrastructure, NATA contributes to efficiency in the public and private sectors, the competitiveness of Australian industry in domestic and international markets and the general welfare of all Australians.

NATA accreditation assists Governments, industry, business, and professional and scientific communities by:

- contributing to the quality of products and services; and
- facilitating trade in goods and services and the exchange of scientific and technical data domestically, and internationally through signatory status to international Mutual Recognition Arrangements.

## NATA's Capability

- Delivery of third party peer-assessment based accreditation services, at a technical/scientific level, that provide confidence in the outcomes of measurements, tests, inspections and related scientific, technical and professional activities;
- Provision of other activities that are aligned to NATA's primary accreditation role but do not compromise the core function of accreditation including other recognition programs, auditing and assessment services;
- Delivery of a range of training programs to support NATA's role and services;
- Provision of Stakeholder and Member Services, through the maintenance of a public database of accredited facilities and the publication of a range of technical documents covering laboratory practice and evaluation;
- Participation in committees of national standards writing bodies, including Standards Australia, to assist in the development of robust technical and scientific standards;
- Participation in international fora and representing Australia on relevant ISO Committees and technical committees of other international bodies.

## NATA's Recognition

The Commonwealth Government recognises NATA as Australia's national authority for the accreditation of laboratories and producers of reference materials, and a peak body for the accreditation of inspection bodies and proficiency testing scheme providers. NATA is also recognised as Australia's compliance monitoring authority for facilities undertaking non-clinical health and environmental safety studies in accordance with the OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice. Such recognition is achieved through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commonwealth Government.

## Expertise

NATA is an independent, not-for-profit Company, which operates as an association owned by its members (accredited facilities). NATA has a secretariat of 180 staff, of whom around 90 are Lead Assessors, with scientific and engineering backgrounds. The organisation is assisted by over 3000 voluntary technical experts serving as peer assessors and technical committee advisors.

Accreditation  
Assessment  
Training  
Advisory Services