

**CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING ACCREDITATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

27th MEETING SUMMARY

This meeting was held at the Amora Riverwalk Hotel on 2 and 3 December 2015. A summary of discussions is provided below:

- The draft CMT Application Document was reviewed and it was recommended that this continue towards publication.
- The Committee noted progress in establishing consistency in the way test 'determinations' are expressed within the Class of Tests document and the continuation of this process was endorsed.
- The availability of suitable proficiency testing programs, in terms of test type and test range, was discussed and a recommendation was made for NATA to seek expressions of interest for the provision of programs covering CBR, shrink-swell and asphalt (thin lift) nuclear gauge density testing.
- NATA has previously sought, without success to date, expressions of interest for the provision of proficiency testing for nuclear gauge density testing of soil and the Committee has requested NATA to explore the possibility of direct road agency involvement in order to facilitate such a program.
- The implications of remote electronic data capture systems and hand-held data devices in the field were discussed. In particular, the Committee sought assurance that NATA will establish that an auditable trail is created whenever data is changed or overwritten electronically.
- The Committee discussed the non-prescriptive nature of equipment assurance programs and implications for how this is assessed, particularly from the perspective of technical assessors. The time allowed for this assessment activity and the suitability of the documentation and templates provided to technical assessors were considered to warrant some further consideration within NATA.
- The capability of laboratories to achieve the reporting accuracy specified within test methods and the type of evidence provided by laboratories to demonstrate such capability was discussed. The Committee considered that NATA should engage with government and industry stakeholders in any cases where a construction specification requires reporting to level of accuracy at which laboratories are unable to demonstrate capability.
- Revisions to a number of key Australian Standards within the construction materials was favourably noted, however, the potential impact on some construction materials facilities of aging Australian Standards was also noted. Lack of funding for the revision of such standards appears to be a contributing issue.
- Positive feedback from the 2014/15 series of Technical Assessor webinars on the topic of Supervisory Requirements in CMT Laboratories was noted. The Committee supported the intention to deliver further webinars and noted that use of online software might also be explored as possible means for delivering assessor information and training.