

**NAME OF ECONOMY: AUSTRALIA**  
**ORGANISATION: NATIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION**

Last year we reported on legislative amendments to the National Measurement Act to expand the scope to cover all the principal areas of the national measurement system. The advantages of these amendments are that they:

- Established national metrological requirements for the entire system under one piece of legislation
- The amendments identified the commitment of government to ensuring consistency of measurements
- Certification provisions in the legislation provided a sound evidential basis for measurements
- The legislation provided an effective co-ordination mechanism for the national measurement system
- The consolidated legislation will facilitate mutual recognition arrangements.

During the past year, progress has been made in developing detailed requirements for electricity & water metering & requirements for the control & certification of breathalysers.

The Commission has also held discussions with New Zealand Trade Measurement on a mutual recognition arrangement on pattern approval testing. Main principles of the MRA are:

- Confidence in testing capability would be provided by accreditation & performance in intercomparisons
- Systems would be established for providing confidence in compliance of production instruments

During the year the Commission commenced development of a compressed natural gas (CNG) testing facility funded by the Australian Greenhouse Office.

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