Legislative Review
NMI (Australia) is planning a thematic review of Australia’s measurement legislation.
The aim of the review is to modernise Australia’s measurement framework by developing options and recommendations in relation to:
• minimum effective regulation models that could lessen government intervention;
• using principles-based legislation to minimise regulatory burden on business;
• pathways to support a transparent, proportionate, flexible and risk-based approach to regulation;
• utilising appropriate third parties to support or implement the framework;
• removing unwarranted regulatory barriers to market entry of new technologies, and other technical barriers to competition;
• mechanisms to support market innovation and changes in technology;
• ensuring that Australia's measurement legislation promotes confidence in Australia’s measurement system; and
• adopting best practice national and international regulatory approaches.

New CEO and Chief Metrologist
• Former Chief Executive Officer and Chief Metrologist, Dr Peter Fisk retired on the 29th of September 2017.
• Jane Coram is the new NMI Chief Executive Officer.
• Dr Bruce Warrington is the new Chief Metrologist.

Review of the Compliance Policy
NMIA has published a new National Compliance Policy. The fundamental principle driving the policy is to minimise harm without creating unnecessary compliance costs or burdens for business. The approach incorporates three compliance principles:
Proportionality—any regulatory response is proportionate to the impact of any actual or potential harm.
Consistency—a consistent approach is taken when interpreting, applying and enforcing national trade measurement legislation.
Transparency—NMIA is accessible, provides clear guidance on all aspects of our legislation and is open about out policies, processes and where permitted, its decisions.

Future Focus - 2018 & Beyond

NMIA Acceptance of Pattern Approval Test Results
• NMIA is reviewing current policy regarding the acceptance of pattern approval test results.
• The aim of the review is to consider the development of a more risk-based approach to the acceptance of test results and this will be done in consultation with Australian industry.

Introduction of a Risk/Harm Framework
NMIA is developing and implementing a regulatory framework primarily focused on minimising harm associated with the consequence and likelihood of non-compliant activity. Some factors to evaluate likely harm include:
• Extent of financial detriment to consumers or industry,
• Ability of consumers to make informed purchasing decisions,
• Impact on maintaining a level playing field for business competition,
• Impact on innovation, regulatory burden and international harmonisation.

2017–2018 Compliance Programs
National Targeted Programs: From an analysis of compliance history, together with consideration of the number of businesses and value of measurement transactions, NMI determines the level of risk associated with non-compliance across industry sectors. Based on this analysis, the following industries will be the focus of national targeted inspection activities in 2017 - 2018:
• Meat, Fish and Poultry Retailing
• Supermarket and Grocery Stores (Turnover < $2m)

Data Collection and Monitoring Programs: To underpin the analysis used to identify national and region specific targeted risk programs, NMIA has started capturing data on likely financial loss suffered by customers in trade measurement transactions across a broad range of industry types.

Presenter—Bill Loizides