

# Australia - Economy Report Highlights

## Key Activities - 2017

### 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.



Jane Coram



Dr Bruce Warrington

### 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.

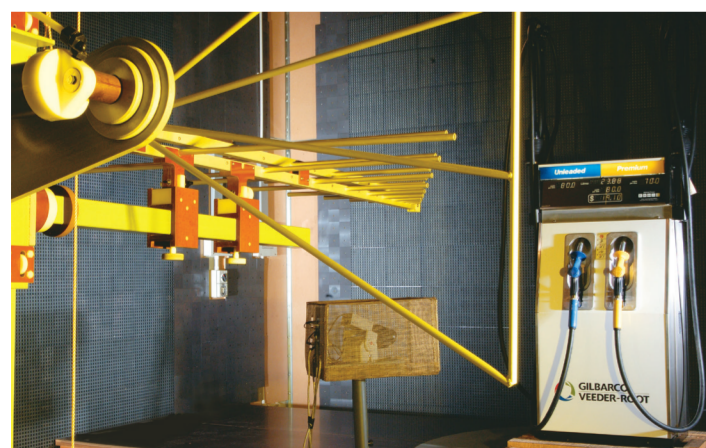
**Consistency**—a consistent approach is taken when interpreting, applying and enforcing national trade measurement legislation.

**Transparency**—NMIA is accessible, provides clear guidance on all aspects of our legislation and is open about our 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.