Australia - Economy Report Highlights

Key Activities – 2017/2018

Information Program Delivered to Our Counterparts

Provided technical support in type approval and evaluation for NAWI (R 76) and water meters (R 49) to assist the development of officers from the Indonesian Directorate of Metrology.

Other outcomes from this program was to give our counterparts a further understanding of:

- Australia’s Metrological control system
- OIML-CS
- Overview of Quality systems ISO 17025 and ISO 17065
- Evaluation of test results and issuing certificates

Introduction of a Risk/Harm Framework

NMIA continues to develop and implement 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.

Update on new CEO

Previous NMIA Chief Executive Officer, Jane Coram announced her departure with NMIA.

Dr Bruce Warrington, has commenced the role of NMIA Chief Executive Officer in May 2018; whilst he continues in his role as the Chief Metrologist.

Future Focus - 2019 & beyond

The Future of the Measurement Law Review

The Australian Government is committed to reducing the amount of prescription in regulations and to have more principles-based legislation. Remaining discussion papers will be open for consultation from late 2018 to early 2019. The review continues to examine:

- Scope of Australia’s Measurement Laws
- Traceability
- Measuring Instruments
- Transactions Based on Measurement
- Third-party Arrangements
- Compliance Arrangements

Input received will inform a series of reform options that will be made available for public comment before being submitted to the Australian Government for consideration in 2020.

OIML Certification System

Australia has become an issuing authority for non-automatic weighing instruments: R 76: 1992 & R76: 2006.

Australia will continue to be actively engaged in the development of the OIML-CS, with representation on the Management Committee and Review Committee. Australia will continue to become a Utilizer and Issuing Authority for a range of other instrument categories.

2018-19 National Compliance Plan

National Measurement Institute Australia will carry out compliance activities from the 2018-19 National Compliance Plan, these will include:

- Ensuring the Integrity of the Licensing System,
- National Targeted programs Economically Significant Industry Programs,
- Emerging Industry Programs,
- External Agency Programs.

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National Measurement Institute