



Australian Institute for Non-destructive Testing

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The Secretary, Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

As Australia's Representative on RAS1020 - Building Capacity for Applications of Advanced Non-destructive Evaluation Technologies for Enhancing Industrial Productivity, I have seen many positive outcomes achieved by this program. Australia is well placed to continue to provide support in areas that are typically lacking in the developing countries. Our main strengths lie in our developed systems and programs for ensuring compliance and conformity, thus promoting safety and quality. Two of the main areas of support are compliance with ISO9712 and ISO17025.

ISO9712 Qualification and Certification of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) Personnel is a worldwide recognised 3<sup>rd</sup> party certification scheme that is considered best practice for NDT Certification. The Australian Institute for Non-Destructive Testing (AINDT) is one of only 11 countries (of the approximately 65 offering the scheme) that have been recognised by the International Committee for Non-Destructive Testing (ICNDT) as being in compliance with the code requirements.

In recent years, Australia's RCA representatives have been senior members of the AINDT, with myself being a Director and Current Federal President. This allows for Australia to provide strong technical and operational support for the member nations in regards to training, examination, qualification and certification of their personnel. To this end, as the regions only accredited body to provide examination in Digital Radiography, I, with AINDT's support will be conducting training and examinations in Malaysia in July 2017. This advanced level of structured training and examination can only increase the skill levels and confidence that the NDT community seeks.

ISO17025 General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories, is the benchmark standard for the accreditation of NDT Laboratories and Facilities. This scheme is accredited in Australia through the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA), with 176 laboratories currently accredited. This high level of control and conformity of NDT laboratories is fundamental in providing industry with the confidence that NDT operations performed in Australia are to a high and consistent standard. Through its involvement in the RCA program, Australia has provided technical and operational support for other member states to assist in developing system and practices to comply with ISO17025.

As a typically non-funded member of the RCA (due to our designation as a developed nation), Australia struggles to fully provide the support services that it is capable of, with many activities carried out at the members cost, or with limited funding from the likes of the AINDT. Australia has been approached to offer training and examination services in Malaysia in July 2017 and also host the November meeting of the RAS1020 Delegation in Melbourne Australia, however without support these opportunities may not proceed.

Note: The AINDT is the not-for-profit peak body representing the NDT Industry in Australia since 1963.



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One of the least tangible outcomes from Australia's involvement with this RCA project is the ability for Australia to be considered impartial and neutral. Australia's isolated location and political affiliations make us an excellent conduit for communication and facilitation amongst member states that may find direct communication difficult.

I personally, have also been involved in two expert missions to develop training materials that the IAEA has provided for free to all interested parties. These training manuals have proven to be an extremely valuable resource to both emerging and developed NDT practitioners. I was honoured to be involved with that program and extremely proud of its outcomes.

I look forward to a continued involvement with the RCA program and believe that Australia is well placed to continue to be a leader in the support of this valuable RCA program.

Regards

Paul Grosser CEng  
AINDT President