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The NZ mark of competence
Tohu Matatau Aotearoa

April Update



In this issue:

- Welcome to Team IANZ – Jessica Spray
- The Power of Internal Audits
- IANZ: Our History

Kia ora koutou,

It's remarkable to think that we are already into the fourth month of 2022, and with that comes a look back at the history of IANZ as we celebrate our golden jubilee, as well as welcoming our newest team member.

We also share some valuable advice on internal audits and how to make them meaningful for both your own organisation as well as for IANZ.

Wishing you and your team a safe and relaxing break this month over Easter and Anzac Day.

Kia kaha,

Team IANZ

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Welcome to Team IANZ - Jessica Spray

We recently welcomed Jessica Spray as an Accreditation Assessor in the Chemical & Biological Programme to Team IANZ and sat down with her to get to know her and a bit about her background.

Jessica, what is something that you are looking forward to in your work with IANZ?

I am looking forward to visiting different laboratories, meeting new people and learning about testing I have not experienced before. My background is in dairy testing so I am very interested to learn about testing in new industries. I have come from a data analytics role but I am quite gregarious by nature so most of all I am looking forward to more contact with people.

How do you think your working style has changed in the last two years due to COVID-19?

It has completely changed! I have been working from home most of the time and have embraced the flexible working style. I have always lived quite rurally and used to commute to the office, now I just walk down the hall with my coffee in hand to my home office. I find I can be very productive working from home. There are definitely things to manage like ensuring to “switch off” work for family time and making sure I get out of the house for some vitamin D every day.

Having been on the ‘other side’ of the assessment process, what’s one piece of advice you can give our clients to minimise stress during an assessment?

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I don't remember feeling all that comfortable having a standard conversation with an Assessor during an assessment so I would like to say that questions about the process and outcomes of an assessment are welcomed. We want all staff involved to understand the process and outcomes of an assessment, as understanding will mean better conformity in the future.

What is one essential office item you can't live without and why?

Does hand cream count? I always have hand cream on my desk, currently it's cactus blossom.

Thanks Jessica, we can't wait to see you out and about at some of our client assessments



The Power of Internal Audits

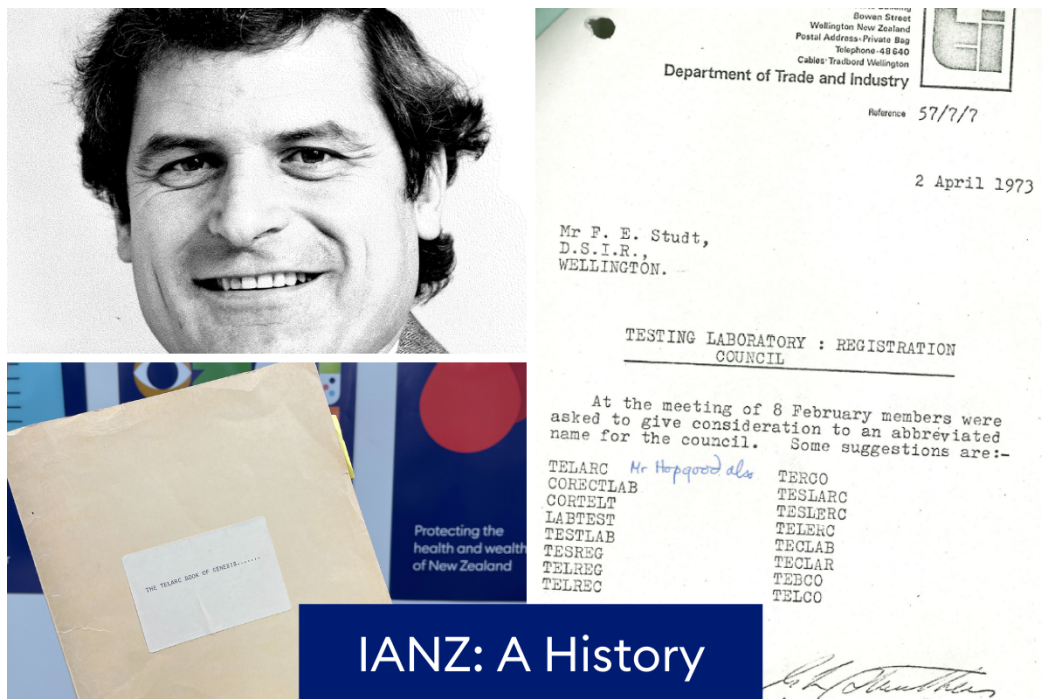
If you are doing an internal audit just to please IANZ, or avoid a Corrective Action Request (CAR) at your next assessment, it's likely there is something amiss. In fact, IANZ assessors are often left confused when a business is running an audit programme that lacks value and provides no focus on risk or assurance.

Audits are about more than just IANZ, CARs, compliance and conformance. Internal audits can drive real change and add value for businesses and organisations. But many internal audit programmes lack power, objectivity, rigour and capability. How can we change this?

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Jennifer Foley, Programme Manager Inspection Bodies at IANZ, discusses how we

can create meaningful internal audits and the value these hold for organisations, both short and long term.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)


IANZ: Our History

Fifty years of protecting the health and wealth of New Zealand is a milestone worth celebrating. However, as we begin our golden jubilee celebrations in 2022, it is important to look back at where we have come from and how historical influences have shaped the IANZ institution that is what we know today.

With any look into the history books at IANZ, it's important to acknowledge the history of accreditation on a global scale, with particular mention and celebration of the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA), who themselves are celebrating 75 years in operation this year.

During the late 1960's in New Zealand, the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) handled the bulk of testing and calibration work. Industry was becoming increasingly aware of the need for accurate and reliable testing facilities, resulting in an ever-increasing amount of testing work carried out by the DSIR; an unsustainable model relying on a centralised governmental centre of excellence. By the late 1960's a number of studies by several government departments looked at the

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by DSIR in 1967 stated that the manufacture of high quality goods with a high content of skill required accuracy in production and quality control. One of the functions of DSIR therefore, would be in helping the manufacturing industry obtain better measurement control and standardisation. The study looked at NATA, and a similar service, the British Calibration Service in the UK, with the DSIR study endorsing the principle of establishing a national calibration service in New Zealand.

In 1968 NATA Registrar, Mr Frank Monaghan, was invited by the New Zealand Government to explain the concept of laboratory accreditation and the operations of NATA. NATA had demonstrated a coordinated and structured approach to the quality of testing performed by laboratories across Australia. To encourage and maintain the greater use of testing facilities within industry and commerce, NATA determined the conditions to be complied with by industry testing laboratories before registration. The argument went that if a system like NATA was introduced in New Zealand, we too could expect all the benefits already demonstrated, with future planning and discussions on how this equivalence accreditation programme could support international trade.

In 1972, the New Zealand Parliament passed the Testing Laboratory Registration Act 1972, to make provision for the registration of testing laboratories within industry and commerce, and for that purpose, to provide for the establishment of a Testing Laboratory Registration Council. The Council met for the first time on Thursday 8 February 1973, chaired by Professor Ray Meyer from the University of Auckland. A small staff of a Director, an assistant and a secretary/typist was envisaged. Mr John Gilmour, of NATA in Australia, was invited to New Zealand in September 1973 and ultimately accepted the appointment as Director.

Registration Advisory Committees had already been set up in April 1973, and these included mechanical testing and NDT, metrology, electrical testing, chemical testing, biological testing and a miscellaneous committee which later became known as the Physical Registration Advisory Committee; a structure that still forms a large basis of what we have today.

Pictures:

Top Left: Mr John Gilmour

Right: Early meeting record discussing the naming of TeLaRC.

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