New Zealand and Australia

- Different sized economies
- Different structures
- Common regulatory environment in many sectors
- Broad recognition of accreditation
FIRST MRA

• NATA and IANZ signed a formal Mutual Recognition Arrangement in 1981
• Pre-dates CER
• The core of this Arrangement is the basis of today’s APLAC and ILAC Arrangements
True Recognition

• Interaction at Board Level
• Interaction at technical level
  • Programme Managers; technical committees
• Common use of Technical Experts
Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment

- **Good Consumer Law**
- Light, risk based, utilising standards and CAP

- **Harmonisation of Regulation**
  - Electrical; Electronic regulations similar or identical

- **Equivalence of Standards**
  - Electrical products (IEC Standards) and EMC (CISPR Standards); Joint AS/NZS standards

- **Harmonisation of Conformity Assessment**

- **NATA/IANZ/JAS-ANZ**
Supporting Good Regulatory Practice

• Regulations are transparent
• Products sold in one jurisdiction can automatically be sold in the other jurisdiction
• Includes regulated products
  • dairy; meat; shellfish
• And alternatives to regulation
  • wool; steel; aluminium
WTO Requirements

• Both Australia and New Zealand meet WTO requirements
• Regulations are transparent
• Regulations are scientifically or technically justifiable
• Regulations are non-discriminatory
Regulatory dialogue critical

- Economies are different
- Product low risk in one economy and high risk in another economy
- Presence of pests and diseases; level of sophistication of manufacturing; capability level of the technical infrastructure
Most cost effective

- Technical regulations based on conformity assessment are the more cost effective
- Avoid duplication
- Reduced direct regulator involvement (saving taxpayer dollars)
What do Regulators Want

• Rigorous, robust process
• Confidence in the outcome
• Minimum risk of failure of product or service
• No risk to public health or safety
• Minimise liability to regulator
How we ensure competence

- Accreditation Standard (17011)
- Laboratory Standard (17025)
- Inspection Body Standard (17020)
- Certification Bodies
  (management systems; personnel and product)
A/NZ Situation

- Many regulators require accredited CABs (laboratories, inspection bodies or certification bodies)
- A/NZ regulators use accredited conformity assessment more than any other economies. (Also EU)
- Gives them confidence in the process
- Ensures contestable delivery
Competent Laboratories

- Asbestos testing
- Drinking water testing
- Dairy testing
- Food testing
- Medical testing
- Fuel testing
- High risk electrical and electronic products
Competent Inspection Bodies

- Cranes; boilers; machinery
- NDT/Welding
- Food Safety (HACCP) programmes
- Building consenting and inspection
Accreditation can help

• Confidence in test and inspection reports
• Reduction of risk for regulators and consumers
• Reduced liability for regulators
• Not just for trade
• Significant quality improvement for all clients
Regulatory Approval

- In most cases, regulators still approve
- Accreditation is used as cost effective technical assurance
- Everyone has confidence in the regulations; confidence in the process; and confidence in the outcome