



IRELANDS FIRST ACCREDITATION STRATEGY

INAB published Ireland's first ever Strategy for Accreditation on 9th May 2022. The Strategy sets out a vision and an ambitious roadmap for accreditation in Ireland from 2022 to 2026.

Accreditation is now mandatory for many Irish businesses because of changes in EU regulations and Brexit.

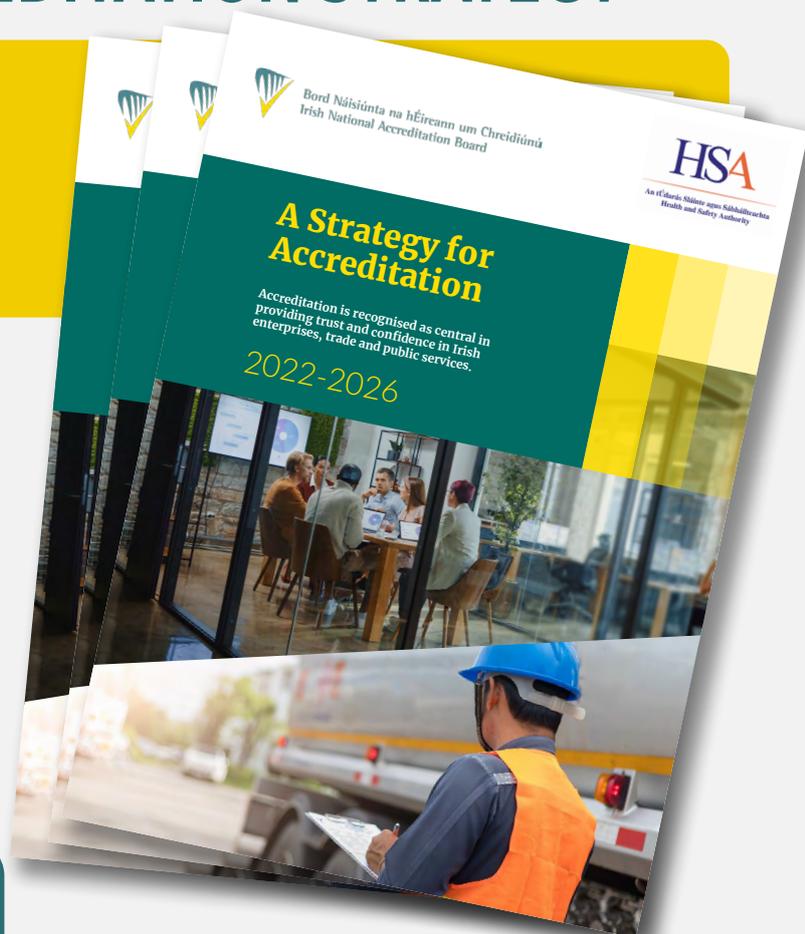
INAB has seen a significant increase in the number of organisations in Ireland seeking accreditation during the past five years, rising from 203 organisations in 2016 to over 235 organisations in 2021.

As part of this Strategy, INAB will grow the number of accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies in Ireland to meet demand and support Irish industry.

Further information is available on our website www.inab.ie

The Strategy for Accreditation will be delivered through specific and detailed actions across four key pillars:

- 1 Grow uptake and application of accreditation
- 2 Raise awareness of accreditation amongst businesses and consumers
- 3 Inform and influence national policy
- 4 Provide capacity and infrastructure for INAB to continue to deliver high quality accreditation services



“The development of the first ever Strategy for Accreditation is an important and welcome milestone. The key benefits of accreditation are felt by the government, the consumer, and industry”.

Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD

INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR ACCREDITED COVID TESTING

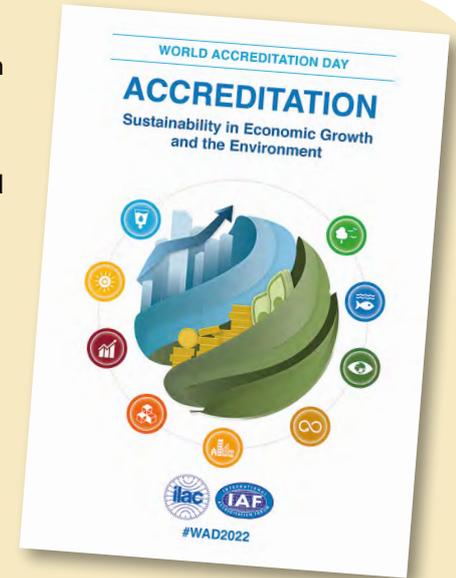
INAB has experienced significant increase in the demand by laboratories to be accredited for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) testing. By December 2021 – INAB had accredited 12 laboratories for this testing and by May 2021 – Ireland now has 21 INAB accredited covid testing laboratories.

Laboratories accredited for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) testing are highlighted and identified with an * in our [Medical Testing Laboratories Directory](#).

WORLD ACCREDITATION DAY (WAD) 2022

On 9th June, the global accreditation community will celebrate World Accreditation Day. This year's theme is Accreditation: Sustainability in economic growth and the environment.

With increasing challenges due to climate change, environmental degradation and biodiversity loss, societies have become increasingly aware of the importance of viewing economic growth through the lens of sustainability. Accreditation is a valuable tool to help regulators, companies, and consumers require or engage in more environmentally friendly practices. The fight against climate change and the transition to a circular economy, which emphasizes quality, reuse, recycling, remanufacturing and waste management to conserve resources and limit waste, are the main themes for WAD 2022.



How do Irish accredited bodies contribute to supporting sustainability in economic growth and the environment?

- Our local county councils e.g Dublin, Cork and Kerry, are accredited to undertake environmental tests to ensure the quality of our waters and report regulatory requirements to the EPA.
- Dairygold Feed Laboratory conduct accredited soil testing. The accredited soil results form part of a Nutrient Management Plan, whereby organic and chemical fertilisers can be targeted and applied only to soils that need it. This in turn will prevent nutrient loss to the environment, both through the prevention of over application and the eventual reduced usage of fertilisers once optimum soil levels are reached. This aids in helping to conserve energy and therefore cuts down on the contribution to the carbon footprint. Through thousands of accredited soil tests and the subsequent nutrient management based on these results, they are helping to support and improve the sustainability performance of their customer's farms and ultimately helping to make the environment safer.
- Bord Bia have been accredited by INAB to ISO 17065:2012 for product certification for their beef, lamb, poultry and egg sustainability schemes. These schemes are built on best practice in farming and processing, current legislation, relevant industry guidelines and international standards.
- Applus who are responsible for the management of national car testing centres are accredited by INAB to ISO 17020:2012. The accredited inspections enhance environmental protection by reducing harmful vehicles emissions in Ireland.

The WAD promotional brochure and videos are available on our website and social media channels.



LATEST VERSION OF INAB CLIENTS – SETTING THE STANDARD

INAB are pleased to launch the latest version showcasing our accredited clients.

This edition has been extended to include three new case studies The Irish Equine Centre; Limerick City and County Council; Forensic Science Ireland and an updated profile for Mason Technology to include their extended scope.

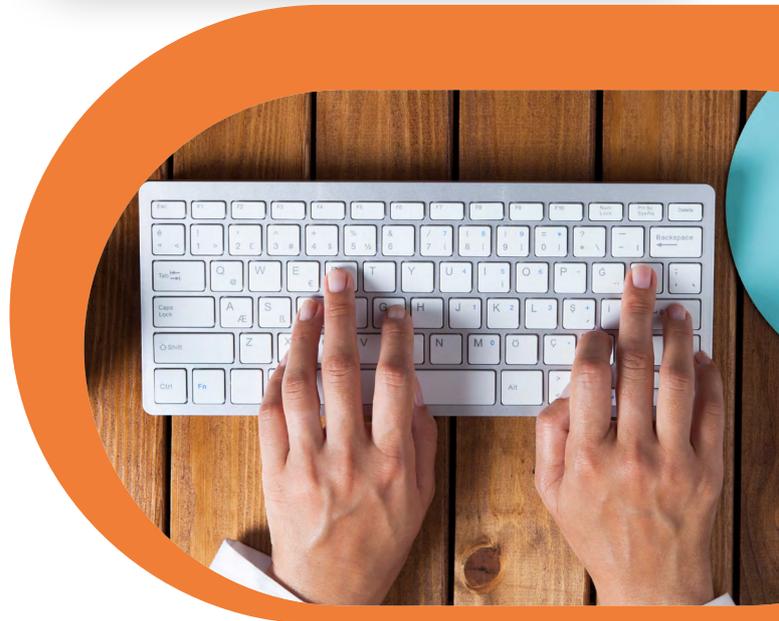
If you would like to be considered for the next update please email inab@inab.ie.



INAB SOCIAL MEDIA

In April 2022, INAB launched our dedicated LinkedIn page.

INAB as part of Health and Safety Authority (HSA), communicate and promote INAB using the [HSA](#) social media platforms including Facebook and Twitter. We use these platforms to announce new accreditations, publications, accreditation news, career opportunities etc. Feel free to share, like and retweet our posts.

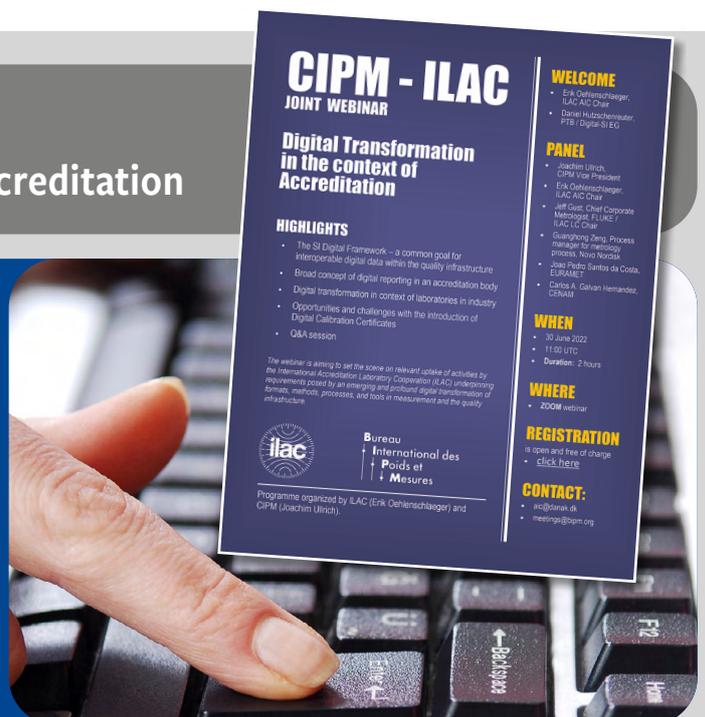


FREE WEBINAR IN JUNE Digital Transformation in the context of Accreditation

On 30th June, CIPM and ILAC are hosting a free webinar: Digital Transformation in the context of Accreditation.

The webinar is aimed at accreditation body and laboratory staff and will address topics including: the SI digital framework, digital reporting in an accreditation body, opportunities and challenges with the introduction of digital calibration certificates and a Q&A session.

Further details on the webinar and registration [here](#).



SCHEDULING EVENTS 2023

For 2023 visits, INAB will continue to plan our client site assessments up to 6 months in advance of its scheduled date.

Meet the Scheduling Team

INAB Scheduling Unit

Clare Parker



Sean Kinsella



Darragh Conroy



Scheduling Process – Key Steps

- The assessment manager reviews their portfolio of CABs and informs the scheduling unit of the required expertise and month for the assessment
- The scheduling unit contacts the assessment team and based on their availability identifies a common date in and around the proposed assessment;
- Once agreed with the assessment team, the details on the date and team is entered in the CRM by the scheduling unit
- The CAB will be notified of the team and assessment date via the CRM notification
- The CAB can now accept the assessment date and team in the CAB portal

The INAB annual schedule of assessments is implemented over 12 months and the assessment date is based on the initial date of accreditation + 6 months; this is what we endeavour to follow as closely as possible in accordance with our procedures.

Extension to scope applications must be made 6 months in advance and the completed PS 10 documentation submitted 6-8 weeks in advance of the assessment date.

INAB Accreditations Awarded In 2022

Currently INAB has 3 new accreditations awarded in 2022.

Click [here](#) for further information.

To see the full directory of accredited bodies click [here](#).

The GAS Analysis Services team who were recently presented with their INAB certificate following award of accreditation in 2021. GAS Analysis offers gas analysis testing for a wide variety of customers.

[Link](#) for further details on **contact details and accredited scope**.



Expressions of Interest: INAB Technical Experts/ Technical Assessors

The Irish National Accreditation Board welcomes expressions of interest from experts seeking to provide contracted professional technical services to INAB in support of its accreditation programmes. Expertise demand will vary from time to time.

INAB has an immediate need for and welcomes contact from potential assessors or technical experts in the following sectors:

Calibration laboratory accreditation

Experts in calibration in the following fields:

- Electrical
- Time
- Frequency
- Temperature

Test laboratories

Experts in:

- Construction materials testing
- Microbiology (food and water)
- Chemical testing (drugs/drug residue analysis including veterinary drugs, food (including GMOs))
- Mechanical testing of materials
- Entomology/Nematology

Medical test laboratories

Medically qualified experts in:

- Microbiology/virology/serology
- Blood transfusion science
- Haematology

Certification/inspection bodies

Experts in:

- Sustainable farming
- Aquaculture (Bivalves)
- GDPR
- ATEX related activities

IT

- Experts in information security, ideally with experience of laboratory accreditation/LIMS

Notified bodies

Experts dealing with:

- A range of construction materials under the Construction Products Regulation
- ATEX directive

The full range and scope of INAB activities is documented on the website www.inab.ie

Candidates should have a third level qualification and more than 5 years' experience working in the applicable sector. Formal assessor training and previous experience working with an accreditation body would be a distinct advantage, but there may be vacancies for technical experts who may not have training in the relevant accreditation standard. If interested in becoming an assessor please consult the assessor section on our website [here](#).

A formal qualification procedure is in place and all applicants will be evaluated against documented criteria and current demand.



INAB Points of Contact



Bord Náisiúnta na hÉireann um Chreidiúnú
Irish National Accreditation Board

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Assessment Manager vacancy

Good Laboratory Practice

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EMAS

Ciaran Barkerciaran.barker@inab.ie

See here for further information on [Staff Roles](#).

New Administration Staff

INAB are delighted to welcome 3 new staff to the administration unit.



Darragh and Sean are part of the scheduling team. They will also support administrative activities to deliver the accreditation process.



Norah will support INAB in training and development.



INAB is Recruiting

INAB is currently recruiting for the position of **Programme Manager** for the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB). Reporting to the CEO, the person will be responsible for the delivery of accreditation activity nationally and the implementation of strategic priorities and goals. Closing date 10th June.

Farewell

Vanessa Dowling

January 2022

INAB would like to wish Vanessa all the best. Vanessa worked with INAB in the administration unit for 2 years and will be greatly missed by all her colleagues and friends. We wish her the best in her new position.

James Stapleton

April 2022

INAB would like to wish James all the best as he moves on to pastures new. James joined INAB as a Senior Assessment Manager in 2005, and extended his role to Scheme Manager for Certification from 2019. James will be greatly missed by us all here in INAB.

Louise Farrell

April 2022

Louise joined INAB in September 2021 in the new role of Strategy and Operations Manager. INAB would like to wish her all the best in her new position, she will be missed by all.



Bord Náisiúnta na hÉireann um Chreidiúnú
Irish National Accreditation Board

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The INAB newsletter is only available electronically, click [here](#) to subscribe. If you would like to unsubscribe, at any time, please email inab@inab.ie.



An tÚdarás Sláinte agus Sábháilteachta
Health and Safety Authority

INAB is part of the HSA