

ACCREDITATION... provides confidence in conformity assessment

Accreditation provides confidence in conformity assessment

Tony Craven CEO, JAS-ANZ

Overview of presentation

- Conformity assessment activities
- The role of accreditation in providing confidence in conformity assessment
- Regulatory and industry programmes
- Underpinning international infrastructure



Underpinning trade

- JAS-ANZ accredited conformity assessment underpins international trade through providing confidence in the integrity of the conformity assessment activities
 - Through assessment of conformity assessment bodies (CABs) against international norms

Conformity assessment activities

- JAS-ANZ works closely with regulators and industry to assist in the establishment of conformity assessment schemes to facilitate trade
 - Regulators such as AQIS and NZFSA
 - Industry organisations such as SSA, AFS Limited



JAS-ANZ Programmes

- JAS-ANZ programs now include 18 regulatory and 14 industry programmes
 - In addition to the 15 programmes we have based on certification and inspection to national and international standards
- The largest growth in programmes is coming from industry

Regulatory programmes

- JAS-ANZ has developed programmes for regulators such as the Aust Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) and the New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA) to underpin the issuance of export certification
 - Accreditation is seen as a means of ensuring that the CABs are competent to undertake assessment
 - Costs are reduced as the agencies do not need to undertake assessment activities

Regulatory Programmes (cont)

- Accredited Certification programmes have also been developed to facilitate Government funding of service providers
 - General Practice Accreditation, Disability
 Employment Services



Industry programmes

- Industry utilises accredited certification to ensure that suppliers are meeting basic customer standards and regulatory requirements
 - Also to provide evidence of due diligence, and
 - Reduce costs in maintaining expensive supplier monitoring activities

Industry programmes (cont)

- Examples of industry programmes
 - British Retail Consortium (BRC)
 - EUREPGAP
 - QS-9000
 - In Australia and New Zealand
 - Seafood Services Australia
 - Civil Contractors Federation
 - Australian Forestry Standard





International infrastructure

- International Accreditation Forum
 - Multilateral recognition arrangements (MLAs) based on peer review against ISO 17011
- Regional accreditation cooperations





EUREPGAP benchmarking

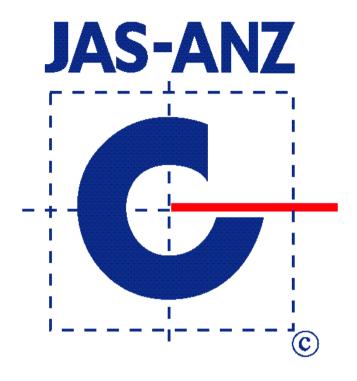
- Uses the international infrastructure to facilitate recognition of schemes that provide an equivalent outcome to the EUREPGAP schemes
 - To reduce the need for farmers to meet the requirements of multiple standards, thereby reducing audit impost for food producers

Benchmarking process

- Requires the comparison of an applicant scheme standard and scheme rules against those of the appropriate EUREPGAP scheme
 - Both a paper exercise and a physical benchmarking to ensure equivalent outcome

Summary

- There is an increasing awareness in the benefits of utilising accredited conformity assessment as a basis for trade
 - Meeting customer and regulatory requirements
 - Including the confidence provided by accreditation
- JAS-ANZ continues to work with regulators and industry in developing conformity assessment schemes to meet specific needs



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