



WEIGHING IN

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



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As the end of the financial year draws close, Members I have spoken with

suggest they have built up resilience with the challenges over these last years. This resilience will be further tested going forward in these uncertain economic times. Most are suggesting the market is still strong and let's hope this trend continues for the weighing industry in general.

- After the MLR (Measurement Law Review) stalled with the transition in Government at the last Election; NMI have recently announced an allocation within the new Federal Budget...see more below.
- Some Members have recently returned from the ICW (International Conference of Weighing – Hamburg, Germany) and all indications are it was a resounding success... see more below.
- We have begun to explore the mechanisms around provision of Metrology Modules within a TAFE environment; it is early days yet, however the aim would be to provide a Module that Apprentices could undertake for their 'Points'... more on this as we progress.
- A revision to OIML R76 Annex is being conducted by a Working Group within OIML currently in Draft form. The WIAA are encouraged by indications there may be 'Recommended verification and calibration intervals' proposed in the Annex for the first time. If adopted these recommendations may assist in the recognition of periods of verification; the pendulum has swung too far with open periods and is being realised by many across the globe, an international recommendation could assist here.
- We are looking to have this year's AGM in QLD in late October; final arrangements are being made and confirmation of date, location and event will be communicated once finalised.
- WIAA Memberships are due - if you haven't received notification of your renewal, please contact the Secretariat WIAA@theassociationsspecialists.com.au , myself or a Member of the Committee.

Darren Putland
President, WIAA

New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members:

[Australian Weighing Equipment \(AWE\)](#)



Australian Weighing Equipment (or AWE) has built a reputation as a leading supplier of robust Weighing Solutions, Packaging Machinery, Bulk Material Handling Equipment and Engineering Services.

For over 40 years, our team has provided world class products and services to customers from a wide range of industries for many unique applications.

Our products are available for purchase and/or hire, and are built to meet or exceed the specifications and requirements of your application. To support our products, our dedicated team of technicians are on call 24/7/365 to provide servicing, maintenance or repairs where necessary to ensure your machinery is performing to its maximum potential.

With three main locations in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne, plus a broad network of technicians and suppliers around the country, AWE is committed to providing products and services Australia-wide.

Measurement Law Review (MLR) Budget Update

Bill Loizides (General Manager - Legal Metrology – NMI) advised of their allowance in the recent Federal Budget, an overview is available here: <https://www.industry.gov.au/news/importance-measurement-recognised-2023-24-budget>

He will further outline the application of this funding in an upcoming CILC (Consumer Industry Liaison Committee) Meeting later this month; the outcome of which will be advised. Initially NMI are suggesting: “\$12.7 million over 4 years will update Australia’s measurement legislation to be more principles-based and more flexible so new technologies can go to market faster”. We will keep you posted as more information becomes available after the Bill’s advise to CILC.

ICW Conference Update

This year saw the WIAA’s involvement in the inaugural ICW held in Hamburg Germany on the 24th – 26th April. The event was a resounding success and ran at a profit of approximately 35,000 euro. These Funds are rolled into the next ICW event scheduled for 2026 to be held in Japan hosted by JMIF (Japan Measuring Instruments Federation). The exact location and date has yet to be finalised by JMIF and the Steering Committee.

The WIAA are actively involved as members on the Steering Committee and in sponsoring the event. Phil Moraitis (NWI Group) also moderated a Plenary Session at this event and did us proud.

<https://www.weighingconference.com/review/impressions-2023/index.html>



The attending WIAA Members included (left to right): Leanne and Darren Pearson (Rinstrum), Brian Johnston and Kevin Johnson (AND Australasia), Darren Putland (Wiseweigh), Kate & Phillip Moraitis (NWI Group) with Nick Parsons (President of CECIP). The entire three days provided relevant and inspiring series of sessions with 220+ attendees from 22 Countries across 6 Continents covering topics of Legal, Scientific and Applied Metrology. All expenses were entirely covered by the attendees with no encumbrance on WIAA coffers.

NMI Compliance Plan

The 2022-23 NMI National Compliance Plan continues; the areas relating to 'Licensee compliance and support programs' are advised by NMI as follows:

During 2022–23 we will continue to undertake a range of activities to help ensure the integrity of the licensing system, including:

- quality management audits of servicing licensees and public weighbridge licensees, including through the weighbridge testing program
- providing verifier training services and skills competency assessments
- audits of recently verified measuring instruments to ensure that verification is being undertaken correctly

We will also monitor servicing licensee compliance through a number of metrics, including:

- appropriate and timely reporting of measuring instrument verifications
- auditing of test reports submitted for complex instrument verifications
- licensees being authorised to verify relevant instrument subclasses
- verifications being performed by verifiers holding appropriate competency for specific instrument type

As advised in the last Newsletter the NMI Compliance program continues through 22-23. See link: <https://www.industry.gov.au/publications/national-measurement-institute-national-compliance-plan>

Apprentice of the Year 2023 - Call for Nominations

The WIAA would like to invite members to nominate an apprentice/trainee for the 2023 Apprentice of the Year award.

If your company has an apprentice/trainee you would like to nominate, please let us know with a description of your reasons with their nomination.

In the nomination entry, the manager should outline:

- The apprenticeship undertaken
- What tasks the nominee has accomplished as an apprentice
- How they have impacted their employers business
- Why they should be nominated for the title.

Prize is a WIAA Apprentice of the Year award and \$500 towards tools to assist with their personal growth in the role. The winner will be announced at the upcoming AGM in October.

Please email your nominations or any questions to the [WIAA Secretariat Office](#)

Nominations close Friday, 29 September 2023.

WIAA Constitution Review

A draft for the reviewed WIAA Constitution has been finalised by the Working Group and will be submitted to the Constitution Sub-Committee in the coming month. All being well, it will then be submitted to the Board for final approvals.
