



**PAC Mission:** *To represent the interests of Asia-Pacific economies nationally, regionally and internationally in the area of certification body accreditation and related activities, in support of APEC, IAF and WTO/TBT aims and objectives.*

## **PAC COMMUNIQUE - JULY 2007**

**PAC 14<sup>th</sup> Plenary a Great Success:** The 14<sup>th</sup> Plenary meetings of PAC were held in Singapore from 09 – 13 July 2007. 76 representatives from PAC Members, certification bodies, industry, fellow Specialist Regional Bodies and other interested parties attended the meetings. Thank you to Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC) for hosting the meetings, and for their hospitality.

**PAC Membership:** Following the transfer of JIPDEC (Japan) from Associate to Full membership during the meetings, the number of PAC Members is currently 23, with 18 Full Members and 5 Associate Members (a complete list is on page 3).

**PAC Executive Committee:** Mr Roberto Lorenzoni of the Asian Accredited Certification Bodies Federation (AACBF) was elected to the PAC Executive Committee to represent the Certification Bodies / Industry Associations category of Associate Members. Mr Tony Craven (JAS-ANZ) representing Full Members and Mr B Venkataraman (NABCB) representing Associate AB Members were also re-elected. They join the following continuing members: PAC Chair - Ms Elva Nilsen (SCC), Vice Chair - Mr Shinichi Iguchi (JAB), Mr Ridzwan Kasim (STANDARDS MALAYSIA), Mr Xiao Jianhua (CNAS) and Secretary Ms Belinda Mort.

**PAC MLA Activities:** Several PAC members officially joined the PAC MLAs during the meetings in Singapore.

- **Product:** SAC (Singapore) officially signed the PAC Product MLA during the PAC meetings in Singapore, along with ANSI (USA), TAF (Chinese Taipei) and KAS (Korea) officially signed the MLA during the PAC meetings in Singapore. They join JAS-ANZ (Australia and New Zealand), SCC (Canada) and ema (Mexico), to bring the total number of signatories of the Product MLA to seven.
- **Environmental Management Systems (EMS):** NABCB (India) and PAO (Philippines) joined JAS-ANZ (Australia and New Zealand), SCC (Canada), CNAS (PR China), KAN (Indonesia), JAB (Japan), KAB (Korea), STANDARDS MALAYSIA (Malaysia), ema (Mexico), NAC (Thailand) and TAF (Chinese Taipei) as signatories, during the Singapore meetings. This brings to the number of signatories to 12.
- **Quality Management Systems (QMS):** Following the signature of BoA/STAMEQ (Vietnam) in Singapore, there are now 15 signatories: JAS-ANZ (Australia & New Zealand), SCC (Canada), CNAS (PR China), HKAS (Hong Kong, China), NABCB (India), KAN (Indonesia), JAB (Japan), KAB (Korea), STANDARDS

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MALAYSIA (Malaysia), ema (Mexico), PAO (Philippines), SAC (Singapore), NAC (Thailand) and TAF (Chinese Taipei).

**Legal Status of PAC:** At the Plenary on 13 July, PAC members unanimously endorsed the recommendation of the PAC Executive Committee, to proceed with incorporation of PAC as a legal entity. After consideration of all options, members agreed that PAC should incorporate in New Zealand. It is expected that the process should be finalised before the 2008 Annual Meetings.

**PAC Technical Committee:** The PAC Technical Committee held a day long meeting during the Annual Meetings, to review progress made with PAC initiatives as well as IAF and CASCO projects. Actions arising from this meeting included the decision to provide active input into the IAF activities related to the Cross Frontier initiative, the Scoping of MLA discussions, and other MLA improvement initiatives. In addition, PAC members are interested in discussing with IAF the incorporation of Green House Gas verification bodies into a recognized MLA process.

**PAC Training Activities:** PAC has held four training courses to date this year. STANDARDS MALAYSIA hosted a training course on ISO TS 22003, *Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of food safety management systems*, in Malaysia during February, with JAS-ANZ providing Ms Kylie Sheehan as trainer. The course was open to both Accreditation Body (AB) and Certification Body (CB) staff and was well received by participants.

A course on ISO/IEC 27006 (ISMS), *Information technology -- Security techniques -- Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of information security management systems*, was held in Japan in early June, jointly hosted by PAC Members JAB and JIPDEC, and with a trainer provided by JIPDEC. This course was also open to both AB and CB members, and received positive feedback from participants.

Over 50 people attended a course on ISO/IEC 17021, *Conformity assessment -- Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems* that was held during the Annual Meetings in Singapore, with Mr Tetsuro Kawaberi of JAB as the trainer.

A training course for PAC Peer Evaluators was also held during the Annual Meetings. The course, developed by PAC senior peer evaluators from SCC, SAC and NAC, was designed to both train and assess the competence of potential peer evaluators. The quality and knowledge of PAC assessors underpins the peer evaluation processes and training of suitable peer evaluators is an integral part of the process.

A training course on ISO/IEC Guide 65, *General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems*, and associated IAF documents will be held in Bali on 29-30 August, with Mr Phua Kim Chua of SAC as trainer. Further details can be obtained from the PAC Secretary.

PAC is currently finalising its training program for 2008, with a minimum of two training courses being planned. Further information on course offerings will be posted on the PAC website, as it becomes available.

**Cooperation amongst APEC Specialist Regional Bodies:** Following the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between PAC and APLAC in November 2006, PAC is continuing to work together with APLAC to further our common objectives.

PAC members noted that the Specialist Regional Bodies' Strategic Plan for Technical Infrastructure Development in Support of Trade Facilitation for and in APEC Economies is now approved, and that the PAC Strategic Plan is currently being reviewed to ensure that the objectives of the SRB plan are incorporated.

Several PAC members attended the second APEC SCSC meetings held in Cairns during June. The Chair of the PAC Communications and Marketing Committee, Mr. Tony Craven, was involved in preparation of the Specialist Regional Bodies workshop "Case Studies of Technical Infrastructure Support for Trade Facilitation" held on 23 June.

**Other Cooperative Initiatives:** The Secretariats of PAC and the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) have been working together to develop a MoU. It is anticipated that it will be signed during the IAAC annual meetings in Canada 12-19 August, 2007.

PAC is also looking at closer cooperation with the South African Development Cooperation in Accreditation (SADCA).

**Further information** on PAC and PAC activities is available on our Website – [www.apec-pac.org](http://www.apec-pac.org) or by contacting the PAC Secretary, Ms Belinda Mort at Ph +612 6559 1370, Fax +612 6559 1374 or email - [belindamm@tsn.cc](mailto:belindamm@tsn.cc).

### Full Members of PAC:

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| JAS-ANZ (Australia & New Zealand) | SCC (Canada)            |
| CNAS (PR China)                   | HKAS (Hong Kong, China) |
| KAN (Indonesia)                   | JAB (Japan)             |
| JASC (Japan)                      | JIPDEC (Japan)          |
| KAB (Korea)                       | KAS (Korea)             |
| STANDARDS MALAYSIA (Malaysia)     | ema (Mexico)            |
| PAO (Philippines)                 | SAC (Singapore)         |
| TAF (Chinese Taipei)              | NAC (Thailand)          |
| ANSI (USA)                        | STAMEQ (Vietnam)        |

### Associate Members of PAC:

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| AACBF (Asian Accredited Certification Bodies Federation) | IIOC (The Independent International Organisation for Certification) |
| NABCB (India)  | IAS (Iran)  |
| PNAC (Pakistan)  |   |