

Second International Workshop on Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) for Conformity Assessment of EMC and Telecommunications Regulations

May 5-7, 2009

Belinda Collins, Ph.D.

Director, Technology Services, NIST

MRA Workshop Introduction





Second International Workshop on Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) for Conformity Assessment of EMC and Telecommunications Regulations

- **Co-Hosted by NIST and the FCC**

- **Over 145 participants**

Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Germany, Italy, Israel, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Switzerland, and the United States

- **Stakeholders**

Regulatory Authorities, Designating Authorities, Other Government Entities, Test Labs, Certification Bodies, Accreditation Bodies, Regional Accreditation Organizations, Manufacturers, Trade Associations, Industry Consultants, and other interested parties



USG MRAs at Various Stages of Implementation

US-EU and EEA EFTA Mutual Recognition Agreements

- Bi-lateral, multi-sector

Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement

- Multi-lateral, single sector

Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) Mutual Recognition Agreement

- Multi-lateral, single sector

US-Japan Telecom Mutual Recognition Agreement

- Bi-lateral, single sector

Status of U.S. Agreements

<i>OPERATIONAL:</i>	<i>PENDING PROGRESS</i>
<p>EU and EEA EFTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 27 EU Member States plus Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein 	<p>APEC Phase I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ China
<p>APEC Phase I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Canada, Singapore, Australia, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Korea, Vietnam 	<p>APEC Phase II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Korea
<p>APEC Phase II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Canada, Singapore, Hong Kong 	<p>Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ MRA for Certification
<p>Japan (A2LA, NVLAP, VCCI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Exchange of Letters for Acceptance of Test Reports 	<p>CITEL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Brazil, Mexico

Goals of the MRAs

- Facilitate trade by promoting acceptance of the results of each party's conformity assessment procedures
- Reduce the time it takes a product to be placed on the market
- Reduce the costs associated with placing a product on the market
- Increase transparency of technical regulations, laws, policies, and procedures

NIST Role as a Designating Authority

- NIST receives and processes applications from U.S. CABs seeking recognition from other countries and economies under the MRAs
- NIST's role is to:
 - Verify Competence
 - Nominate and Designate
 - List
 - Monitor Performance
 - Suspend
 - Withdraw
 - Reinstate

U.S.-Designated CABs

Europe	APEC TEL Phase I	APEC TEL Phase II
EMC Sector 39	Australia 18	Canada 14
	Canada 31	
	Chinese Taipei 90 (BSMI) 11 (NCC)	
Telecom Sector 26	Hong Kong 7	Singapore 5
	Korea 58	
	Singapore 30	

Numbers accurate as of April 2009. In some instances, numbers include multiple designated facilities per organization.

Recent U.S. CAB Survey Shows Positive Results

- Preliminary Survey Results –

 - In 2008, U.S. CABs under the APEC Tel MRA issued

 - 2,800 Test Reports

 - 1,725 Certifications

- Feedback from CABs on the benefits of the MRAs:

 - CABs noted that clients enjoy the convenience of working with labs that can provide a broader scope of services and access to multiple economies – a “one-stop” regulatory service to clients

 - CABs experience significant time and cost savings with elimination of in-country testing requirements and regulatory authority acceptance of U.S. CAB test reports

 - Clients prefer the convenience of using a local laboratory

Overview of Agenda – Tuesday, May 5

- Introduction to NIST
- Wireless Communications for Emergency Services
- Importance of International Cooperation
- The Future of Telecom Regulations in the US
- The Future of Conformity Assessment in a Globalized Economy
- Market Surveillance in Canada
- Update on Conformity Assessment in the EU
- EU CAB Experience under the EU-Japan MRA

Overview of Agenda – Wednesday, May 6

- Telecom MRAs: Contributions to Trade & the Global Economy
- Introduction to the APEC Tel MRA
- Country/Economy Specific Presentations:
 - Australia
 - China
 - Chinese-Taipei
 - Korea
 - Japan (2)
 - Singapore

Overview of Agenda – Thursday, May 7

- Update on International & Regional Accreditation Cooperations
- ISO/IEC Guide 65 Revisions
- CISPR Update
- ANSI's StandardsPortal and US-India Standards Cooperation
- Introduction to the CITELE MRA
- Country Specific Presentations:
 - Brazil
 - Canada
- FCC Presentations

WORKSHOP SPONSORS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

