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**Hong Kong Accreditation Service**

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**Rio de Janeiro**

***Hong Kong Experience in the development  
of the accreditation of PT Providers***



## Hong Kong Accreditation Service

**Operates under  
Innovation and Technology Commission**

# Accreditation Schemes

HKAS

Certification  
HKCAS  
Nov. 1998

14 Accredited  
Certification  
Bodies

Laboratory  
HOKLAS  
May 1985

159 Accredited  
Laboratories

Inspection  
HKIAS  
Dec. 1999

17 Accredited  
Inspection  
Bodies

# HKAS Secretariat

**Executive  
Administrator (1)**

**Senior  
Accreditation  
Officer (6)**

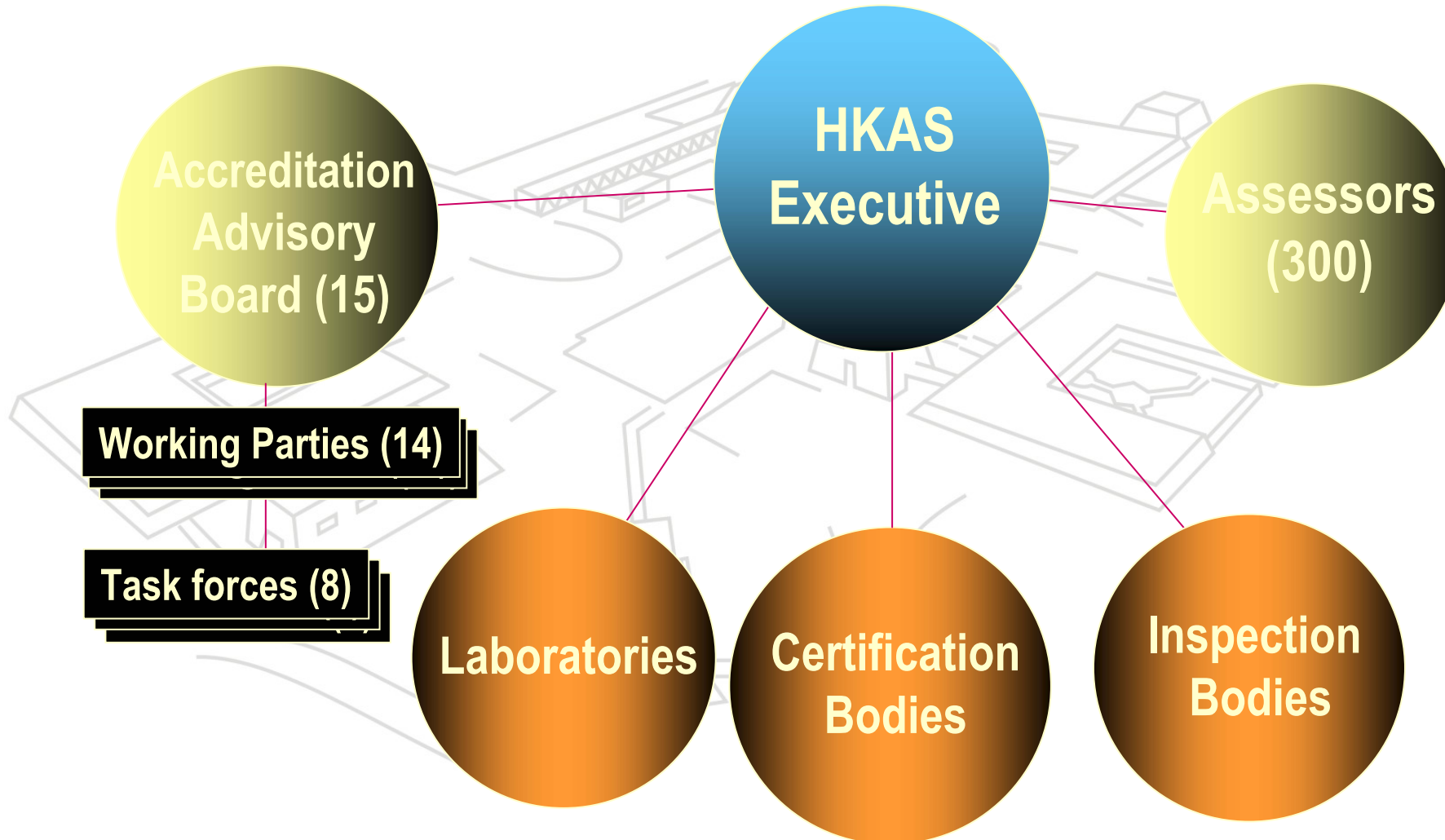
**Accreditation  
Officer (7)**

2 NCSC officers  
4 seconded officers

**Technical &  
Secretarial  
Support (10)**

Establishment : 23  
In place : 22

# HKAS Structure



# Proficiency Testing

- Main driving force
- Medical testing programme launched in 2004
- Main issue – PT programmes
- Problems also in other areas

# Proficiency Testing

- Medical PT programmes
- Local labs participate in overseas programmes
- Very expensive    
- Local professional bodies provide limited PT programmes
- Difficulties in some areas – e.g. pathogens

# Proficiency Testing

- Construction materials
- Large concrete slab for defects testing
- Site testing
- Very peculiar proficiency testing items, not normally available elsewhere, e.g. jade grading, diamond

# Proficiency Testing



# Proficiency Testing



Site testing

# Proficiency Testing



UV1



UV2



UV3



UV4

**Very expensive PT items!!!**

# Proficiency Testing

- Labs need to participate only when PT programme is available
- HKAS organises PT programmes to support lab accreditation
- Need leverage
- Labs expressed great difficulties in finding suitable PT programmes

# Proficiency Testing

- Problem – no mechanism to identify competent PTPs
  - *Affiliated with professional societies = acceptable?*
  - *Organised by universities = acceptable?*
  - *Coordinated by government bodies = acceptable?*
  - *Long established PT providers = acceptable?*
- What should be the acceptance criterion?

# Proficiency Testing

- Market survey
- June 2004
- Potential PTPs
  - *HKCPath, HKIMLS, DH, GL, HKTIC*
- Very limited interest - ~4

# Proficiency Testing

- Situation at that time
  - *Not-for-profit*
  - *Voluntary, part-time*
  - *Lack resources to comply with accreditation criteria*
  - *Conflict of interest if labs organise PT programmes*

# Proficiency Testing

- Situation at that time
  - *One PTP accredited by overseas AB*
  - *Very expensive – expect ~4-5 times more expensive than local*
  - *No PTP willing to seek overseas accreditation because of*



# Proficiency Testing

- *Labs expressed great interest in local PT programmes*
- *Some potential PTPs intend to use PT programmes to monitor their contract labs performance*
- *PTPs claimed they could export the service overseas*
- *A commercial PTP interested and performed a pilot programme on chemical testing in construction materials*

# Proficiency Testing

- *Decision made in 2006*



# Proficiency Testing

- *Working Party established in 2006*
- *Membership (8) – each major discipline including*
  - *Medical (2), chemical (1), physical (3), calibration (1), construction (2), statistics (1)*
  - *Labs(5), academia(4), government(2), PPTP(5)*

# Proficiency Testing

- Accreditation criteria
  - *Internationally accepted*
  - *Potential ILAC PT MRA*
  - *ILAC G13:2007 and ISO/IEC Guide 43-1:1997*
  - *ISO/IEC 17043 when published (now at CD stage)*

# Proficiency Testing

- *Rules and regulations*
- *Procedures*
- *Miscellaneous – accreditation fees; scope of accreditation; application forms, etc*
- *Technical assessors*

# Proficiency Testing

- *Identification*
- *Training*
- *Lab assessors already*
- *Assessment training not required*

# Proficiency Testing

## Training needs

- Who should be trained?
  - *HKAS Staff, Working Party members, Potential PTPs, potential technical assessors*

# Proficiency Testing

- What training is needed?
  - *Accreditation criteria*
  - *HKAS Assessment and Accreditation procedures*

# Proficiency Testing

- Who should present the training course?
  - *Experienced PTP assessors using same accreditation criteria*

# Proficiency Testing

- Date: *19&20 Sep 2006*
- Presenter: *Mr Daniel Tholen*
- Attended by: *Potential PTPs, Potential Assessors, HKAS Staff, WP members*
- 45 participants

# Proficiency Testing

- Title

*Organisation and operation of proficiency testing programmes in accordance with ISO/IEC Guide 43-1 and ILAC G13*

- Also covered

- *IUPAC The International Harmonised Protocol for the Proficiency Testing of Analytical Chemistry Laboratories*
- *ISO 13528:2005 Statistical methods for use in proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparisons*

# Proficiency Testing



# Proficiency Testing

- Date: *27-29 Feb 2008*
- Presenters: *Mr Daniel Tholen and Ms Jane Gun-Munro*
- Attended by: *Potential Assessors, HKAS Staff*
- 35 participants  
*(all have attended lab assessor training courses)*

# Proficiency Testing

- Title

*Proficiency testing provider accreditation assessor  
training course*

- Topics

- *ILAC G13*
- *Assessment case studies and class exercises*
- *EQA/PT Providers for medical labs*

# Proficiency Testing



# Proficiency Testing



謝謝

*Thank you for your attention*

*Have a nice day*