



DOIA19/20110336

Methamphetamine Testing Industry Association of New Zealand (MTIANZ)  
[fyi-request-11569-2cff2070@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-11569-2cff2070@requests.fyi.org.nz)

To whom it may concern

Thank you for your information request dated 31 October 2019, which was transferred to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (the Ministry) from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment to respond to. Under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), you requested the following information:

*All communications with International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) since 1st May 2018 relating to the development of Regulations to be set under section 138C of the Residential Tenancies Act 1986. This includes written letters, emails, and aide memoire's of telephone conversations and meeting minutes.*

The Ministry has identified three documents in scope of your request, which are listed in the table below. Some information is withheld under the Act.

		Documents released
Date	Title	Section of the Act applied
18/05/2018	RE: Meth testers and decontaminators	9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons.
12/12/2018	Minutes from Meeting with IANZ	9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.  9(2)(f)(iv) – maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.
22/07/2019	RE: Possible catch-up	9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the decision to withhold information under section 9 of the Act is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

I hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Ministry at [OIA\\_Requests@hud.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@hud.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely



Claire Leadbetter  
**Manager Tenures and Housing Quality**



**From:** Geoff Hallam  
**To:** [Katherine Slaney](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Meth testers and decontaminators [UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Friday, 18 May 2018 1:17:42 PM

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Hi Katherine,

Thank you for your enquiry.

It is important to be clear about terminology as terms like "methamphetamine tester" mean different things to different people.

In NZS8510 there are several different activities. These are:

- Screening - to determine if methamphetamine is present or not (non-quantitatively)
- Detailed assessments of levels and locations of methamphetamine in property (includes sampling)
- Decontamination (cleaning)
- Post decontamination sampling and assessment to determine the effectiveness of decontamination
- Analysis of samples taken during any of the previous four activities

There is no requirement for accreditation for screening tests though there are other requirements in NZS8510, some of which are currently unachievable.

To be an accredited sampler for detailed assessments as defined in NZS8510 sections 3.3 and 5 an organisation must be accredited to ISO 17020:2012.

To be accredited as an analytical testing laboratory an organisation must be accredited to ISO/IEC 17025, with a relevant scope of work.

To gain accreditation an organisation must have a documented and effectively implemented quality management system that complies with ISO/IEC 17020 or ISO/IEC 17025, as applicable. In addition the operational staff of the organisation must be able to demonstrate competence in performing sampling and detailed assessment work and/or analytical procedures as applicable.

Accreditation is available now for detailed assessments and analytical testing. Some organisations have already gained accreditation for NZS8510 related work, a number are going through the process and a larger number have expressed an interest in doing so.

There is currently no accreditation scheme for decontamination (cleaning). During the development of NZS8510 IANZ made an offer to develop an accreditation scheme explicitly for this if there was sufficient demand. To date there has been very little interest in accreditation for cleaning. However the offer is still there if sufficient interest is shown, preferably from a trade association or similar.

If you wish to understand the detail of accreditation processes it would be preferable to arrange a meeting. Such a meeting normally takes between one and two hours depending on the level of detail you require and how many questions you have.

Your email does not indicate which MBIE office you are based in. We are in Auckland but I travel to Wellington quite regularly if that would help.

If you need further clarification or greater detail please do not hesitate to ask by reply to this email.

Regards  
Geoff Hallam  
Technical Development and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
International Accreditation New Zealand  
DDI (09) 580 6723  
Mob s 9(2)(a)

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**From:** Katherine Slaney [mailto:Katherine.Slaney2@mbie.govt.nz]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 17 May 2018 4:17 p.m.  
**To:** Meth Accreditation <NZS8510.accreditation@ianz.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Meth testers and decontaminators [UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi there,

Can you please advise what processes there are (if any) for becoming an accredited methamphetamine tester or methamphetamine decontamination professional?

Regards  
Katherine

[www.govt.nz](http://www.govt.nz) - your guide to finding and using New Zealand government services

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## Minutes from Meeting with IANZ

12 December 2018, HUD

Present: Geoff Hallam (IANZ), Marc Daglish, and Seb Ellice  
Apologies: Erina Mayo (ESR)

### Why IANZ want to be involved in the process

- To avoid HUD developing regulations that IANZ is not in a position to comply with.
- IANZ areas of responsibility are governed by legislation (Standards and Accreditation Act 2015).

### Field testing kits

- Covered in NZS 8510 following input from the property industry wishing to offer DIY options.
- Kits are not currently considered suitable for *detailed* sampling.
- At the time of drafting the NZS, the general view was that many field kits had ~50% uncertainty and therefore were not sufficiently accurate for robust testing. HUD commented that their current understanding was that this was not true for all test kits, some of which had high levels of accuracy, and were amenable to validation.
- A validation process for field testing kits is provided in Appendix B of NZS 8510. If other contamination levels were required a modified version of Appendix B could be included in regulations.
- Note - ISO 9000 does not certify the kit itself – just the process/ system of the manufacturer.
- NZS 8510 says the kits are re-assessed every 12 months (which should be changed to “initially” every 12 months) - HUD notes this.
- There could be a requirement to test against other kits to ensure consistency?

### Certification

- The process/ methods/ factory (?) are certified – but not the product itself (reference to concrete lifejacket example) [ISO 9000 + ISO 17000 refer].

### Accreditation

- IANZ employs technical experts who focus on the outputs, not simply compliance with a process.
- Ensures independence and competence.
- Includes meth Testing and Inspection.
- Included in NZS 8510 in 17020 and 17025 because of the need to raise industry standards.
- Process ensures that any internal commercial conflicts of interest are identified.
- Accreditation applies to *detailed* sampling rather than initial screening, to ensure competence and to eliminate conflicts of interest.

- May have been a downturn of interest in becoming accredited recently due to external factors.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

#### Accreditation vs Qualifications

- Accreditation is of the entire organisation rather than a single operator as qualifications are.
- Accreditation is an ongoing process, qualifications are not.

s 9(2)(f)(iv)

#### Process in NZS8510

Screening → detailed sampling → result given to owner who then decides what to do → decontamination is completed (if owner decides) → inspection is completed again → results then assessed against relevant prescribed level

#### Cost of accreditation

- Is charged by the hour.
- The 'better' the operator is, the cheaper the process is (because there is less to change).


#### Accreditation process

1. Operator sends through information on their system
2. IANZ assesses this information against ISO 1720/ 1750
3. IANZ will either approve the system or say what they could do better
4. [If system is good] then there is an on-site assessment by technical experts (one person from IANZ and an expert)

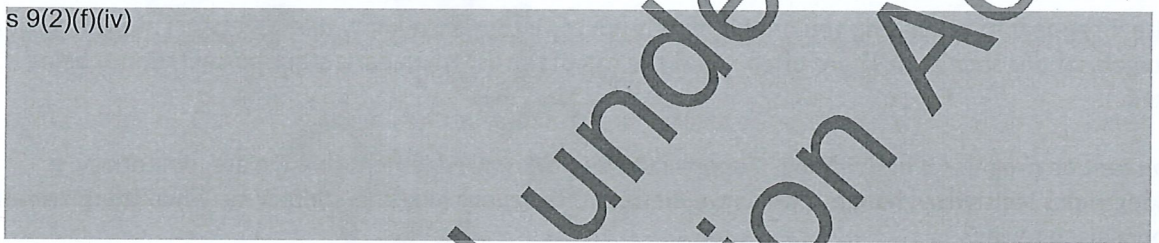


5. There is an audit of the system that they said they do
6. The experts watch them do their job then interview them after
7. The expert then signs off on it and IANZ signs off the system (if it is good enough)
8. Feedback is given, improvements suggested which need to be adopted before receiving accreditation.
9. Accreditation is then offered, and the operator signs a legally binding document
10. There is then annual ongoing assessment to ensure the operator is up to date with relevant changes in the industry.

s 9(2)(b)(ii)



s 9(2)(f)(iv)



Released under the  
Official Information Act 1982

Out of Scope

**From:** Geoff Hallam <[GHallam@ianz.govt.nz](mailto:GHallam@ianz.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 22 July 2019 10:57 AM  
**To:** Claire Leadbetter <[Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz](mailto:Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Possible catch-up

Hi Claire,

Thanks for your reply.

I apologise if I appear to be chasing you on this, that is not my intention. I know that regulators are very busy and outside organisations such as IANZ are often not at the top of the list when early stage consultation is being considered.

Your comment on progress is understood. I appreciate your acknowledgement that we are, potentially, a stakeholder in this legislative change. I will leave the situation in your hands to contact me when there are some draft proposals to review.

Kind regards  
Geoff Hallam  
Technical Development and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
International Accreditation New Zealand  
DDI (09) 580 6723

P.S. I hope your surgery is successful and that you make a speedy recovery.

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**From:** Claire Leadbetter [<mailto:Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz>]  
**Sent:** Friday, 19 July 2019 1:50 p.m.  
**To:** Geoff Hallam <[GHallam@ianz.govt.nz](mailto:GHallam@ianz.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Possible catch-up

Hi Geoff

I'm having some surgery earlier that week and I'm not entirely sure how quickly I will be back in the office. But if I am back on the 7<sup>th</sup> I have a meeting with Ministers that morning so can't do that date. I also don't have very substantive updates at this point on the work you are interested in. We will certainly be in touch when there is a tangible update that can be made. We know you are very keen to be kept in the loop.

Thank you for keeping in touch

Claire

CLAIRE LEADBETTER  
MANAGER, TENURES & HOUSING QUALITY

Housing and Urban Settings Group



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[www.hud.govt.nz](http://www.hud.govt.nz)



MINISTRY OF HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



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**From:** Geoff Hallam <[GHallam@ianz.govt.nz](mailto:GHallam@ianz.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 19 July 2019 1:04 PM  
**To:** Claire Leadbetter <[Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz](mailto:Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Possible catch-up

Hi Claire,

Let's have another try.

I will be in Wellington on 7<sup>th</sup> August. Is there any chance of a catch-up meeting in the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup>?

Regards

Geoff Hallam

Technical Development and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
International Accreditation New Zealand

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**From:** Claire Leadbetter [<mailto:Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz>]  
**Sent:** Friday, 12 July 2019 3:24 p.m.  
**To:** Geoff Hallam <[GHallam@ianz.govt.nz](mailto:GHallam@ianz.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Katherine Foy <[Katherine.Foy@hud.govt.nz](mailto:Katherine.Foy@hud.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Possible catch-up

Hi Geoff

Thanks for getting in touch. Afraid my time on Wednesday is already spoken for. Do get in touch the next time you are around and we will see if we can work something out.

Thanks

Claire

CLAIRE LEADBETTER  
MANAGER, TENURES & HOUSING QUALITY

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MINISTRY OF HOUSING  
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**From:** Geoff Hallam <[GHallam@ianz.govt.nz](mailto:GHallam@ianz.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Friday, 12 July 2019 2:30 PM  
**To:** Claire Leadbetter <[Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz](mailto:Claire.Leadbetter@hud.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Possible catch-up

Hi Claire,

It has been longer than I hoped since our last conversation but I expect to be in Wellington on Wednesday 17 July (next week).

Would you have any time available for a brief catch-up on the methamphetamine and accreditation issues.

Regards  
Geoff Hallam  
Technical Development and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
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