

TT 4 March 2003
Submission 2



RECEIVED
- 9 APR 2003

BY: *Gillian Gould*

ACN 004 379 748 ABN 59 004 379 748

Web: www.nata.asn.au

7 Leeds Street, Rhodes, NSW 2138 Australia

Telephone: +61 2 9736 8222 Fax: +61 2 9743 5311

7 April 2003

The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam

AUSTRALIA-SINGAPORE CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT MRA

I was pleased to learn from the notice in "The Australian" that JSCT is currently reviewing the MRA on conformity assessment with Singapore.

NATA has been involved in discussions regarding the value of such an MRA and has been asked by ITR to be one of Australia's designating authorities under the MRA.

One example of the benefits of the MRA relates to Australia's electrical products manufacturing industry. The MRA will ensure that testing of electrical products conducted in NATA accredited and designated laboratories is accepted by the Singapore authorities. Up until now these authorities have not been prepared to accept the test reports on the basis of their NATA accreditation.

In addition to providing easier access to the Singapore market for Australian goods in the sectors included in the MRA, the treaty will provide a valuable precedent for future conformity assessment related agreements Australia wishes to pursue.

NATA looks forward to the treaty processes being completed for this MRA and to commencing our role as a designating authority.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A J Russell', written over a horizontal line.

A J Russell
Chief Executive