

Annual Report and Accounts 2024

Innovating to shape a safer, better, and sustainable future





In their own words...

For offsite construction companies like Greenframe Offsite Building Systems, achieving Agrément certification through NSAI enables them to deliver large-scale housing developments.

"NSAI can see the vision we have... It's building on what you have, giving confidence to the team, giving confidence to your customers, and then pushing on from there, making it happen."

Gerry McCarthy, CEO, Greenframe Offsite Building Systems [NSAI client]



In their own words...

Securing BIM (Building Information Modelling) certification through NSAI was a logical choice for consulting engineers TJ O' Connor & Associates.

"It makes so much sense...
For us, it's a quality
management system.
It's about managing your
information properly. BIM
provides a single source of
information, with an audit
trail showing how each
piece of information was
checked and reviewed."

Siobhán Moneley, BIM Director, TJ O' Connor & Associates [NSAI client]

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What is a standard? A source of competitive advantage across all sectors

According to ISO (the International Organization for Standardization), standards are the "distilled wisdom of people with expertise in their subject matter".

(Source: Standards, ISO, iso.org/standards.html, 2023)

A standard is a technical document that serves as a guideline, definition or norm. Its central tenet is consensus about how to:

- make a product
- manage a process
- perform a service
- supply resources.

Across all sectors, standards enhance the quality, safety, efficiency and predictability of products, processes, and services.

Adopting standards:

- improves interoperability
- contributes to cost management
- fosters collaboration across industries.

When businesses adopt standards early, it helps them to de-risk decision-making and informs their research and development efforts. Furthermore, Irish and European enterprise policy recognises that standards offer competitive advantage to all small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Introduction Driving improvement and innovation for Ireland's future

Innovating to shape a safer, better, and sustainable future, the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) is Ireland's official standards body.

Economies and societies need an underlying level of trust to grow and prosper. In practice, this comes down to trust in even the smallest interactions in our everyday lives: trust that a litre of petrol or diesel is measured correctly at the local service station; trust that seatbelts in cars and vans will work correctly before they're put on the market; trust that our medicines have the exact doses of the correct ingredients.

To enable trust, NSAI has delivered standardisation, certification, and measurement services on behalf of the Irish state for nearly 30 years.

Reporting to the Minister for Small Businesses and Retail at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, we are a business improvement partner — helping Irish businesses to innovate and grow on a global stage.

Our clients include Irish SMEs and multinational businesses that operate across 30 countries. We help them to:

- innovate
- compete internationally
- comply with relevant standards, laws and regulations
- continuously improve.

Discover how we help propel organisations to success:

Ireland: <u>NSAI.ie</u> UK: <u>NSAI.uk</u>

Global: NSAlinc.com



Our mission, vision and values

The core pillars of NSAI's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 centre on supporting and enhancing services to all organisations, especially small firms, across four key areas of the economy, reflecting government priorities:

- the built environment
- digital transformation
- climate action
- medtech.

Our mission

NSAI uses our specialist knowledge and expertise, together with industry best practice, to connect, facilitate, and develop our global business community. At the same time, we develop innovative solutions – shaping a safer, better and sustainable future.

Our vision

To be recognised as the partner of choice across our global business landscape in providing world-class, technical, and expert services that facilitate transformative and sustainable business success.



Our core values

NSAI's renewed core values underpin and support the mission and vision, shape the culture, and reflect what NSAI truly respects and values. These are:

EXCELLENCE

We take great pride in and promote leading-edge competency and resilience in the pursuit of excellence in our work, embracing change and opportunities.

EXPERTISE

In maintaining our forward-looking competencies, we recognise the critical importance of ensuring the continued development and growth of our people.

RESPECT

We recognise that success can only be achieved by respecting the diversity of our staff, customers and partners. This is ensured by demonstrating an open and engaging approach in all our interactions and fostering an environment that is built on mutual trust.

INTEGRITY

We value integrity and manage impartiality. These are the cornerstones of our activities and are at the forefront of our dealings with all stakeholders.

COLLABORATION

We collaborate across our organisation, with our staff, as well as external partners in an engaging way, to create sustainable value for Ireland across a global landscape.

INNOVATION

We support the need for agility and innovation throughout our processes, systems and services, achieved through continually challenging the ways of today.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We hold ourselves and each other to account to consistently live our core values in the delivery of our mission, ensuring the highest level of credibility for all stakeholders.

You can download a copy of our Strategic Plan from nsai.ie.

2024 in numbers

STANDARDS AND DEVELOPMENT

286,209
STANDARDS VIEWED OR DOWNLOADED

1,467
STANDARDS
PUBLISHED

200
NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS
WELCOMED

LEGAL METROLOGY

6,212

PREMISES VISITED ACROSS IRELAND

22,292
TRADE INSTRUMENTS INSPECTED

THE SCIENCE OF MEASUREMENT THROUGH THE NATIONAL METROLOGY LABORATORY

5,489

CALIBRATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL METROLOGY LABORATORY TO 412 COMPANIES **550**

RESEARCH DAYS COMPLETED BY MEASUREMENT SCIENTISTS FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH PROGRAMMES 45
COMPANIES ATTENDED 21
NML TRAINING COURSES

21
LABORATORIES
SUPPORTED
THROUGHOUT IRELAND



CERTIFICATION THROUGH NSAI, NSAI INC, AND NSAI CERTIFICATION UK

3,201

AUDIT DAYS COMPLETED FOR MEDICAL DEVICE CERTIFICATIONS 10,757

AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS
APPROVED

1,132

CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS APPROVED

360
INSULATION INSTALLERS

REGISTERED

378

NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERTIFICATES ISSUED 48

NEW CLIENT COMPANIES SERVED THROUGH NSAI CERTIFICATION UK, INCLUDING UKCA MARKING

80
NEW MODERN
METHODS OF
CONSTRUCTION
(MMC) ENQUIRIES
RECEIVED

48

NEW MMC APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

A message from our Chairperson and CEO

In everything we do, NSAI seeks to support innovation, help Irish SMEs and share our extensive knowledge base.

Throughout 2024, we enacted programmes, launched initiatives and held events to realise the ambitious goals set out in our Strategic Plan 2022-2026, across our core pillars of housing, digital transformation, climate and medtech.

Our colleagues and Board, government representatives, committee members and other key stakeholders engaged in intensive planning and collaboration to do this work. We're proud of what they achieved in 2024, and profoundly grateful for their dedicated work and deep insights.

Vital work to enable Housing for All

To meet high housing demand, Ireland needs to increase the use of new, more efficient ways of construction. As the industry works to achieve much more rapid house building to meet government targets, home buyers can trust innovative construction material and products have been assessed and approved for use.

In 2025, in addition to Agrément certification, we will continue to certify new systems of modern methods of construction (MMC) – 2024 saw our MMC department's first full year of operation. We'll also grow our new building information modelling (BIM) department to drive digital transformation in construction.

Critical support of Standards

After the significant work by our Standards team and wide-ranging scientific research into the complex issue of defective concrete blocks in 2023 and 2024, NSAI opened a public consultation on a fully revised second edition of I.S.465 in March 2025. This remains a top priority for NSAI throughout 2025.

Supporting business growth through digital

As we see rapid advances in the European Union regulation of digital activities, whether that is AI, digital passports or in the broader digital data space, NSAI ensures we position Irish experts at the forefront of influencing the future EU landscape.

In February 2024, we co-hosted a European Joint Technical Committee meeting on AI, attended by standards experts from 25 countries. We also hosted parallel events inviting Irish businesses to hear the latest insights from these experts.

In 2025, we continue to lead on digital standards, especially as the main co-ordinator on the EU TrustBoost programme aimed at strengthening cybersecurity across the region. It will develop new strategies, tools and technologies to create a more secure digital ecosystem for Europe.



We'll help develop new technology to improve the standards development process and provide greater functionality for industry users. This includes the launch of a new certification readiness tool for SMEs around information security.

Moreover, we are investing further in internal digital transformation so we can best serve the needs of our clients and partners.

Leading on green standards

At NSAI, we aim to exemplify sustainability best practice. In November 2024, we achieved certification to ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management Systems, covering our buildings and fleet energy consumption.

In 2025, we'll roll out greenhouse gas verification for Irish businesses.

Medtech: evolving standards support

During 2024, we supported certification for medical device manufacturing to key standards such as the European Union Medical Devices Regulation and I.S. EN ISO 13485:2016.

This year, we're working on a significant restructuring of our medical devices division to support global growth for businesses.

Metrology: vital verification

Accurate timing is a critical infrastructure factor for the Irish state and for companies across multiple sectors, including aviation, energy, financial services and many others.

In a boost for Irish business resilience in 2024, the National Metrology Laboratory (NML) announced the launch of Europe's first verified GPS/GNSS Data Stream (VGDS) service, an extension to the National Timing Grid of Ireland. This means Irish time is independently verified for the first time, while being established with reference to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

In 2024, we also welcomed visitors to the NML to meet scientists and legal metrology inspectors to mark World Metrology Day.

NSAI's Legal Metrology Service also continued to support consumers with taximeter verification, following a fare increase by the National Transport Authority.









Geraldine Larkin Chief Executive Officer NSAI

Standards: Empowering business and society

NSAI is the national standards body for Ireland and the Irish member body for:

- CEN (European Committee for Standardization)
- CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization)
- ISO (International Organization for Standardization)
- IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission).

NSAI is also a member of ETSI, the European Telecommunications Standards Institute.

Through our national committee structure, involving over 2,400 committee members, NSAI facilitates Irish-based experts and stakeholders to take part in standardisation at all levels.

NSAI experts are actively engaged in standardisation work at the European and international level, incorporating the interests of Irish business and society.

In Ireland, NSAI works with organisations, businesses, and experts and encourages them to engage in standards development. By being involved at the forefront of research and standards development, these various entities can benefit from knowledge transfer and innovation.

In addition, NSAI works across industry sectors, research organisations, and academia to create awareness of the value of standards and encourage their adoption.

NSAI offers a significant national library incorporating harmonised European and international standards as well as national standards. These are available through the NSAI standards store at Standards.ie.



Standards 2024 at a glance

Summary 2024

30,000+

standards available in NSAI's catalogue

over **2,400**

national committee members, including 200 new members in 2024

1,467

standards published by NSAI

286,209

standards accessed through NSAI's online subscription catalogue, up 11% on 2023

125

new users registered on NSAI's Your Standards, Your Say portal (a public online platform where Irish industry can access, comment on, and input into draft standards)

427

standards committee meetings convened



In their own words...

The CEO of KUKA Ireland, Brian Cooney, actively contributes to the continuous development of standards by participating in NSAI's technical committee for Robots, Cobots, and Robotics.

"We're close to the standards, so we can navigate them with the help of all the other experts involved."

Brian Cooney, KUKA Ireland [NSAI Technical Committee Member]

Standards adding value to Irish industry

New standards in 2024

In line with our Strategic Plan, and to meet the needs of Irish industry and society, our standards committees developed and published these new indigenous standards:

- I.S. 3218:2024 Fire detection and alarm systems system planning, design, installation, commissioning, servicing, and maintenance
- S.R. 50-1:2021+A1:2024 Building services Code of practice – Part 1: Water-based heating systems in dwellings
- I.S. 844:2024 Transportation and installation of bituminous mixtures for roads, airfields, and other trafficked areas
- I.S. 10101:2020+A1:2024 National rules for electrical installations.

The top-selling standards in 2024 were:

- 1. I.S. 10101:2000+AC1:2000 National rules for electrical installation (wiring rules)
- 2. I.S. 3217:2023 Emergency lighting
- 3. I.S. 813:2014+A1:2017/AC:2017 Domestic gas installations (edition 3)
- 4. I.S. 3218:2013+A1:2019 Fire detection and alarm systems for building
- 5. I.S. 291:2015+A1:2022 Selection, commissioning, installation, inspection and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers.

Standards supporting policy and society

Globally, standards are recognised as a critical tool in supporting economic growth by driving technological advancement, competitiveness, interoperability and innovation. Standards build resilience and trust for industry and society.

Increasingly, standards play an important role in supporting policy and legislation, with digital standards, for instance, recognised as the cornerstone of datadriven innovation and digital transformation.

At a national and European level, NSAI's activities in standards development support policy implementation across all areas that affect enterprise and innovation. The emphasis is on areas of strategic significance including climate action and the environment, digital transformation, the built environment and life sciences.

NSAI plays an important role in supporting EU policy and works to ensure the engagement of Irish industry, Government and societal stakeholders in European and international standardisation activities.

The European Commission's High-Level Forum (HLF) on Standardisation was established to identify standardisation priorities in support of EU policies and legislation, and to discuss horizontal issues such as international leadership, education and skills. NSAI and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment jointly support the forum at national level.

During 2024, NSAI actively participated in several workstreams (W) including:

- W3: National Standard Bodies peer review including SMEs and civil society inclusiveness
- **W5:** Greater civil society inclusion
- W12: Artificial intelligence.

Of these, workstreams 3 and 5 published their recommendations during 2024. Under workstream 3, NSAI participated in *Driving inclusiveness in standardisation: how to strengthen national participation,* a workshop held in Brussels in June 2024 and organised by Small Business Standards (SBS).

Other workstreams that published recommendations included those in key focus areas of:

- Low-Carbon Cement (W6)
- Critical Raw Materials (W15)
- Data Interoperability (W14).

At policy level, NSAI is an active member of the European Commission's Multi-stakeholder Platform on ICT Standardisation, which was established to advise on all matters related to implementing ICT standardisation policies. Participants include national authorities from EU Member States, and European and international standardisation bodies, working with industry and societal stakeholders.

Through these groups, NSAI plays an important role in advancing the Annual Union Working Programme (AUWP) on European Standardisation and establishing European priorities within it.

Standards supporting climate action and sustainability

NSAI works to support initiatives that address the climate change risks and to promote sustainability. These topics are at the forefront of standardisation discussions across sectors such as the built environment and energy.

Built environment

In 2024, NSAI worked closely with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to support the Irish contribution to the revised Construction Product Regulations (CPR), which were published in December 2024.

NSAI is committed to ensuring Irish requirements are included in the revision of existing standards and in the development of new harmonised standards falling under the CPR.

The revised CPR now includes sustainable construction and digitalisation as new essential characteristics to be determined. Environmental sustainability will become central, as manufacturers will have to deliver environmental information about the life cycle of their products, for instance through I.S. EN 15804 Sustainability of construction works - Environmental product declarations - Core rules for the product category of construction products.

During 2024, NSAI continued to engage with CEN/TC 350/SC 1 through NSAI/TC 66/SC 2, placing Irish experts at the forefront of standardisation developments in the circular economy for the construction sector.

NSAI continued engagement with the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (DETE) and is represented at the Cement and Construction Sector Decarbonisation Working Group steered by DETE.

Decarbonisation of the energy system

NSAI and Gas Network Ireland (GNI) continued collaboration on standardisation activities relating to hydrogen, through our seconded Hydrogen Standardisation Expert. The secondment objective aims to enhance capacity and knowledge within NSAI's Gas committees and to facilitate informed decision-making on hydrogen standardisation both nationally and internationally.

In 2024, NSAI actively participated in the CEN CENELEC Coordination Group on Hydrogen. This is responsible for coordinating and accelerating the implementation of the European Clean Hydrogen Alliance (ECH2A) Roadmap on Hydrogen Standardisation.

NSAI is also represented on the interdepartmental hydrogen working group steered by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communication (DECC). NSAI got to inform working group members on its role and hydrogen related standardisation activities. NSAI's Gas Technical Standards Committee (GTSC) began work on an amendment of I.S. 329 Gas mains, to reflect hydrogen considerations.

Experts from NSAI/ETC TC 18 (Marine energy - Wave, tidal and other water current converters) continue to play a leading role in marine and tidal energy standardisation led by IEC/TC 114. IEC recognised this, presenting Dr. James Francis Kelly with the IEC 1906 Award for his exceptional individual achievements in 2024. Dr Kelly sits on four panels for TC-114.

Environmental, social and governance (ESG)-related standards

The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) mandates large companies to publish assured sustainability reports from 2025. Investors, regulators, and society at large are expected to respond to the ESG data provided in the reports as an indicator for the likelihood of sustainable performance over the longer term.

The three pillars of ESG relate to an organisation's environmental, social and governance activities. NSAI has several committees that contribute to ESG-related standardisation, including NSAI/TC 30 Risk Management. This deals with standards related to organisational risk, corporate governance and corporate social responsibility.

In 2024, NSAI contributed to the development of several important international standards from ISO/TC 309. This committee is responsible for governance of organisations, including Guidance Standard ISO 37009, which concerns conflict of interest in organisations.

During the year, the NSAI/TC30/SC1 Corporate Governance committee participated in a webinar hosted by the Chair of NSAI/TC30/SC1 on the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD).

This event included presenters from NSAI, GNI, PTSB, Bus Éireann, BIC Ireland and a representative from the ISO/TC 309 committee responsible for the development of the ISO 37004:2023 Governance maturity model – Guidance standard.

Supporting digital innovation and transformation

Digital technologies are transforming the economy and society, and data is at the centre of this transformation. Data-driven innovation is essential in supporting national and EU digital transformation and the data economy, which in turn offers potential for significant societal benefit.

The development of ICT technical standards is critical to driving this transformation, enabling the data economy and ensuring the interoperability of digital technologies. The number of standards continues to grow significantly, in line with our ever-expanding digital world and the increasing number of EU legislative acts.

NSAI and its experts are participating in this work to support a more competitive and safer digital economy.

Focus on artificial intelligence

To maximise Ireland's influence in international artificial intelligence (AI) standardisation, NSAI is playing a leading role in developing international and European AI standards. At ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC42 (Artificial Intelligence), Ireland holds the convenorship and secretariat of Working Group 3 and convenorship for Working Group 1.

Within CEN-CENELEC, Ireland is an active participant in the work of JTC21, with experts participating on committees to develop European standards, including those required by EU AI Standardisation Requests.

NSAI's work on digital and ICT standardisation is critical to realising Ireland's National Digital Strategy and National Al Strategy.

NSAI's work on digital standardisation is foundational in advancing the digital transition to ensure the competitiveness of Irish enterprise, as well as delivering on critical national digital priorities, such as in AI.

Al has been advancing at significant speed, with breakthrough aspects appearing in commercial use. This has meant a sharp increase in activity in Al-related standardisation, policy and regulation. NSAI is playing a leading role in representing Irish stakeholders in this work

NSAI published the AI Standards and Assurance Roadmap in 2023. It consists of a set of actions to deliver on the AI standards and assurance needs of the forthcoming EU AI Act and to support the wider implementation of the Act. During 2024, our key actions under the Al and Assurance Roadmap included:

- co-leading a campaign with Danish Standards, supported by CEN-CENELEC, to spread awareness of AI standards and their relevance to AI Act implementation, with well-attended expert-led events
- hosting an event with the SFI ADAPT Centre alongside the CEN-CENELEC /JTC21 (Artificial Intelligence) standards plenary in Dublin, to discuss the AI Act and its implications for business – Minister Dara Calleary TD delivered the opening address
- diversifying our delegation to include SMEs, through their involvement in national committees, which meant that at the November 2024 plenary of CEN-CLC/JTC21, Ireland sent its largest delegation since the start of JTC21.

NSAI has continued its contribution through discussions with DETE on action items for AI Act implementation and on a policy front, by participating in GPAI-OECD (the Global Partnership on AI was integrated with the OECD in 2024).

Other 2024 highlights in ICT standardisation

The 2024 EU Annual Union Work Programme for Standardisation (AUWP) underpins the centrality of digital standardisation in emerging technologies.

During 2024, NSAI experts were active across:

- cybersecurity standardisation to support implementation of the Cyber Resilience Act
- the EU Trusted Data Framework, as provided for in the EU Data Governance Act
- standardisation of interoperability for data processing services to support the EU Data Act
- developing standards for digital product passports under the eco-design Regulation.

At ISO/IEC level, NSAI holds the secretariat of the international working group on Governance of Information Technology (JTC1/SC 40/WG 1).

Standardisation activity in each of these areas, and other related areas, is set to rise considerably in 2025.



Engagement and outreach

NSAI 2024 Standards Forum

NSAI holds a World Standards Day Forum every year. This forum recognises the collaborative efforts of thousands of experts worldwide who volunteer their time to develop the technical agreements that are published as Irish and International Standards.

The forum is also an opportunity to celebrate individuals and organisations that have embedded standards into research and innovation activities. The theme of the Standards Forum for 2024 was *Standards and the Digital World* and the award categories were as follows:

- NSAI 1997 Award: Given to members of NSAI
 Committees in recognition of their significant contribution to national and international standardisation over many years. The 2024 winners were:
 - Ian Boylan (Target Energy)
 - David Lewis (SFI ADAPT Centre)
 - Seamus Maguire (Medtronic)
 - Michael Crowley (Gas Networks Ireland).

- NSAI Caighdeán Óir Award: Recognises exceptional and dedicated contribution to standardisation nationally and internationally through leadership and technical expertise. This was given to Terry Landers, Microsoft Ireland (retired).
- NSAI Innovation Award: Given to individuals and organisations that embed standards development into their research, development or innovation activities. The 2024 winners were:
 - Divyanshu Sood (UCD)
 - Justin Kinsella (HTL Tech).
- The IEC 1906 Award: An international award recognising exceptional recent individual achievements

 a project or other specific contribution – which helped advance IEC activities in a significant way.

 This was given to Dr James Francis Kelly of Ocean Energy Ireland.

Engaging with researchers and innovators





NSAI strongly encourages the participation of researchers and innovators in national and international standards development. Given the increasingly critical role standards play in enabling innovation and the competitiveness of industries underpinned by emerging science and technology, the input of the research community in Ireland is highly valued.

In April 2024, NSAI participated in a Knowledge Transfer Ireland (KTI)-led event *Unlocking the Value of Knowledge Transfer.* There we highlighted the role of standards in research and development, including examples of real-world interplay between standards and research.

At this event, we also presented on The Code of Practice on Standardisation in the European Research Area, which aims to contribute to the integration of research and innovation with standardisation.

By engaging at European level, NSAI can also monitor and promote funding supports to enable the participation of researchers in standards development and associated activities.

Engaging with emerging professionals

IEC Young Professionals Programme

NSAI participates in the *IEC Young Professionals* (*YP*) *Programme* every year. Under this initiative, participants are nominated through their respective national committees to represent their countries on the international stage.

In 2024, Catherine Gorton, Health and Safety Manager at Ward and Burke, represented Ireland at the annual IEC General Meeting in Edinburgh. During the event, she took part in the IEC YP Workshop, which ran alongside the General Meeting and provided valuable opportunities for collaboration and professional growth.

NSAI is also developing our own NSAI *Emerging Professionals Programme* to cultivate a talented pool of young professionals engaged in Irish standardisation.

Looking ahead to 2025, the NSAI Emerging Professionals webpage will showcase new stories from past nominees, highlighting the benefits of participating in the programme and the positive impact it has had on their careers so far.





Certification: Excellence in industry

NSAI, NSAI Inc and NSAI Certification UK Ltd develop and maintain comprehensive certification schemes for products, services and processes, with a strategic emphasis on supporting Irish industry.



In their own words...

Securing certification for a quality management system in the medical devices industry has enabled Lawrence Engineering in Sligo to submit bids for large manufacturing projects. Lawrence Engineering achieved certification to I.S. EN ISO 13485:2016 through NSAI.

"Achieving certification...
was an important
step forward for our
company. We had already
been manufacturing
components for the
medical device industry,
but the certification has
enabled us to expand our
customer base both in
Ireland, and abroad."

James Lawrence, Lawrence Engineering [NSAI client].

Our certification portfolio spans both accredited and non-accredited programmes, tailored to diverse business requirements. The credibility of this certification offering is underpinned by accreditation partnerships with INAB and UKAS in Europe, and ANAB in the United States.

NSAI certification gives businesses a clear competitive advantage, verifying operational excellence and adherence to internationally recognised standards.

The certification journey itself drives continuous improvement, as organisations implement and maintain systems that enhance performance and customer satisfaction.

Product certification (CE marking)

As an EU notified body, NSAI plays a crucial role in certifying products to ensure they meet the requirements of applicable EU directives and regulations. CE marking on a product is the manufacturer's declaration that it complies with these requirements.

CE marking is a legal requirement to place certain products, such as medical devices and construction products, on the market in the European Union and EEA member states. The manufacturer is responsible for:

- carrying out the conformity assessment
- setting up the technical file
- issuing the EU declaration of conformity
- affixing the CE marking to the product.

Not all products require third-party conformity assessment. If legally permitted, the manufacturer can self-declare compliance with the essential requirements or relevant harmonised European standards.

Certification 2024 at a glance

Summary 2024

3,201

audit days completed for medical device certifications (through NSAI and NSAI Inc) 378

new management system certificates issued (through NSAI and NSAI Inc)



10,757

automotive products approved

1,132

construction product-certificates issued, and 360 insulation installers registered.

5,750

management systems certificates issued (through NSAI and NSAI Inc).



Product certification (UKCA marking)

NSAI Certification UK Ltd holds accreditation from the United Kingdom Accreditation Service for its work under the UKCA mark for construction, measuring instruments and non-automatic weighing instruments.

The UK remains an important export market for Irish exports, accounting for 7% of all total exports from Ireland in July 2024, according to the CSO.

NSAI's mission is to help Irish companies achieve UKCA marking, allowing them to place or continue to place products on the marketplace in England, Scotland and Wales, reducing barriers to trade.

UKCA marking applies to most products for which the CE marking is applicable, however, the UKCA mark is not recognised on the EU market.

NSAI offers Irish businesses a competitive advantage. We provide certification services when products or production systems must be independently tested, certified or inspected, due to relevant directives and regulations.

NSAI is the notified body (NB) under EU legislation for:

- medical devices
- construction products
- measuring instruments.

Businesses seeking conformity assessment must show they have and maintain suitable product and manufacturing control mechanisms to ensure products comply with the appropriate standards.

Management system certification offered by NSAI supports an organisation's knowledge management across the management process, increasing efficiency and reducing risk.

A company or organisation can set up, maintain and approve internal quality processes and other processes using a proven management system certification framework. In fact, management system certification serves as a global benchmark for market access.

Gaining NSAI certification gives companies a competitive advantage in winning new business at home and abroad.

Certification: Modern Methods of Construction

NSAI's new Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) department was established in June 2023, within the certification division.

The government's *Housing for All* plan commits to enhancing productivity in construction, which can be achieved by using MMC.

The 2025 Programme for Government has further committed to MMC, and by extension, to MMC certification, with a clearly stated intention to work with NSAI "to ensure all-encompassing regulatory certs are issued in a timely manner, harmonising Irish regulations with EU regulations to open up new market opportunities".

MMC encompasses new and innovative construction technology and methodologies that improve productivity, particularly offsite construction, which do not fall within the scope of existing construction standards. This can be either because they are innovative or because they deviate from established norms.

It also involves the assessment of offsite and onsite assembly methods such as 3D-Volumetric modular construction and 2D-Panelised systems or light gauge steel (LGS) framing.

NSAI offers certification for the offsite manufacturing stage and on-site assembly installation and sign-off on MMC/modular construction building systems.

It can also offer onsite building system installation compliance under Building Control (Amendment) Regulations – BCAR 2014, by providing ancillary certification for offsite manufacturers.

NSAI supports the government's *Housing for All* strategy by:

- continuing roll-out of a certification scheme in MMC to improve the residential construction building system assessment process, under the Agrément certification scheme
- publishing the Guide to Agrément Certification for Modern Methods of Construction and a MMC Certification Readiness questionnaire
- development of an MMC Information Support pack
- completing the roadmap for increased adoption of MMC in public housing delivery action items (as assigned to NSAI)
- focusing on two new *Housing for All* actions, due for completion in 2025.

NSAI ensures certified building systems use proper building materials, assembly, and installation methods, and that factory production processes are suitable for their intended use in line with Irish site durability, safety and local climatic conditions (such as wind-driven rain, humidity and so on). This is in line with the current Irish Building Regulations 1990 to 2024.

The emphasis on quality control in the offsite manufacturing and onsite assembly and installation processes ensures firms:

- comply with established regulatory requirements
- provide reliable and precise modular building systems to the construction industry.

NSAI continues to work and engage with leading offsite manufacturers in Ireland and overseas, so their building systems (such as 3D-volumetric and 2D-panelised systems) can be certified to comply with current Irish building regulations and EU directives and regulations.

NSAI completed surveillance audits on the current MMC-certified organisations (that is, building system organisations), as registered on the NSAI website and certified under the Agrément certification scheme for modular construction.

NSAI is also an active member of the Construction Sector Group (CSG) and Construction Sector Subgroup on Innovation and Digital Adoption for MMC Certification. Moreover, NSAI is a member of the Timber in Construction Working Group – Thematic Group 2 on Regulation, Standards and Compliance. This relates to the increased use of timber in the built environment.

NSAI continues to support the European CIRC Reno – Work Package 1 project for Agri Crops to Construction Solutions and Agri-Crop Biobased Construction and Supply Chain Development, including a defined certification scheme.



Summary 2024

Modern Methods of Construction

Established dedicated department for MMC certification in June 2023

80

new MMC enquiries received and responded to 48

new MMC applications received

7

new MMC certificates published, including revisions to existing certificates

0

Building System certificate withdrawals were recorded in 2024

New MMC information support pack and new MMC readiness questionnaire and scorecard developed by NSAI.

Certification: Sustainability and Built Environment

The Sustainability and Built Environment department is integral to NSAI's mission of fostering innovation for a safer, better and sustainable future.

By enhancing customer engagement and supporting the green transition, the team ensures its services are efficient and environmentally responsible. This commitment is evident in the development of new and updated certification schemes, which incorporate innovative and environmentally beneficial construction materials. The department also actively implements sustainable practices across its certification services.

By chairing the Construction Liaison Group, the team fosters collaboration and communication among key public stakeholders in the construction industry, aiming to make it more productive, efficient and sustainable.

Their involvement in the Climate Action Roadmap underscores their dedication to developing resources that support the construction industry's transition to standardised methodologies for declaring environmental data for construction products.

Moreover, the department's activities align with the NSAI Strategic Plan, showing a strong commitment to fostering innovation and sustainability. By continuously updating our certification services and incorporating new standards, we ensure our offerings remain relevant and effective.

The Sustainability and Built Environment department's comprehensive approach to innovation, sustainability, and customer engagement not only supports NSAI's strategic objectives but also positions the department as a leader in the certification industry.

Summary 2024

Sustainability and Built Environment

In 2024, NSAI supported the government's *Housing for All* strategy by:

- developing and enhancing existing certification schemes to support government strategies and satisfy industry demands for innovative construction solutions
- Restructuring and expanding our certification team to meet *Housing for* All and climate action plan objectives

Issuing

1,132

construction product certificates

Registering

360

insulation installers

 Participating and contributing to multiple European and Irish committees to continually improve our certification schemes and incorporate Housing for All and climate action objectives.

Certification: Building Information Modelling (BIM)

The Building Information Modelling (BIM) department was set up in December 2024 within NSAI's Certification Division to support the government's *Housing for All* initiative and the national BIM mandate.

Recognising the critical role of digital construction in improving efficiency, reducing costs and enhancing project delivery, the department provides BIM certification to organisations implementing structured information management processes.

Aligned with NSAI's Strategic Plan, the BIM department contributes to the Built Environment and Digital Transformation pillars by promoting standardised BIM adoption. The department's certification services help construction companies improve project coordination, enhance regulatory compliance, and drive sustainability in line with the *Housing for All* goal of reducing residential construction costs (Pathway 5.3.1). By fostering knowledge transfer and industry engagement, the department plays a key role in enabling Irish companies to meet evolving digital construction requirements.

NSAI issued 24 BIM certifications in 2024, providing certified organisations with a competitive edge, streamlined procurement processes, and compliance with public sector BIM requirements. Six further BIM certification projects were undertaken during 2024 and were completed in January 2025.

As BIM adoption grows, the department will focus on expanding certification uptake, engaging with key stakeholders, and further strengthening its role in supporting Ireland's transition to a more efficient, standardised and digitally enabled construction industry.

Summary 2024

Building Information Modelling (BIM)

BIM department established in December 2024 within NSAI's Certification Division

24 BIM certifications issued in 2024, supporting compliance with the national BIM mandate

Engagement with key stakeholders to promote BIM adoption in the Irish construction industry.

Certification: Business Excellence

With certifications issued to organisations in over 40 countries, the management schemes delivered by the Business Excellence (BE) Department to industry include:

- ISO 9001 (Quality Management System)
- ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System)
- ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety Management System)
- ISO 50001 (Energy Management System)
- FSSC 22000 (Food Safety Management System)
- ISO 27001 (Information Security Management System).

The department also operates the European Union ecolabel scheme, known as the EU Ecolabel. This is an environmental labelling scheme, which promotes products and services which have a reduced environmental impact.

Significant progress was made across several strategic priorities by the BE team in 2024, namely:

- a department re-structure to enable a more sustainable model of working – this involved recruiting two operations leads to support the management of operations and six additional certification officers to support growing demand for certification.
- Certification of Innovation Management Professionals

 a scheme based on the ISO 56000 Innovation
 Management Standard was launched in conjunction
 with Research Institutes of Sweden (RISE) in 2024

- This scheme involves certification of professionals who have demonstrated knowledge, skills and experience in innovation management, specifically the ISO 56000 family of standards, which provides a comprehensive toolkit for managing innovation with an organisation.
- the Law Society Practice Management Scheme was launched in Q4 2024. It is based on a novel specification, targeted at law firms promoting the principles of ISO standards.
 - Related assessment criteria include business planning, infrastructure, operational systems and human resources. Five organisations were awarded certificates as part of the initial pilot programme in 2024.
- the first NSAI verification opinion was issued in respect of ISO14064-1, an international standard that specifies principles and requirements for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals at organisational level.
 - The pilot involved a multinational organisation with a considerable global footprint. In 2025, it is planned to seek accreditation under a new ISO 17029 system, so NSAI can offer accredited verification in the GHG verification area into the future
- department representatives took part in national conferences, such as the Electronics Manufacturing Ireland Conference and the Cyber Ireland Conference. NSAI was also represented at the international certification entity, IQNET and at the EU Ecolabelling Board and Regulatory Committee.

Working at European level

TrustBoost, a new EU cybersecurity initiative co-ordinated by NSAI, is being funded by the European Commission under the Digital Europe Programme. The three-year project has a total budget of €3.2 million and brings together 11 participants from six EU member states.

At its core, TrustBoost will develop a state-of-the-art online platform that allows regulatory authorities, CABs to ICT/IoT product vendors to collaborate and manage certification of digital products during their whole life cycle. The results of TrustBoost will inform recommendations for future policies in the EU.

Raising awareness among businesses

NSAI is the designated national competent body for issuing EU Ecolabel licences across a wide range of product groups. We are responsible for managing the EU Ecolabel scheme at a national level and are the only body in Ireland that can award the EU Ecolabel licence to qualifying products and services.

In 2024, NSAI provided expert input at EU level for a national communications plan on the EU Ecolabel scheme. To help NSAI meet its commitments, written case studies and promotional videos were developed to support a social media campaign that promoted the EU Ecolabel to organisations in Ireland.

The EU Ecolabel is becoming increasingly important due to growing consumer awareness around environmental issues and the new EU Green Claims Directive.

Summary 2024

Management systems certification

Total management systems certificates Issued:

4,476

Total audit days complete across locations in 40+ countries:

3,875

Certification: Automotive Certification

NSAI is the appointed type-approval authority of Ireland for both the EU and UN-ECE type approval schemes. NSAI is one of 27 approval authorities in Europe.

National certification

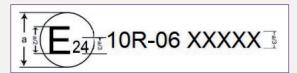
When vehicles such as ambulances, refrigerated trucks, cement lorries and trailers are manufactured in low volume in Ireland, they require further testing. This ensures they comply with national and EU requirements before they can be registered for use on Irish roads.

These vehicles are tested through a network of approved test centres in Ireland (ATCs) where manufacturers can get an Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA) or National Small Series Type Approval (NSSTA).

European certification

To mass produce vehicles for the European market, an automotive vehicle/system/component manufacturer must submit an approval application to a European type-approval authority. NSAI has a network of designated services in Europe, Asia and North America who conduct testing for manufacturers.

The approval mark for Ireland is E24 for UN-ECE and e24 for EU approvals.



Example of an UN-ECE approval mark

Increased demand for type approval

The EU's implementation of more stringent safety and environmental regulations for vehicles has resulted

in a high demand for NSAI's type approval services. To meet this demand, the department underwent major restructuring in 2024, built under the following disciplines:

- national type approval/transport schemes
- active and passive safety
- emissions and power train
- whole vehicle type approval
- agricultural vehicles and non-road mobile machinery
- lights, EMC and batteries
- conformity of production

This restructure has led to an increase in capacity of 16%, equating to 1,456 additional approvals granted in 2024. This new structure will provide the necessary foundation as we scale as a department to adapt to new technologies.

SERMI

Automotive Certification has been working on the development of a new scheme for security-related repair and maintenance information (SERMI). This is designed to provide standardised access to security-related information for motor vehicles. This information is crucial for independent operators (IOs) working in the European automotive aftermarket, allowing them to access security-related repair and maintenance information (RMI) under strict security standards and certifications.

The SERMI scheme ensures only approved and authorised independent operators and their employees can access this sensitive information. This helps maintain the security and integrity of vehicle systems while enabling independent garages to perform necessary repairs and maintenance.

Automotive Certification will be seeking accreditation to ISO/IEC 17020 to offer this new service to the Irish automotive sector.

Autonomous vehicles

Automotive Certification is collaborating on a multidepartmental project, led by the Department of Transport, to develop a testing programme in Ireland for autonomous vehicles. With the implementation of General Safety Regulation II in July 2024, some new automated functions as coming as standard in vehicles purchased today. As this technology is rapidly advancing, it's expected that higher levels of autonomous functions will require specific testing in each member state. This will ensure vehicles are familiar with the Irish road network and rules of the road

Autonomous vehicles are ranked by levels. Vehicles with level 2 automation are already on the market, which will soon become the norm.

SAE SAE SAE SAE SAE SAE LEVEL O™ LEVEL 1™ LEVEL 2™ LEVEL 3™ LEVEL 4™ LEVEL 5™ You <u>are</u> driving whenever these driver support features You are not driving when these automated driving are engaged – even if your feet are off the pedals and you are not steering You must constantly supervise these support features; When the feature requests. you must steer, brake or accelerate as needed to features will not require you you must drive

What does the human in the driver's seat have to do?

Copyright © 2021 SAE International

These are driver support features

These are automated driving features

What do these features do?

Example

Featuires

These features are limited to providing warnings and momentary assistance	These features provide steering OR brake/ acceleration support to the driver	These features provide steering AND brake/ acceleration support to the driver	These features can drive the vehicle under limited conditions and will not operate unless all required conditions are met		This feature can drive the vehicle under all conditions
 automatic emergency braking blind spot warning lane departure warning 	lane centering OR adaptive cruise control	lane centering AND adaptive cruise control	• traffic jam chauffeur	local driveless taxi pedals/steering wheel may or may not be installed	same as level 4, but feature can drive everywhere in all conditions

SAE International. (2021). Levels of Driving Automation. Sourced from https://www.sae.org/blog/sae-j3016-update

Tying in with our work at national level, NSAI is actively participating internationally to keep ahead of this rapidly-evolving technology, at both an EU and UNECE level.

It's expected Type Approval for fully automated systems will become the norm. L4 robo-taxis are expected to become commercially available at a large scale by 2030, and fully autonomous trucking is expected to reach viability between 2028 and 2031 (source: McKinsey, 2024). Regulation will be key to ensure these highly sophisticated vehicles are safe on Irish and European roads.

Autonomous vehicles are expected to significantly improve road safety by reducing accidents caused by human error, which accounts for most road traffic incidents.

These vehicles rely on advanced sensors, algorithms and real-time data processing to make decisions, minimising risks associated with distractions, fatigue, or impaired driving. Additionally, they're designed to follow traffic rules consistently, which could lead to smoother traffic flow and fewer collisions.

Increased environmental performance requirements

The Euro 7 regulation (EU) 2024/1257, which entered into force in May 2024, aims to further reduce pollutant emissions from vehicles over a longer lifetime and now incorporates the emissions requirements for light-duty and heavy-duty vehicles within a single regulation.

This will first apply to new types of light passenger and commercial vehicles from November 29, 2026. All new light passenger and commercial vehicles will have to comply with Euro 7 from November 29, 2027. The regulation will apply to new types of heavy-duty vehicles from November 29, 2028, and to all new heavy-duty vehicles from November 29, 2029.

Euro 7 also brings with it several new requirements, for example:

- stricter lifetime requirements for all vehicles regarding mileage and lifetime. Vehicles must comply with the Euro 7 regulation for the duration of their applicable lifetime
- the introduction of limits for brake particle emissions and tyre abrasion
- more stringent emission limits for evaporative emissions of light passenger and commercial vehicles
- more stringent emission limits for heavy duty vehicles
- introduction of on-board emissions monitoring (OBM)
- the limit value for particulate emissions will now apply to a smaller particulate size emitted from all vehicles (PN10)
- battery durability requirements for plug-in hybrid and pure electric vehicles
- introduction of an environmental vehicle passport (EVP), providing information of a vehicle's environmental performance data.

Summary 2024

Automotive Certification

10,757

motor vehicle approvals issued

5,91<u>1</u>

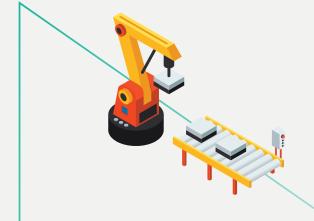
of these approvals related to EU/UN approvals of vehicles, systems and components

4,846

of these approvals related to national approvals, covering individual vehicle approvals (IVAs) and national small series type approvals

References:

McKinsey & Company. (2024). Autonomous vehicles moving forward: Perspectives from industry leaders.



Certification: NSAI Certification UK Ltd

Set up in 2021 in response to the UK's decision to leave the EU, NSAI Certification UK Ltd enables trade between Irish and UK companies.

This wholly-owned subsidiary of NSAI supports the Irish construction and metrology sectors by giving certification under various UK regulations for marketing these products in the UK. This ensures Irish companies can continue to trade there, post-Brexit.

NSAI Certification UK Ltd was granted accreditation in early 2023 by the UK Accreditation Service (UKAS).

This means Irish exporters can achieve UKCA marking through NSAI for construction products and put them on the market in England, Scotland and Wales.

NSAI Certification UK Ltd has also successfully passed the preliminary assessment by UKAS for accreditation to ISO 13485 to offer UKCA marking to Irish medical device manufacturers.

On August 1 2023, the UK Government announced an indefinite CE mark recognition beyond the December 2024 deadline. NSAI is in consultation with customers that have already received, or have applied for, UKCA marking to determine if they wish to continue using the UKCA mark alongside the CE mark.

Certification: NSAI Inc

NSAI, Inc. (Management Systems Certifications) continues to offer a wide variety of management system certifications that include ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, ISO 50001, TL 9000, AS 9100, ISO 27001 and R2: Responsible Recycling (specific to the electronics industry).

In 2024, NSAI Inc added ISO 20000 and ISO 22301 to its portfolio of service offerings. These offerings will further support existing customers and expand new business opportunities.

NSAI Inc's primary strategic objective is to enable Irish and international companies access to certifications schemes in Irish, European and US markets.

In 2025, we will focus heavily on implementing and achieving ISO 42001 accreditation, the third-party certification for Al. This will give NSAI a competitive edge. Few registrars provide this as the accreditation is not fully initialised. Discussions with existing clients have provided positive feedback, with clients looking forward to NSAI being able to provide this cutting-edge certification.

NSAI Inc also serves as a critical location for the SCC (Standards Council of Canada) for ISO 13485, MDSAP (Medical Device Single Audit Program) and Medical Device Notified Body CE Marking Services.

Management Systems Certification (MSC) completed 2,738 audit days in 2024.



The National Metrology Laboratory

Metrology is the science of measurement. It influences, drives and underpins much of what we do and experience in our everyday lives. Industry and trade, quality of life, science and innovation all rely on metrology.

Measurements must be accurate, dependable and consistent to meet the needs of the economy, society and citizens. They must be traceable to the International Systems of Units (SI), the world's accepted measurement system.

NSAI's National Metrology Laboratory (NML) is Ireland's National Metrology Institute (NMI), part of a global network of NMIs, which ensure the highest quality measurements are achievable, traceable and reliable.

In metrology, a measurement standard is an object, system, instrument, or artefact that bears a defined relationship to a unit of measurement of a physical quantity.

The measurement standard is used to specify a unit such as:

- what is a kilogram?
- how long is a metre?
- what is the duration of a second?

An agreed measurement standard for a particular unit is essential to:

- support precision measurements in industry
- ensure fair trade transactions for the public
- underpin consistent and accurate health diagnoses and treatments.

Part of NML's core responsibility lies in establishing, maintaining and developing national standards for physical units, as well as disseminating them to Irish users – particularly those in the manufacturing and pharmaceutical industries.

Why we need measurement science

Measurement science is vital for facilitating commerce, fostering innovation and ensuring citizens are protected. It plays a critical role in ensuring we have economic growth in a safe, secure environment, while also supporting the technical measurement needs of global concerns, such as climate change.

NML's measurement standards are the most accurate representations of SI units available in Ireland. They serve as a bridge between measurement results and SI units for physical quantities such as:

- mass
- length
- temperature
- humidity
- pressure
- voltage
- resistance

- capacitance
- force
- torque
- frequency
- time intervals
- sound levels.

In accordance with ISO 17025, NML disseminates these measurement standards through a comprehensive variety of calibration services. NML offers services such as training, proficiency testing and consulting. It also performs collaborative research in the field of metrology.



NML 2024 at a glance

Summary 2024

14

national measurement standards maintained

5,489

calibration certificates issued to 412 companies

550

research days completed by measurement scientists

2

scientific research papers co-authored

45

companies attended 21 NML training courses

Participation in

5

European Metrology Partnership research projects.

21

laboratories supported throughout Ireland

Ongoing development of National Timing Grid

NSAI's NML, with financial assistance from the Office of the Government's Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), part of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform), purchased a second caesium atomic clock to improve the resiliency of the National Timing Grid and provide a more meaningful contribution to the definition of universal time.

Plans are also in place to connect the NML to a vast fibre optic network, connecting most European National Metrology Institutes (the GEANT network). This will pave the way for greater involvement in research and further improve the resiliency of Irish timing infrastructure.



New primary standard development

In 2024, the NML electrical section performed a primary realisation of the voltage unit using a Josephson Array Voltage Standard.

For a national standards body, having an exact voltage standard is crucial for ensuring accurate measurements for legal purposes, trade, health, safety and environmental protection. It also supports technological progress and innovation by providing a reliable reference for research and manufacturing, healthcare, and tech industries.

Access to a trusted national voltage standard allows businesses to calibrate their equipment correctly, ensuring their products are reliable and competitive in the global market

NML research involvement

Research continues to be a core component of NML's work. We continued to participate in several EU-funded research projects during 2024 and have obtained funding to participate in new projects.

Ongoing projects

TRaMM: a project to extend the capability of performing traceable magnetic measurements, in cooperation with Trinity College Dublin. It aims to overcome challenges in fields such as electrical mobility, health, power transformation and harvesting, clean, affordable and secure energy, information and sensor technology.



True8DIGIT: aims to develop a true 8-digit digitiser, used for signal analysis in a wide range of applications. This includes the automotive, aerospace, communications and medical fields. NML is coordinating and managing this research project which will run for three years.

RFMIcrowave2: radiofrequency (RF) and microwave (MW) technologies are used in a range of applications such as healthcare, security, environmental monitoring and communications. As these technologies rapidly develop, so too do the needs for measurement and calibration at these frequencies, for quantities such as electromagnetic field intensity and RF power. This ensures these technologies are safe and efficient. NML is managing the impact work-package of this project.

New projects awarded funding in 2024

A²TM: air temperature measurement project, to provide better traceability and precision of temperature measurements in air, instrumental in climate research and in the healthcare industry.

MetroMag: traceability in the low magnetic field range project, which is important to the electric mobility sector (sensors embedded in electric motors, magnetic encoders and so on) and the medical sector (safety and compatibility of magnetic field-based diagnostics such as MRI and magnetoencephalography).

As part of the NML's efforts to transfer knowledge to industry, it's a key player in developing new guidance documents in particular metrological fields.

In its role as chair of the EURAMET best practice working group in thermometry, NSAI is preparing guides in the fields of:

- radiation thermometry
- relative humidity measurement
- resistance temperature sensor calibration
- thermal diffusivity.

These guides will be freely available on the EURAMET website (EURAMET is the European metrology network).

Facilitating capacity-building among European laboratories

NSAI is an active member of EURAMET. One of the network's core objectives is to support the development of its member national metrology institutes (NMIs). In 2024, NSAI acted as convenor of the Capacity Building Working Group, which incorporates over 20 European NMIs

Building capacity

NSAI took part in a capacity-building mentoring scheme with RISE (Research Institutes of Sweden) in 2024. The scheme set out to improve expertise and technical knowledge in the calibration of pressure balances and vacuum standards, as well as load cells and force gauges.

It involved a visit to the pressure and force facility in RISE, followed by a visit of the NML's facilities in this field. As a result, the NML pressure and force section has gained invaluable knowledge to improve services to Irish industry.

Outreach and education

NML plays a crucial role in championing measurement and advocating for good measurement practices. Through its outreach and education activities, NML actively engages with many stakeholder groups. Our 2024 outreach and education activity included:

Training courses

In 2024, NML conducted 21 training courses, benefitting over 70 participants from 45 different organisations. These courses offered valuable knowledge and skills in metrology, in turn contributing to the advancement of accurate measurement practices.

Hosting DCU INTRA students

NML hosted two DCU INTRA students during their summer placements. These students engaged in calibration work and science-based projects in the laboratory, gaining valuable practical experience. One of the students is also undertaking a research project based in NML

· Facilitation of undergraduate projects

As part of the final year of many undergraduate courses, students must carry out a relevant project. NML enables several undergraduates to carry out their final year projects. In 2024, a project was carried out by a DCU applied physics student in the NML Temperature section. This involved the automation of temperature measurements through the construction of a robot to obtain a large number of data points, within a defined space, with minimum operator involvement.

Hosting transition year students

We offered placements to transition year students, giving them hands-on experience in work and science-based projects. This initiative aimed to inspire young minds and promote an understanding of the significance of accurate measurements.

Assisting test and calibration laboratories

We supported test and calibration laboratories by validating their competence and calibration/testing capabilities through a proficiency testing scheme. In 2024, the laboratory delivered 24 proficiency tests for 21 companies, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of their measurement practices.

On May 20 2024, Minister of State in the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Emer Higgins TD, joined NML and Legal Metrology Service (LMS) in marking UNESCO World Metrology Day. Children from a local primary school visited the laboratory where they met NSAI scientists and legal metrology inspectors, and discovered numerous ways in which metrology impacts society.

Legal Metrology

Legal metrology is the application of legal requirements to measurements and measuring instruments.

Legal Metrology 2024 at a glance

It can be easy to forget measurements are a big part of our day-to-day lives. Consumers engage in frequent transactions that must be measured accurately so we know we get what we pay for. For example, we must

- how much petrol or diesel we put into our cars
- the distance travelled and time taken to calculate our taxi fares
- the weight and volume of pre-packaged goods sold to consumers.

The Legal Metrology Service (LMS) in NSAI continued to conduct regulatory functions throughout 2024 under metrology legislation, which includes the Metrology Acts of 1980 to 2017.

We are responsible for upholding and enforcing accuracy and transparency in trade measures. We achieve this through inspection, certification of measures and measuring equipment that is used for trade.



As a notified body, NSAI is accredited under ISO 17020 to conduct the final stage conformity assessment (Module F) of the following instruments:

- liquid fuel dispensers
- non-automatic weighing instruments
- truck-mounted oil meters
- truck-mounted waste weighers
- weighbridges
- milk metering systems

WELMEC is the representative organisation of national legal metrology authorities in Europe, harmonising the practices of legal metrology and promoting their effective use. As a member of WELMEC, NSAI attended several European working group meetings throughout 2024 and participated in two WELMEC working group projects.

OIML is the International Organisation for Metrology harmonising the practices of legal metrology and promoting their effective use. As a member of OIML, NSAI attended the Annual Committee meeting and contributed to the 2024 OIML World Metrology Day special edition bulletin, with an article on legal metrology and sustainability.

NSAI's Legal Metrology Service and the NML marked the UNESCO World Metrology Day on May 20 2024, by co-hosting an event for local school students. They witnessed metrology in action and learned about the importance of accurate measurement in everyday life.

Legal Metrology 2024 at a glance

Summary 2024

22,292

trade instruments inspected

35,449

instruments were 'In Service' verified by NSAI Authorised Verifiers to support the use of compliant instruments 6,212

premises visited across Ireland

119

warning notices issued per 1,000 inspections



Targeted inspection programmes for 2024 included:

- fisheries
- licensed premises
- airports
- marts
- meat plants
- taxis.

2024 saw a new Maximum Fare Order approved by the National Transport Authority (NTA) which came into effect on December 1, 2024. Legal Metrology Services tested and approved the new taximeter programmes which incorporated the new fare order.

A targeted inspection campaign for taxis began in December 2024 to ensure all taxis had installed the new fare programme, and had their meter verified so they could continue to trade.

IT improvements in 2024 have enhanced our booking function for LMS services and we continue to use a risk-based approach to our inspections.

31

ESG: Shaping a sustainable future

NSAI is committed to operating as a responsible organisation and contributing to environmental sustainability, social responsibility and good governance.

NSAI's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and sustainability

The NSAI Strategic Plan sets out our commitment to contribute to and take a leadership role in core national policies such as climate action. We give critical support to the public and private sectors to achieve national, European Union and United Nations' sustainable development goals.

NSAI acts as a central contributor in the challenge to combat climate change. Our services are key to combatting environmental challenges such as climate change.

Within the NSAI Strategic Plan, climate action and sustainability form a key focus within Goal 2, which sets out our commitment to innovatively create new service lines to embrace change.

Strategic Project 3, *Climate Action and Sustainability*, sets out NSAI's commitment to:

- structure our services to support the Green Transition
- provide an infrastructure to support that transition
- establish NSAI as an exemplar organisation in terms of internal environmental targets.

Towards 2030 de-carbonisation and energy efficiency targets

In line with the national Climate Action Plan and Public Sector Climate Action Mandate, NSAI is committed to sustainability and supporting government policy in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions by 51% and improving our energy efficiency by 50% by 2030.

Finalised figures for 2023 show NSAI had already exceeded its 2030 energy efficiency target. From the 2009 baseline to 2023, we improved energy performance by 62% and reached an Energy Performance Indicator (EnPI) figure of 38%, below the 50% target. Provisional data available for up to year end 2024 indicates that energy performance will have improved by 63.9% since 2009.

While SEAI is checking annual electricity and gas consumption figures centrally for all public bodies with the operators, and pending statistical adjustments, NSAI has recorded total electricity consumption across all its Ireland premises of 758,931 kWh. This compares with a 2023 final adjusted 739,169 kWh, a slight increase.

NSAI has recorded total gas consumption across seven locations nationally of 670,265 kWh. This compares with a 2023 final adjusted figure of 634,215 kWh. These 2024 meter-reading figures are subject to external checking and statistical adjustment.

Two sites use oil central heating, with a recorded total of 52,929 kWh in 2024, compared to 24,287 kWh in 2023. This is again subject to external checking and final adjustments.

CO₂ emissions

Provisionally, total $\rm CO_2$ emissions for NSAI's thermal energy and electricity consumption for 2024 are 333,354kg $\rm CO_2$, potentially up slightly from 330,535kg $\rm CO_2$ in 2023. Factoring in ongoing grid-decarbonisation out to 2030, and on current provisional data trends we are on track to meet our total $\rm CO_2$ 50% reduction target from baseline 2016-2018 to 240,628kg $\rm CO_2$ by 2030.

NSAI's official air travel and related carbon emissions

Given the international aspects of its role in supporting Irish business, NSAI must use air travel to meet some of its commitments worldwide.

We use hybrid meetings and audits where possible to reduce air travel footprint in fulfilling our international role. Since 2020, NSAI has offset officz payment to the statutory Climate Action Fund each year.

NSAI records and monitors official air travel usage. This is in line with the provisions of Circular 01/2020 issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform in January 2020.

Moreover, NSAI makes a payment to the fund manager of the statutory Climate Action Fund related to those emissions for the previous year:

For 2024, NSAI's year-end carbon emissions liability for official air travel was €3,245.24.

NSAI official air travel and carbon emissions*							
Year	Kms	Tonnes of CO ₂ (Rounded)	Payment to Climate Action Fund				
2024	426,929	57,951	€3,245.24				
2023	514,817	51342	€2,490.09				
2022	220,738	28566	€1,171.21				
2021	_	_	€51.79				
2020	_	_	€456.90				

^{*} NSAI also has a US-based, not-for-profit, wholly-owned subsidiary, NSAI Inc, not included in official air travel figures above.

Climate action and sustainability leadership training for the board and senior management

Throughout 2024, sustainability leadership training for the public sector was provided to board members and senior management of the organisation.

In addition, NSAI Climate Action and Sustainability Centre of Excellence co-ordinated the participation of the Climate Action Advisory Council in a future climate action strategy and leadership workshop with board members and senior management.

NSAI also provided sustainability workshop opportunities for all staff, through town hall meetings.

NSAI's voluntary publication of first Climate Action Roadmap

The NSAI Climate Action Roadmap re-affirms our commitment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. In 2024, NSAI took the step of voluntarily publishing our first Climate Action Roadmap, to make it publicly available, in line with its objective to be a climate action and sustainability exemplar.

Sustainability in how we do business

NSAI completed the installation and commissioning of our second solar photovoltaic (PV) panels for renewable energy in 2024 – at our Galway regional office. This follows a previous project at the Limerick regional office.

Within NSAI, the National Metrology Laboratory (NML), is the organisation's largest energy user. Having previously substituted heating boilers with more modern and efficient replacements, which resulted in energy efficiency improvements, the NML began to replace the chilling system in 2024. The new system is expected to further reduce energy consumption in the NML.

NSAI again ran a *Reduce Your Use* campaign in winter 2024/2025 in support of the public sector energy efficiency campaign. NSAI's Facilities Team ran several other energy efficiency campaigns throughout the year, focused on switching off unnecessary appliances and equipment to minimise energy use.

We reached significant milestones in NSAI's climate action journey during 2024. NSAI achieved ISO 50001 Energy management systems certification in 2024. Finalised energy management data for 2023 showed NSAI had reached its 2030 overall CO_2 emissions reduction target, and our energy efficiency target.

The challenge for NSAI will be how we continue to grow sustainably, while maintaining and improving on the 2030 energy efficiency and CO_2 emissions reduction targets.

Supporting businesses and the delivery of government policy in sustainability

Outreach and engagement

A Climate Action and Sustainability Centre of Excellence collaboration with NSAI Standards promoted ISO's 2024 suite of Circular Economy Standards (ISO 59004:2024, ISO 59010:2024 and ISO 59020:2024) at three high-profile circular economy sectoral events. These generated related content for promotion on our social channels:

- the EPA's Circular Economy Conference 2024 at the Aviva Stadium, Lansdowne Road (September)
- the Environment Ireland Conference in Croke Park (October)
- the Circuléire and Irish Manufacturing Research technology centre's annual conference (November) in the National Science Park, Mullingar.

NSAI's Climate Action and Sustainability Centre of Excellence participated in the following Government of Ireland and international fora in 2024:

- at the invitation of its parent Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment – The De-carbonisation and SMEs Forum – to support SMEs on their sustainable business journeys
- in collaboration with NSAI Standards in the International Organisation for Standards (ISO) – National Climate Champions Network, which shares updates and best practice in how ISO members globally are pursuing their sustainability goals
- the International Organisation for Standards working group ISO/WS ESG that developed a free guide on ESG implementation principles, IWA 48:2024 Framework for implementing environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles. This is available online to businesses – at no charge – on NSAI's Standards Shop at Standards.ie

Circular economy and the construction sector in Ireland

NSAI Standards Division and NSAI Certification Division play a role in supporting industry on the sustainability pathway. For example, the circular economy for the construction sector, where NSAI's Climate Action and Sustainability Centre of Excellence and a cross-section of NSAI Standards and Certification personnel contributed to the development and review of the industry viewpoint document, *Supporting the Circular Economy Transition in the Irish Construction Sector*, published in 2024.

Governance statement and Board members' report

NSAI was established on April 14, 1997 under Section 6 of the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act, 1996.

NSAI's delivers metrology, standardisation, and conformity assessment services in accordance with the functions in the following primary Acts:

- National Standards Authority Act 1996.
- Metrology Act 1996.
- Packaged Goods (Quantity Control) Act 1980
- Legal Metrology (Measuring Instruments) Act 2017.

Governance

The Board is accountable to the Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment with responsibility for Small Businesses and Retail and is responsible for ensuring good governance. The Board performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets and taking strategic decisions on key business issues.

The day-to-day management and control of NSAI is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the executive management team.

The CEO and the management team implement the Board-approved strategic direction and ensure that Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise. The CEO acts as a direct liaison between the Board and the management.

The Authority operates in accordance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016 (the Code) and updates as issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform.

Board structure

The Minister appoints members, in accordance with the provisions of the NSAI Act 1996, from among those interests involved in the process of standardisation and certification of commodities, processes and practices, without any single interest predominating.

The Board comprises 13 members; a chairperson, the CEO, and 11 members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade

and Employment with responsibility for Small Businesses and Retail. The Chief Executive Officer is an ex-officio member for the term of their contract.

Members are appointed to the Board annually, following the retirement of the three longest-serving members on the anniversary of the NSAI establishment day.

Board responsibilities

The role and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the NSAI Governance Manual, which also contains the matters specifically reserved for Board decision.

Items on the Board agenda include:

- declaration of interests
- strategic oversight and direction
- financial management and reporting
- KPIs (key performance indicators)
- risk management
- corporate governance
- sub-committee reports
- matters reserved to the Board.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Authority including the wholly owned subsidiaries, NSAI Inc and NSAI Certification UK Ltd.

In accordance with the NSAI Act 1996, First Schedule Paragraph 8(2), NSAI is required to keep, in such form as may be approved of by the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, with the consent of the Minister for Finance, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it and to keep in such form as aforesaid all special accounts as the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment may from time to time direct.

In preparing the financial statements, NSAI must:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- disclose and explain any material departures from applicable accounting standards.

 prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the NSAI will continue in operation.

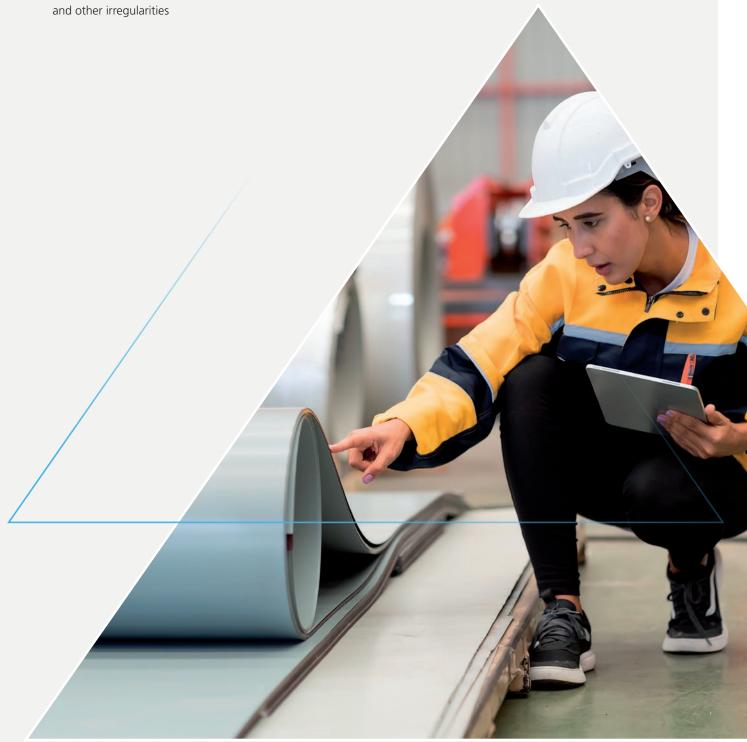
The Board considers that the financial statements of NSAI give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of NSAI as of December 31, 2024.

The Board is also responsible for:

 safeguarding assets and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud
 and other irregularities

- approving the strategic plan and annual budgets
- evaluating the performance of NSAI, by reference to KPI reporting and financial management reports to the Board.

The Board convened six meetings in 2024. The schedule of attendance at the Board and committee meetings for 2024 is set out below, including the fees and expenses paid to each member in the year.



Board fees and expenses

Board members fees are discharged in accordance with the Warrant of Appointment. Expenses are processed at the rates and subject to the regulations appropriate to civil servants of the highest grade.

Board effectiveness and evaluation

The Board undertook an internal Board Effectiveness Review in January 2024, which was reviewed and adopted by the Board in February 2024.

Committees of the Board

The Board has established three committees. The members of committees during 2024 are detailed in the Schedule of Members Meeting Attendance, Fees and Expenses.

Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)

The ARC is a core component of governance and of the systems of internal controls implemented by the Board. The role of the ARC is to support the Board in relation to its responsibilities for the control environment, risk management, financial reporting and associated assurances

The committee ensures that the internal control systems including audit activities and risks are independently monitored. The ARC reports to the Board after each meeting, and formally in an annual report to the Board.

The committee operates under terms of reference approved by the Board and convened five meetings in 2024. Management attend on request of the committee and the ARC Members meet with the auditors annually in the absence of management.

Nominations Committee

The role of the Nominations Committee is to review and make recommendations to the Board regarding appointments and succession planning considering skills and competencies required by the Board in the context of the strategy, challenges, and opportunities of NSAI.

In the absence of the Chief Executive, the committee also supports the Board's requirements for the appointment and performance of the Chief Executive. The committee operates under terms of reference approved by the Board and convened one meeting in 2024.

Governance Committee

The role of the Governance Committee is the oversight and development of corporate governance to ensure NSAI complies with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The committee review and recommend corporate governance guidelines for Board approval. The committee operates under terms of reference approved by the Board and convened two meetings in 2024.

NSAI Inc

NSAI Inc was established in New Hampshire, US on 1 July 1997, as a not-for-profit corporation, wholly owned by the NSAI, for the purpose of the distribution and dissemination of information on current and proposed Irish and EU standards, the provision of technical reviews and evaluation of products, processes and practices and certification for conformity to EU, Irish and international standards.

The US entity complies with the requirements of US federal and state regulations.

The subsidiary is subjected to the specific management and procedural controls approved by the Board of NSAI Inc and are included within these overall statements of compliance and effectiveness of controls. Three members of the NSAI Inc Board are members of the NSAI Board.

The NSAI Inc Board operates in accordance with governance procedures approved by the Board and convened four meetings in 2024.

Meetings attended

A Gleeson	4
P Devereaux	4
G Larkin (Chief Executive)	4
K Mullaney	4

NSAI Certification UK Ltd

NSAI Certification UK Ltd was established on July 15, 2021, as a company limited by shares, wholly owned by NSAI, for the purpose of providing UKCA marking to Irish businesses accessing the UK market, initially for construction and medical devices products.

The NSAI UK Board operates in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding approved by the Board and convened two meetings in 2023.

Meetings attended

J Kennedy (Chairperson)	3
R Alcorn Appointed on 5 July 2024	3
T Coogan Appointed on 5 July 2024	3
G Larkin (Chief Executive)	3

Disclosures required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Board is responsible for ensuring NSAI has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2016 and addendums ('the Code'), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

Following a review of the Authority's compliance with the Code and its Assurance Framework, the members are satisfied that the disclosure requirements of the Code have been fully discharged within the notes to the Financial Statements including:

- Travel and Subsistence Expenditure Note 3
- Consultancy Note 3

- Hospitality Note 3
- Employees' benefits breakdown Note 3

Key personnel changes

N Harmes was appointed Director of Medical Devices in May 2024.

Statement on internal controls

A comprehensive Statement on Internal Controls is included with the Financial Statements.

Legal costs and settlements

Legal fees are disclosed under Legal Costs and Settlements costs in accordance with the Code.

Schedule of members meeting attendance, fees and expenses.

			Board and Committee Members Attendance				4	
Board Members	First Appointed	Retired/ (Reappointed)	Board	Audit and Risk Committee	Nominations Committee	Governance Committee	Fees 2024	Expenses 2024
			6 Meetings	4 Meetings	1 Meeting	2 Meetings		ı û
Mr J Kennedy Chairperson	09-Apr-18	(26/04/2023)	6 (6)	-	1 (1)	-	11,929	2,770.4
Ms A Gleeson	17-Sep-20	(08/04/2024)	5 (6)	-	-	-	7,668	-
Mr B Smith	17-Apr-18	14-Apr-24	1 (1)	-	-	1 (1)	0 (Note 1)	-
Mr C Verdon	16-Apr-19	19-Jun-24	1 (2)	1 (2)	-	-	0 (Note 1)	-
Mr D Casey	15-Dec-21	-	6 (6)	-	1 (1)	2 (2)	7,668	-
Ms E Felten	17-Sep-20	14-Apr-24	0 (1)	-	-	1 (1)	0 (Note 1)	-
Ms M O'Connell	30-May-19	(26/04/2023)	6 (6)	4 (4)	1 (1)	-	7,668	-
Ms M Cronin	02-Aug-22	-	6 (6)	-	-	2 (2)	7668	-
Mr P Devereaux	30-May-19	(26/04/2023)	6 (6)	4 (4)	-	-	7,668	-
Mr R Alcorn	02-Aug-22	-	5 (6)	-	-	-	7,668	2,939.4
Ms T Coogan	19-Jun-24	-	4 (4)	1 (1)	-	-	0	-
Mr B Cox	05-Nov-24	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	0 (Note 1)	-
Mr G Lopez	05-Nov-24	-	1 (1)	-	-	-	0 (Note 1)	-
Mr W Egenton	17-Sep-20	31-Dec-23	-	-	-	-	147	-
Ms G Larkin Chief Executive Officer Ex-officio member	20-Feb-17	(21/02/2022)	6 (6)	4 (4)	1 (1)	2 (2)	0	-
Total Fees and Exp	enses						€58,084	€5,710

Wider governance environment

Along with its own governing legislation and the Code, NSAI must also comply with a range of other statutory (national and EU) and administrative requirements. It has put in place procedures to ensure compliance with the following specific requirements:

EU Regulation No. 1025/2012 on European Standardisation

NSAI has been notified by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment as the national standards body for CEN, CENELEC and ETSI under the EU Regulation on Standardisation and is required to publish an annual report on standardisation activities.

Ethics in Public Office Act 1995 and Standards in Public Office Act 2001 and ensuing regulations

In accordance with the provisions of the Acts, all members and staff holding designated positions are required to comply with the provisions of the Acts.

Employment Equality Acts 1998 to 2021 and the Equal Status Acts 2000-2018

NSAI is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and adopts a positive approach to equality in the organisation. NSAI provides several schemes, such as staff development, career breaks and flexible work arrangements, which contribute to the development of a balanced work/life environment for all staff. We have a policy on Dignity at Work in place.

Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005

NSAI takes appropriate measures to protect the safety, health and welfare of all employees and visitors in compliance with the provisions of this Act.

Worker Participation (State Enterprises) Act 1998

NSAI is not a designated body for the purposes of the Act. NSAI observes the procedures in these Acts to provide for staff representation on the Board.

Protected Disclosures Act 2014

NSAI received one protected disclosure during the reporting period January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. The Disclosure was made by a party external to the organisation. Following an initial review of the matter, it was determined there was not enough evidence to investigate the matter further.

No internal disclosures were received.

Freedom of Information 2014

NSAI complies with the provisions of this Act. The Act establishes the following statutory rights:

- access to information held by public bodies
- to have official information held by a public body relating to that individual amended where it is incomplete, incorrect, or misleading
- access to records on decisions affecting oneself taken by that public body.

Requests for information should be addressed to:

Freedom of Information Officer NSAI 1 Swift Square Northwood Santry

Dublin D09 A0E4.

Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2018

NSAI complies with the provision of these Acts and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Public Procurement Guidelines Circular 40/2002

NSAI ensures that there is an appropriate focus on good practice in purchasing and that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with relevant guidelines.

Public Spending Code

NSAI has established procedures consistent with the principles set out in this Code and the Infrastructure Guidelines that superseded it.

Prompt Payment Report

Management is satisfied that NSAI complied with the provisions of the Prompt Payment Rule Act in all material respects.

Prompt Payment to Suppliers

NSAI is committed to ensuring that all valid suppliers' invoices are paid promptly, under the 15-day Prompt Payment Rule and reports performance quarterly on the website.

Energy efficiency

NSAI is committed to energy efficiency and provisional data available for up to year end 2024, indicates that energy performance will have improved by 63.9% since 2009.

NSAI's own reports estimate 2024 energy consumption was 69,654.50 kWh less than the previous year. NSAI continues to make good progress with about 66.7% energy savings secured, since energy baseline.

NSAI's Energy Management System (EnMS) achieved certification to ISO 50001:2018 in November 2024 and NSAI participates in framework agreements for the supply of electricity and gas.

Customer Charter

NSAI's Customer Charter sets out our commitment to quality services to our customers and is available in Irish and English at the **About NSAI> Need to Get in Touch> Customer Service Promise and Complaints Procedure** section of the website. The charter includes information on compliance with the Ombudsman Act.

Official Language Act 2003-2021

NSAI is committed to meeting all its obligations under the Official Language Acts (2003 and 2021)

A director on the Executive Management Team has been appointed to oversee performance and report on NSAI during the year 2024 to ensure compliance with the Act. The following compliance activities in respect of Official Language Acts (2003 and 2021) were undertaken in 2024:

- The 2023 NSAI Year in Review was published in Irish
- The 2023 NSAI Annual Report was published in Irish
- A significant volume of social media posts, website news articles and graphics were published though the Irish language.

During 2024, the obligation under section 10A. (Advertising by Public Bodies) requiring a minimum of 20% (10A. (1)(b)) of all advertising undertaken to be in the Irish language was met. NSAI also met the obligation of 5% of annual advertising spend on Irish language media in 2024, as also prescribed under section 10A.

Open data and reuse of public sector information

NSAI complies with the requirements regarding licencing of information for reuse.

Access to members of the Oireachtas

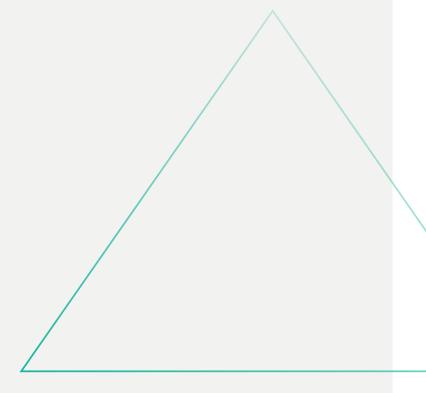
NSAI complies with its obligations to maintain a system for members of the Oireachtas to contact NSAI directly by email.

Statement of Compliance

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Code.

In February 2025, the Board undertook a review of the 2024 internal control environment and NSAI assurance framework. Based on this review, the Board confirms a reasonable assurance on the internal control environment and that NSAI has complied with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies for 2024.

James Kennedy Chairperson



2024 Consolidated Financial Statements

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STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

Scope of responsibility

On behalf of The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) we acknowledge the Board's responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated within the organisation which includes NSAI's wholly-owned subsidiaries NSAI Inc. and NSAI Certification UK Ltd. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016). The system of internal control includes financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management systems that support the achievement of NSAI's strategic priorities whilst also safeguarding the public and other funds and assets for which NSAI is responsible.

Purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions appropriately authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way and that corrective action is taken where necessary. The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, has been in place in NSAI for the year ended 31 December 2024 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

Control environment, risk and procedures

NSAI has an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) comprising Board members with financial and audit expertise. The ARC met on four occasions in 2024. The internal audit function (outsourced service) and its work programme is informed by analysis of risk and control issues within NSAI. The internal audit plan is approved by the ARC and advised to the Board. In addition, NSAI is also subject to accreditation, quality management and other reviews which are undertaken by third parties and considered by management.

NSAI has Governance and Nominations committees comprising of Board members with terms of referenceapproved by the Board. These committees provide regular reports to the Board.

NSAI has an overall risk management framework and process that includes a risk management policy and a risk appetite statement. The risk management policy is available to all staff. There is a Chief Risk Officer role. The corporate risk register is considered by management pre review by the ARC and presentation to the Board. Risk management is a regular Board agenda item.

The Board has taken steps to ensure an appropriate control environment is in place with the following elements:

- a Code of Business Conduct requiring Board members, management and staff to maintain the highest ethical standards
- ensuring compliance with the requirements in the Ethics in Public Office Acts
- policies and procedures for staff performance management and continuing professional development
- systematic reviews by internal audit of internal controls and risk issues
- documented procedures for all key business processes
- specific training and awareness programmes designed to mitigate identified risks related to current and emerging threats and significant compliance issues
- matters reserved for the Board decision
- the assignment of financial responsibilities and corresponding accountability at management level
- a comprehensive budgeting system with an annual plan and budget which is subject to Board approval
- systems and procedures in place aimed at ensuring the security and resilience of the information technology systems
- financial control systems in place to ensure stewardship of financial resources and the safeguarding of the assets
- procedures for determining and reporting significant control failures and ensuring appropriate corrective action.

STATEMENT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

Ongoing monitoring and review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes in a timely manner. Where control deficiencies are identified the necessary improvements are agreed with those responsible for taking corrective action and appropriate reporting made to management, the ARC and the Board as appropriate.

The system of internal control is based on a framework of regular management reporting, administrative procedures including segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability.

In particular, it includes:

- key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- ongoing monitoring by the Board of the approved annual plan and budget including KPIs, and
- regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance of both financial and nonfinancial reports which indicate performance against budgets and objectives.

Procurement

NSAI has a dedicated procurement officer/procurement function. The procurement arrangements include an annual procurement plan, regular procurement updates for managers, the use of OGP Frameworks and the use of mini-competitions as appropriate to the needs of the organisation.

We confirm that NSAI has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during 2024 NSAI complied with those procedures.

Review of effectiveness

We confirm that NSAI has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. NSAI's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the Audit and Risk Committee which oversees their work and the senior management within NSAI responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Board discussed the annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2024 at the Board meeting on 28 February 2025. This was informed by the formal report on the internal controls environment by the ARC and internal audit assurances, which were considered as item on the ARC meeting agenda on 20 February 2025.

Internal control issues

No weaknesses in internal control were identified which have resulted in material losses in relation to 2024 which require disclosure in the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

James Kennedy

Chairperson

18 June 2025

Geraldine Larkin
Chief Executive Officer

REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required under the provisions of paragraph 8 of the First Schedule of the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act 1996. The financial statements comprise:

- the consolidated statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income
- the consolidated statement of financial position
- the NSAI statement of financial position
- the consolidated statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of National Standards Authority of Ireland at 31 December 2024 and of its income and expenditure for 2024 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the National Standards Authority of Ireland and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

The National Standards Authority of Ireland has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report including the governance statement and Board members' report, and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.

Mary Henry
For and on behalf of the
Comptroller and Auditor General

REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

Appendix to the report

Responsibilities of Board members

As detailed in the governance statement and Board members' report, the Board members are responsible for:

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under paragraph 8 of the First Schedule of the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act 1996
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS 102
- · ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under paragraph 8 of the First Schedule of the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act 1996 to audit the financial statements of the National Standards Authority of Ireland and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.
- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the National Standards Authority of Ireland's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause the National Standards Authority of Ireland to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

Information other than the financial statements

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

BOARD MEMBERS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Board of the NSAI

NSAI Board Members, who are appointed by the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment comprise of the following:

Board Members



J Kennedy Chairman



G Larkin Chief Executive Officer



R Alcorn



D Casey



T Coogan Appointed 19 June 2024



B Cox Appointed 5 November 2024



M Cronin



P Devereux



E Felten Retired 14 April 2024



A Gleeson



G Lopez
Appointed 5 November 2024



M O'Connell



B Smith Retired 14 April 2024



C Verdon Retired 19 June 2024



F Collins

Board Secretary

General information

Head Office 1 Swift Square Northwood Santry Dublin 9

Auditors

Comptroller and Auditor General 3A Mayor Street Upper Dublin 1

Bankers

Allied Irish Banks, plc.

TD Bank

Solicitors

Eversheds Sutherland

Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Income	2	34,936,959	32,467,664
Expenditure			
Administration and general expenses	3	40,895,062	36,273,213
Retirement benefit costs	12(a)	6,698,827	6,548,088
		47,593,889	42,821,301
Net operating costs before grant		(12,656,930)	(10,353,637)
Oireachtas grant	4	11,870,000	10,334,000
Net operating costs for the year		(786,930)	(19,637)
Transfer from capital account	5	202,125	48,505
Translation adjustment		218,263	(105,368)
Transfer from reserves for the year		(366,542)	(76,500)
Balance at 1 January		6,252,580	6,329,080
Balance at 31 December		5,886,038	6,252,580

The consolidated statement of cash flows and Notes 1 to 20 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

James Kennedy

Chairperson

18 June 2025

Geraldine Larkin

Chief Executive Officer

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Reserves for the year after appropriations		(366,542)	(76,500)
Experience gain/(loss) on retirement benefit obligations Changes in assumptions underlying the present value	12(d)	(2,319,000)	3,554,00
of retirement benefit obligations		9,950,000	(3,618,000)
Total actuarial gain/(loss) in the year		7,631,000	(64,000)
Adjustment to deferred retirement benefits funding	12(b)	(7,631,000)	64,000
Total comprehensive costs for the year		(366,542)	(76,500)

The consolidated statement of cash flows and Notes 1 to 20 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

James Kennedy

Chairperson

18 June 2025

Geraldine Larkin

Chief Executive Officer

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	3,777,731	3,976,024
Current assets			
Receivables	8	8,497,592	8,154,862
Cash and cash equivalents		2,191,360	2,280,878
		10,688,952	10,435,740
Current liabilities (falling due < 1 year)			
Payables	9	4,802,914	4,183,160
Net current assets		5,886,038	6,252,580
Total Assets less current liabilities before Pensions		9,663,769	10,228,604
Retirement benefits			
Deferred retirement benefit funding asset	12(c)	102,693,000	105,763,000
Retirement benefit obligations	12(b)	(102,693,000)	(105,763,000)
Net Assets		9,663,769	10,228,604
Representing			
Capital account	5	3,777,731	3,976,024
Retained revenue reserves		5,886,038	6,252,580
		9,663,769	10,228,604

The consolidated statement of cash flows and Notes 1 to 20 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

James Kennedy Chairperson

18 June 2025

Geraldine Larkin
Chief Executive Officer

NSAI Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	3,708,845	3,883,880
Current assets			
Receivables	8	7,260,586	22,738,616
Cash and cash equivalents		1,138,493	783,394
		8,399,079	23,522,010
Current liabilities (falling due < 1 year)			
Payables	9	13,075,598	26,935,462
Net current assets		(4,676,519)	(3,413,452)
Total Assets less current liabilities before Pensions		(967,674)	470,428
Retirement benefits			
Deferred retirement benefit funding asset	12(c)	102,693,000	105,763,000
Retirement benefit obligations	12(b)	(102,693,000)	(105,763,000)
Net Assets		(967,674)	470,428
Representing			
Capital account	5	3,708,845	3,883,880
Retained revenue reserves		(4,676,519)	(3,413,452)
		(967,674)	470,428

The consolidated statement of cash flows and Notes 1 to 20 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

James Kennedy Chairperson 18 June 2025 Geraldine Larkin
Chief Executive Officer
18 June 2025

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net operating costs for the year		(786,930)	(19,637)
Bank interest		(1,131)	(483)
Depreciation charge	6	991,631	908,655
Loss on disposal of property, plant & equipment		8,152	49
Increase in receivables		(342,730)	(423,620)
Increase in payables		619,754	533,159
Currency translation adjustment		218,263	(105,368)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		707,009	892,755
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	6	(798,008)	(887,830)
Receipts from sale of property, plant and equipment		350	27,631
Net cash outflow from investing activities		(797,658)	(860,199)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Bank interest		1,131	483
Net cash inflow from financing activities		1,131	483
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(89,518)	33,039
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		2,280,878	2,247,839
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		2,191,360	2,280,878

The consolidated statement of cash flows and Notes 1 to 20 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

James Kennedy Chairperson 18 June 2025 **Geraldine Larkin** *Chief Executive Officer*

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies

The basis of accounting and significant accounting policies adopted by the National Standards Authority of Ireland in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and for the preceding year.

General information

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) was established on 14 April 1997 under Section 6 of the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act, 1996.

NSAI's statutory functions are defined within the following Acts:

- National Standards Authority of Ireland Act 1996
- Metrology Act 1996
- Packaged Goods (Quantity Control) Act 1980.

NSAI delivers this infrastructure through the core programmes of metrology, standardisation, legal metrology for measurements and measuring instruments used in trade and conformity assessment.

The National Standards Authority of Ireland is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the Authority.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the applicable legislation, and with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK.

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the results of the Authority and its wholly-owned subsidiaries NSAI Inc and NSAI Certification UK Ltd. See Notes 13 and 14 for further details. The accounting policies of the subsidiaries do not differ to those of the Authority.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that are measured at fair values as explained in the accounting policies below. The financial statements are in the form approved by the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment with the concurrence of the Minister for the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform under the National Standards Authority of Ireland Act, 1996.

The accounting policies have been consistently applied in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to NSAI's consolidated financial statements.

Income

All income, other than the Oireachtas grant, is accounted for in the period in which it has been earned. Fees paid in advance are treated as deferred income and are reported as a current liability. This income is released to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves on delivery of the service.

Oireachtas grant

Oireachtas grants are recognised using the performance model. A grant that does not impose specified future performance-related conditions on the recipient is recognised as income when the grant proceeds are received. A grant that imposes specified future performance-related conditions on the recipient is recognised as income only when the performance-related conditions are met.

Translation of foreign currencies

(a) Foreign currency transactions

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the Reporting date. Income and expenses are translated at the exchange rates ruling at the dates of the underlying transactions. Profits and losses arising from foreign currency translations upon settlement of amounts receivable and payable in foreign currency are dealt with in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.Reserves.

(b) Foreign operations

When translating the results of foreign operations for inclusion in the financial statements, assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rate ruling at the reporting date. The translation difference arising from the restatement of foreign operations in the functional currency euro due to changes in exchange rates, is recognised in reserves (the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves under the heading "translation adjustment" in respect of monetary items and the capital account in respect of fixed asset retranslation differences.) Income and expenses are translated at monthly period average exchange rates.

Any resulting translation difference compared to the Statement of Financial Position rate is also recognised in the reserves of the operation.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment, which are owned by the NSAI, are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and adjusted for any provision for impairment. Land and Buildings includes land held accommodating the buildings footprint. Depreciation is calculated in order to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset on a straight-line basis as follows:

i. Equipment, fixtures and fittings 5 years
 ii. Computers 3 years
 iii. Land and buildings 50 years
 i. Motor vehicles 5 years

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of an age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of an asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year.

Capital account

The capital account represents grant income utilised for the acquisition of property, plant and equipment and is written down in line with the depreciation and revaluation policies for the related assets.

Receivables

Receivables are recognised at fair value, less a provision for doubtful debts. The provision for doubtful debts is made against specific doubtful debtors with additional provision against other trade debts when there is objective evidence that NSAI or NSAI Inc will not be able to collect all amounts owed. All movements in the provision for doubtful debts are recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

Operating leases

Rental expenditure under operating leases is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves over the life of the lease. Expenditure is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease period, except where there are rental increases linked to the expected rate of inflation, in which case these increases are recognised when incurred. Any lease incentives received are recognised over the life of the lease.

Employee benefits

(a) Short-term benefits

Short term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the Payables figure in the Statement of Financial Position.

(b) Retirement benefits

The Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves, Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position recognise pension transactions, movements and balances in accordance with the requirements of Section 28 of FRS 102: Employee Benefits.

NSAI superannuation scheme

NSAI operates a defined benefit pension scheme which is funded annually on a pay as you go basis from monies available to it, including monies provided by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and from contributions deducted from staff salaries.

Retirement benefit costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are retained by the NSAI. An amount corresponding to the retirement charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising from changes in actuarial assumptions and from experience surpluses and deficits are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year in which they occur, and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

Retirement benefit obligations represent the present value of future pension payments earned by staff to date. Deferred retirement benefit funding represents the corresponding asset to be recovered in future periods from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

The National Standards Authority of Ireland recognises an asset in respect of deferred retirement benefit funding - the current value of the funding it anticipates will be provided in the future by the State to meet retirement benefit liabilities as they fall due. Inherent in this accounting treatment is an assumption that any income generated by the National Standards Authority of Ireland will in the first instance be applied towards current expenses and that State funding will meet any current or future shortfall in resources including future retirement benefit liabilities.

Single Public Service Pension Scheme

NSAI also operates the Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"), which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1 January 2013. Single Scheme members' contributions are paid over to the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform (DPER). Employers' contributions remittance to DPER commenced on 1 January 2019.

Additional superannuation contribution

From 1 January 2019 onwards, members of public service defined benefit pension schemes pay an additional superannuation contribution (ASC) arising from the Public Service Stability Agreement (2018-2020) and the Public Service Pay and Pensions Act 2017. ASC has replaced the pension-related deduction (PRD) which ceased at the end of 2018. While PRD was a temporary emergency measure, ASC is a permanent contribution in respect of pensionable remuneration. The deduction is collected and remitted to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. (see Note 3)

Critical accounting judgements and estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the year end and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following judgements have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

(a) Impairment of property, plant and equipment

Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

(b) Retirement benefit obligation

The assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations for which the amounts recognised in the financial statements are determined (including discount rates, rates of increase in future compensation levels, mortality rates and healthcare cost trend rates) are updated annually based on current economic conditions, and for any relevant changes to the terms and conditions of the pension and post-retirement plans.

The assumptions can be affected by:

- i. the discount rate, changes in the rate of return on high-quality corporate bonds
- ii. future compensation levels, future labour market conditions
- iii. health care cost trend rates, the rate of medical cost inflation in the relevant regions.

2. Income

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Certification fees		29,201,242	26,227,365
Sale of standards		2,300,642	2,053,197
Other income		441,944	375,619
Bank interest		1,131	483
		31,944,959	28,656,664
Net deferred retirement benefit funding	12(c)	2,992,000	3,811,000
		34,936,959	32,467,664

3. Administration and general expenses

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Pay	3(a)	23,542,349	20,359,802
Board members remuneration and expenses	15	69,761	79,025
Travelling expenses	3(b)	1,614,474	1,315,918
Subcontractors	3(c)	6,767,372	6,217,133
External Service Delivery		269,867	276,338
Consultancy	3(d)	188,101	267,133
Legal costs and settlements	3(e)	328,659	111,634
Rents, rates, repairs and maintenance		1,896,503	1,970,289
Other operating expenses	3(f)	4,074,434	3,677,155
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment		8,152	49
Subscriptions to organisations		1,143,759	1,090,082
Depreciation	6	991,631	908,655
		40,895,062	36,273,213

3. Administration and general expenses (continued)

(a) Pay:

	2024 €	2023 €
Wages and salaries	21,152,757	18,487,033
Overtime	125,558	87,356
Allowances	141,202	144,238
Social welfare costs	1,866,010	1,614,411
Superannuation costs	256,822	26,764
	23,542,349	20,359,802

Additional superannuation contributions of €565,776 (2023: €532,155) have been deducted from salaries and paid to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

Single Public Service Pension Scheme deductions of €416,152 (2023: €327,259) have been deducted from employees' salaries and paid to the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform.

The number of persons employed (whole time equivalent) at 31 December 2024 was 254 (2023: 237).

(b) Travelling expenses

NSAI's head office is located at Swift Square, Santry and has regional offices and centres throughout Ireland. It also has subsidiary offices in Nashua, New Hampshire, USA and London, UK. Travel outside of Ireland for all staff based in Ireland is considered International travel. For Staff based in the USA, travel within the USA is regarded as Domestic travel, travel outside the USA is regarded as International travel. For staff based in the UK travel outside of the UK is considered International travel.

The total costs incurred re domestic travel and subsistence in 2024 was €1,215,252 (2023: €1,013,975). The total costs incurred re international travel and subsistence in 2024 was €399,222 (2023: €301,943)

(c) Subcontractors

Subcontractors' costs relate to the use of specialist experts engaged in the delivery of NSAI income-generating activities.

(d) Consultancy

Consultancy costs include the cost of external advice to management and exclude outsourced 'business-as-usual' functions.

	2024 €	2023 €
Human resources & pensions	17,000	101,227
Legal advice	68,644	109,305
Finance/Actuarial	36,720	5,575
Other	65,737	51,026
	188,101	267,133

3. Administration and general expenses (continued)

(e) Legal costs and settlements

The table below provides a breakdown of amounts recognised as expenditure in the reporting period in relation to legal costs, settlements and conciliation and arbitration proceedings relating to contracts with third parties. This does not include expenditure incurred in relation to general legal advice received by NSAI which is disclosed in Consultancy costs above.

	2024 €	2023 €
Legal Fees – Legal Proceedings	65,963	111,634
Legal Fees – Legal Settlement	142,696	-
Conciliation and arbitration	_	-
Settlements	120,000	_
	328,659	111,634

(f) Other operating expenses

	2024	2023
	€	€
Advertising, Marketing and PR	208,789	184,157
ICT Costs	1,475,296	1,112,392
Communication, Printing and Publications	352,312	391,911
Finance Costs	147,837	187,974
Insurance	1,123,370	910,074
Staff Development	386,029	386,761
Recruitment costs	129,234	295,542
Audit Fee – C&AG	35,900	32,600
Audit Fee – Internal and External Audit fees	40,649	31,168
Other Operating Expenses	175,018	144,576
	4,074,434	3,677,155

(g) Hospitality expenditure

Hospitality expenditure in 2024 was €30,825 (2023: €32,264) consisting of client hospitality €6,484 (2023: €5,927) and employee engagement/staff welfare €24,341 (2023: €26,337). Employee engagement/staff welfare includes a contribution to staff social club events and staff team-building exercises.

3. Administration and general expenses (continued)

(h) Employee benefits breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following bands:

Range of total employee benefits	2024 No. employees	2023 No. employees
€60,000 – €69,999	25	35
€70,000 – €79,999	50	36
€80,000 – €89,999	25	15
€90,000 - €99,999	21	17
€100,000 – €109,999	21	22
€110,000 – €119,999	8	5
€120,000 – €129,999	4	5
€130,000 – €139,999	2	7
€140,000 – €149,999	7	3
€150,000 – €159,999	3	1
€160,000 – €169,999	-	-
€170,000 – €179,999	2	3
€180,000 – €189,999	2	1

Figures include NSAI, NSAI Inc and NSAI Certification UK Ltd employees who are based in different jurisdictions. NSAI employees are public-sector employees whose pay is set by reference to authorisations of the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform. NSAI Inc employees are employed by NSAI Inc in the USA whose pay is set by reference to local market rates, terms and conditions. NSAI Certification UK Ltd. employees are employed by NSAI Certification UK Ltd. in the UK whose pay is set by reference to local market rates, terms and conditions.

4. Oireachtas grant

	2024 €	2023 €
Grant for administration and general expenses	11,870,000	10,334,000

The Oireachtas grant is issued by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and includes an amount of €500,000 (2023: €500,000) in relation to capital purchases in the year. Funding is from Vote 32, Subhead A.6.

5. Capital account

	2024 Group €	2024 NSAI €	2023 Group €	2023 NSAI €
At 1 January	3,976,024	3,883,880	4,025,972	3,937,988
Movements on property, plant and equipment	(202,125)	(175,035)	(48,505)	(54,108)
Transfer to Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	(202,125)	(175,035)	(48,505)	(54,108)
Currency translation adjustment	3,832	-	(1,443)	
At 31 December	3,777,731	3,708,845	3,976,024	3,883,880

6. Property, plant and equipment

Group:

At 31 December 2024	937,937	887,286	1,940,500	12,008	3,777,731
Translation adjustment	260	3,572	_	_	3,832
Net movement for year	(133,187)	11,107	(66,218)	(13,827)	(202,125)
At 1 January 2024	1,070,864	872,607	2,006,718	25,835	3,976,024
Net book value					
At 31 December 2024	6,151,922	6,510,190	2,492,250	343,543	15,497,905
Translation adjustment	1,928	26,519	5,170	_	33,617
Disposals	(75,077)	(16,777)	_	_	(91,854)
Charge for the year	361,923	548,103	67,778	13,827	991,631
At 1 January 2024	5,863,148	5,952,345	2,419,302	329,716	14,564,511
Depreciation:					
At 31 December 2024	7,089,859	7,397,476	4,432,750	355,551	19,275,636
Translation adjustment	2,188	30,091	5,170	_	37,449
Disposals	(75,077)	(25,279)	-	_	(100,356)
Additions	228,736	567,712	1,560	_	798,008
Cost: At 1 January 2024	6,934,012	6,824,952	4,426,020	355,551	18,540,535
Contr	€	€	€	€	€
	Equipment, fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Land and buildings	Motor vehicles	Total

6. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

NSAI

	Equipment, fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Land and buildings	Motor vehicles	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
Cost:					
At 1 January 2024	6,901,085	6,372,887	4,348,231	355,551	17,977,754
Additions	228,735	539,164	1,560	_	769,459
Disposals	(75,077)	(25,279)	-	_	(100,356)
At 31 December 2024	7,054,743	6,886,772	4,349,791	355,551	18,646,857
Depreciation:					
At 1 January 2024	5,835,328	5,587,317	2,341,513	329,716	14,093,874
Charge for the year	359,979	494,408	67,778	13,827	935,992
Disposals	(75,077)	(16,777)	-	_	(91,854)
At 31 December 2024	6,120,230	6,064,948	2,409,291	343,543	14,938,012
Net book value					
At 1 January 2024	1,065,757	785,570	2,006,718	25,835	3,883,880
Net movement for year	(131,244)	36,254	(66,218)	(13,827)	(175,035)
At 31 December 2024	934,513	821,824	1,940,500	12,008	3,708,845

7. Property

NSAI occupies premises at a number of locations. The head office is located at 1 Swift Square, Santry, Dublin 9. These premises are leased, the lease was entered into in January 2008 for a period of 20 years. A rent review was completed in 2023, no further reviews are due up to the expiry of the lease. The lease is due to expire in December 2027.

The NSAI has a number of Regional Centres located at Cork, Dublin, Dundalk, Galway, Limerick, Sligo and Waterford. The NSAI National Metrology Laboratory is located at Glasnevin, Dublin 9. All of these premises are owned by NSAI.

The US subsidiary office is located at 20 Trafalgar Square, Nashua, NH 03063, USA, these premises are leased, the lease was entered into in September 2015 for a period of five years and was extended for a further five years in 2020. The UK subsidiary office is located at 6-9 The Square, Stockley Park, Heathrow, UB11 1FW, UK. These premises are on short-term rental agreement entered into in September 2021.

8. Receivables

	2024 Group €	2024 NSAI €	2023 Group €	2023 NSAI €
Trade receivables	5,621,667	2,713,677	5,211,248	2,841,957
Accrued income	1,563,533	1,531,254	1,625,077	1,575,447
Prepayments	1,312,392	1,244,044	1,318,537	1,182,161
Intercompany	-	1,771,611	_	17,139,051
	8,497,592	7,260,586	8,154,862	22,738,616

All receivables are due within one year. All trade receivables are due within the Authority's normal terms. Trade receivables are shown net of impairment in respect of doubtful debts. The movement in impairment in respect of doubtful debts is as follows:

	2024 Group €	2024 NSAI €	2023 Group €	2023 NSAI €
Balance at 1 January	511,763	321,346	678,311	473,552
Utilised in the year	_	-	(104,573)	_
Provision adjustment	(146,955)	(110,048)	(61,975)	(152,206)
Balance at 31 December	364,808	211,298	511,763	321,346

9. Payables (falling due < 1 year)

	2024 Group €	2024 NSAI €	2023 Group €	2023 NSAI €
Trade payables	263,352	240,635	253,972	188,372
Other payables and accruals	2,197,534	1,943,161	1,860,996	1,603,986
Deferred income	1,845,523	1,286,512	1,705,804	1,256,203
Taxation, social insurance and VAT	496,505	496,505	362,388	362,388
Intercompany	-	9,108,785	_	23,524,513
	4,802,914	13,075,598	4,183,160	26,935,462

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10. Operating lease commitments

Payments made under operating leases on buildings charged in the financial statements amounted to €909,799 (2023: €908,333). Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024 Group €	2024 NSAI €	2023 Group €	2023 NSAI €
Within one year	886,750	841,464	911,700	841,464
Between two to five years	1,682,928	1,682,928	2,571,835	2,524,392
After five years	_		_	
	2,569,678	2,524,392	3,483,535	3,365,856

11. Taxation

The Authority is exempt from taxation on its income.

12. Retirement benefit costs

(a) Analysis of total retirement benefit costs charged to the Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

	2024	2023
	€	€
Current service costs – NSAI Scheme	2,694,000	2,435,000
Interest on retirement benefit scheme liabilities – NSAI Scheme	3,142,000	3,525,000
NSAI Scheme – Employee contributions	(385,628)	(393,689)
Current service costs – Single Public Service Pension Scheme	1,434,000	916,000
Interest on retirement benefit scheme liabilities – Single Public Service Pension Scheme	135,000	106,000
Adjustment for Current Service Cost and Interest on the SPSPS	(1,569,000)	(1,022,000)
Single Public Service Pension Scheme – Employer Contribution	1,248,455	981,777
	6,698,827	6,548,088

12. Retirement benefit costs (continued)

(b) Movement in net retirement benefit obligations during the financial year

	2024 €	2023 €
Net retirement benefit obligation at 1 January	105,763,000	100,866,000
Current service costs – NSAI Scheme	2,694,000	2,435,000
Interest costs – NSAI Scheme	3,142,000	3,525,000
Current service costs – SPSPS Scheme	1,434,000	916,000
Interest costs – SPSPS Scheme	135,000	106,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(7,631,000)	64,000
Pensions paid in the year	(2,844,000)	(2,149,000)
Net retirement benefit obligation at 31 December	102,693,000	105,763,000

(c) Deferred funding for retirement benefits

NSAI recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for pensions on the basis of a set of assumptions and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the superannuation schemes, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. NSAI has no evidence that the policy referred to above will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

The net deferred funding for retirement benefits recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves was as follows:

	2024 €	2023 €
Funding recoverable in respect of current year retirement benefit costs Adjustment in respect of the Single Public Service Pension Scheme State grant applied to pay retirement benefits	7,405,000 (1,569,000) (2,844,000)	6,982,000 (1,022,000) (2,149,000)
	2,992,000	3,811,000

The deferred funding asset for retirement benefits at 31 December 2024 amounts to €102.693m (2023: €105.76m).

12. Retirement benefit costs (continued)

(d) History of defined benefit obligation

	2024 €	2023 €
Defined benefit obligations Experience gain/(loss) on defined benefit scheme liabilities	102,693,000 (2,319,000)	105,763,000 3,554,000
Percentage of scheme liabilities	2.3%	3.4%

(e) General description of the schemes

NSAI Superannuation Scheme

The retirement benefit scheme is a defined benefit final salary pension arrangement with benefits and contributions defined by reference to current "model" public sector scheme regulations. The scheme provides a pension (eightieths per year of service), a gratuity or lump sum (three eightieths per year of service) and spouse's and children's pensions. Normal retirement age under this scheme is a member's 65th birthday, and pre 2004 members have an entitlement to retire without actuarial reduction from age 60. Pensions in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.

Single Public Service Pension Scheme

The Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme") commenced with effect from 1 January 2013. All new entrants to pensionable public service employment on or after 1 January 2013 are members of the Single Pension Scheme. The Single Pension Scheme is based on a career averaging model. This means that retirement benefits are based on a % of pensionable earnings throughout the member's public service career as a member of the scheme.

(f) Schemes valuation

The valuation used for FRS 102 disclosures has been based on a full actuarial valuation performed in February 2025 by a qualified independent actuary, taking account of the requirements of the FRS to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2024.

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows:

	2024	2023
Rate of increase in salaries	3.05%	3.30%
Rate of increase in retirement benefits in payment	2.55%	2.80%
Discount rate	3.45%	3.15%
Inflation rate	2.05%	2.30%

(g) Mortality

Average future life expectancy according to the mortality tables used to determine the pension liabilities

	2024	2023
Male aged 65 Female aged 65	21.7 24.1	22.1 24.4

13. NSAI Inc

NSAI Inc was established in New Hampshire, USA on July 1, 1997 as a not for profit corporation wholly-owned by NSAI for the purpose of distribution and dissemination of information on current and proposed Irish and EU standards, the provision of technical reviews and evaluation of products, processes and practices and certification for conformity to EU, Irish and international standards. The balances and transactions of NSAI Inc. have been included in these financial statements.

The consolidated surplus for the year includes a surplus from the operations of NSAI Inc of €753,650 (2023: €806,457). See Note 13(a) for an outline of financial details.

(a) Outline of the NSAI Inc financial details are as follows:

Statement of Income and Expenditure	2024 €	2023 €
Income		
Certification fees	10,524,098	8,513,624
Expenditure		
Pay	4,085,162	3,849,576
Travelling expenses	678,643	559,630
Subcontractors	3,523,453	3,175,497
Consultancy	34,568	20,494
Rents, rates, repairs and maintenance	97,170	91,300
Other operating expenses	718,373	889,706
Subscriptions to organisations	208,328	173,387
Depreciation	55,639	51,611
Net intercompany (re-charge)/charge	369,112	(1,104,034)
	9,770,448	7,707,167
Operating surplus for the year	753,650	806,457

13. NSAI Inc (continued)

Statement of Financial Position	2024	2023	
	€	€	
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	68,887	92,145	
Current assets			
Receivables	3,008,617	2,555,297	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,052,866	1,497,485	
Intercompany	9,108,785	23,524,513	
	13,170,268	27,577,295	
Current liabilities (falling due < 1 year)			
Payables	806,891	740,215	
Intercompany	366,969	16,367,995	
	1,173,860	17,108,210	
Net current assets	11,996,408	10,469,085	
Net Assets	12,065,295	10,561,230	
Represented by:			
Capital account	68,887	92,145	
Retained revenue reserves	11,996,408	10,469,085	
	12,065,295	10,561,230	

14. NSAI Certification UK Limited

NSAI Certification UK Limited was incorporated in the UK, on July 15, 2021 as a private company wholly-owned by the NSAI, establishing a presence in the UK which is a prerequisite to securing the UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) and MHRA (the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency) accreditations required to provide UKCA certification for Irish Medical Devices and Construction products to be placed on the UK market. UKAS approval for construction was received in April 2023. Approval from the UK Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities was received in May 2023. Certification activities commenced in August 2023. The UKAS assessment to ISO 13485 for medical devices is ongoing, and we are currently awaiting a response from UKAS. The MHRA designation process for Approved Body status under medical devices is now expected to commence with a preliminary phase in 2026.

(a) Outline of the NSAI Certification UK Ltd. Financial details are as follows:

Statement of Income and Expenditure	2024 €	2023 €
Income		
Certification fees	338,426	-
Expenditure		
Pay	491,960	410,840
Travelling expenses	29,483	6,690
Rent and facilities	46,858	20,556
Subscriptions to organisations	28,073	50,818
Other operating expenses	100,390	96,403
Net intercompany (re-charge)/charge	272,462	(101,520)
	969,226	483,787
Operating cost for the year	(630,800)	(483,787)

14. NSAI Certification UK Limited (continued)

Statement of Financial Position	2024 €	2023 €
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	-	_
Current assets		
Receivables	_	_
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-
Intercompany	-	-
	-	-
Current liabilities (falling due < 1 year)		
Payables	29,214	32,000
Intercompany	1,404,641	771,055
	1,433,855	803,055
Net current assets	(1,433,855)	(803,055)
Net Assets	(1,433,855)	(803,055)
Represented by:		
Capital account	1	1
Retained revenue reserves	(1,433,856)	(803,056)
	(1,433,855)	(803,055)

15. Board members - disclosure of transactions

In the normal course of business, the NSAI may enter into contractual arrangements with undertakings in which NSAI Board members are employed or otherwise interested. The NSAI adopted procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board members and these procedures have been adhered to by the NSAI during the year.

(a) Directors remuneration - paid in 2024

		Note	2024 €
J Kennedy			11,929
R Alcorn			7,668
D Casey			7,668
T Coogan	DETE representative – appointed 19 June 2024	<i>(i)</i>	
В Сох	Appointed 5 November 2024	(i)	
M Cronin			7,668
P Devereux			7,668
W Egenton	Retired 31 December 2023		147
E Felten	Retired 14 April 2024	(i)	_
A Gleeson			7,668
G Lopez	Appointed 5 November 2024	(i)	_
M O'Connell			7,668
B Smith	Retired 14 April 2024	(i)	_
C Verdon	DETE representative, retired 19 June 2024	<i>(i)</i>	_
G Larkin	Chief Executive Officer	(i)	_

The total directors' remuneration for 2024 was €58,084 (2023: €65,605)

(b) Directors expenses

The total directors expenses paid directly to members in 2024 was €5,710 (2023: €7,717)

(c) CEO salary

The total remuneration paid to G Larkin in 2024 was €183,749 (2023: €175,727). The CEO is a member of the Single Public Service Pension scheme. G Larkin did not receive any performance-related payments in 2024.

(d) Key management remuneration

All directors, Board members, CEO and certain senior employees who have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Authority are considered to be key management personnel. Total remuneration in respect of these individuals is €948,218 (2023: €834,584).

i) Remuneration not payable in accordance with OPOS principle.

16. Related party disclosure

There are no related party transactions.

17. Financial instruments

The analysis of the carrying amounts of the financial instruments of the Group and NSAI required under section 11 of FRS 102 is as follows:

Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	2024 Group €	2024 NSAI €	2023 Group €	2023 NSAI €
Trade receivables	5,621,667	2,713,677	5,211,248	2,841,957
Intercompany	_	1,771,611	_	17,139,051
Cash and cash equivalents	2,191,360	1,138,493	2,280,878	783,394
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost				
Trade payables	263,352	240,635	253,972	188,372
Intercompany	_	9,108,785	_	23,524,513
Accruals and other payables	2,197,534	1,943,161	1,860,996	1,603,986

18. Contingent liabilities

Ongoing legal proceedings served on NSAI are being addressed by the Authority. No provision has been made in the financial statements as the financial impact (if any) cannot be determined at this point.

19. Capital commitments

There were capital commitments of €150,235 at the year-end (2023: €130,391).

20. Approval of financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 25 April 2025.

NSAI Offices

Providing services locally, enabling trade globally

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Ballybrit Galway

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