



2024

Year in Review



NSAI



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

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Pictured: Delegates from the plenary meeting of ISO/TC 198, Sterilisation of health care products - held in ATU, Galway



A photograph of three people standing in front of a modern building with large glass windows. On the left is a woman with blonde hair, smiling, wearing a light-colored blazer. In the center is a man with grey hair, wearing a light grey blazer. On the right is a man with brown hair and a beard, wearing a dark blue suit and a purple tie. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

NSAI: Driving improvement and innovation for Ireland's future

The National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) is Ireland's official standards body. For nearly 30 years, we've delivered standardisation, certification and measurement services on behalf of the Irish state. Every day, we seek to innovate to help shape a safer, better and sustainable future.

Reporting to the Minister for Small Businesses and Retail at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, we're a business improvement partner. We help Irish businesses 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: [NSAI.ie](https://nsai.ie)

UK: [NSAI.uk](https://nsai.uk)

Global: [NSAinc.com](https://nsa-inc.com)

Pictured: NSAI's Stewart Hickey (on the right), alongside Avril McCarthy and Gerard McCarthy of Derrycourt Cleaning Specialists. The Dublin-based company was awarded an EU Ecolabel licence through the NSAI, for its indoor cleaning services.

Empowering Irish organisations: 2024 in numbers

Standards & standards development



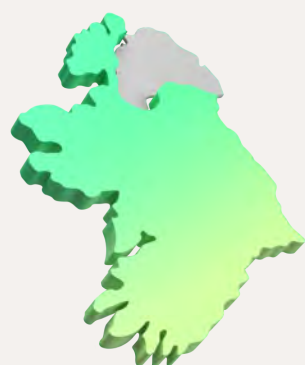
286,209
standards
viewed/downloaded



1,467
standards
published

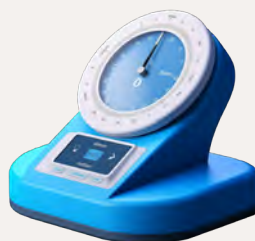


200
new committee
members welcomed



6,212
premises visited
across Ireland

Legal metrology



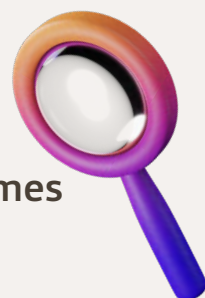
22,292
trade instruments
inspected



5,489
calibration certificates
issued by NML to 412
companies

The science of measurement through the National Metrology Laboratory (NML)

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



378
new management
system certificates
issued



1,132
construction products
approved



360
insulation
installers
registered



48
new client companies
served through NSAI
Certification UK,
including UKCA marking



48
new MMC applications
received



80
new Modern Methods
of Construction (MMC)
enquires received

Supporting Irish industry: Hear from our Chairperson & CEO



James Kennedy
Chairperson



Geraldine Larkin
CEO

NSAI strives to support innovation, help Irish SMEs and share our extensive knowledge base. As such, our Strategic Plan 2022–2026 is built on the pillars of housing, digital transformation, climate and medtech.

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.

In 2025, we'll help Ireland to meet high housing demand under *Housing for All* by driving digital transformation in construction. We'll do this through Agrément certification and by certifying more systems of modern methods of construction (MMC). We will also grow our new building information modelling (BIM) department.

Digital: Enabling transformation

In February 2024, we co-hosted a European Joint Technical Committee meeting on AI (JTC 21), attended by standards experts from 25 countries. We also hosted parallel events inviting Irish businesses to hear the latest insights from these experts.

We continue to lead on information security as the main co-ordinator on the EU TrustBoost programme. This initiative enhances cybersecurity, resilience and compliance across the EU.

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.

Leading on green standards

NSAI aims 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're planning to roll out greenhouse gas verification for Irish businesses.

Medtech: Evolving certification support

Our medical devices teams supported certification for medical device manufacturing to key standards. This includes the European Union Medical Devices Regulation and I.S. EN ISO 13485:2016.

We're also working on a significant restructuring of our medical devices division to support global growth for businesses.

Metrology: Vital verification

In a boost for Irish business resilience in 2024, the NML announced the launch of Europe's first verified GPS/GNSS Data Stream (VGDS) service, an extension to the National Timing Grid of Ireland.

Meanwhile, NSAI's Legal Metrology Service supported consumers and the taxi industry with taximeter verification, following a fare change in 2024.

Standards at the centre

As Ireland prepares to take over the presidency of the Council of the EU in July 2026, NSAI continues to lead on the role of standards in support of the single market. This is a vital role at national and European level.



Enabling excellence: Our 2024 highlights

January 2024

Digital skills for construction

NSAI's MMC department sponsored the CiTA Digital Skills Series for 2024, supporting nine industry events throughout 2024. The first, held in January, centred around construction project management, retrofitting, immersive technologies, pre-fabrication and BIM.

Emerging Irish professionals

NSAI's Standards division partnered with DKE (German Commission for Electrical, Electronic and Information Technologies), to organise an event for Ireland's emerging professionals and their German counterparts. The theme was *AI's potential and its reliance on standardisation for advancement*.

Fostering information security awareness

NSAI's business excellence department hosted a *Let's talk about information security* webinar for the public and private sector. This was part of its ongoing awareness campaign around cybersecurity and information security.

February 2024

Recognising excellence through people

Clancy Construction, Clare County Council and Tusla were among the public and private sector bodies to achieve *Excellence Through People* certification through NSAI in 2024 (ETP 1000:2017). This scheme recognises organisations that consistently develop HR systems, structures, values and culture to support a people-focused environment for staff.

Artificial intelligence and standards

NSAI co-hosted an important European Joint Technical Committee plenary meeting with artificial intelligence and standards experts from 25 countries (JTC 21 *Artificial Intelligence*). In conjunction, Minister of State Dara Calleary TD delivered the opening address at a panel discussion co-hosted by NSAI and the SFI ADAPT Centre on the topic of *Shaping the future through AI Standards*.

March 2024

Celebrating Ireland's SMEs

NSAI presented the *Innovator of the Year* award at the Small Firm Association's National Small Business Awards, recognising the important link between excellence, standards and innovation.

April 2024

Getting certified for information security

Certification of Irish SMEs to the Information security management system (ISO/IEC 27001:2022) rose by 300% in 2024. Those achieving certification included Alliance Medical Diagnostic Imaging Ltd, headquartered in Limerick, and Compupac IT Solutions in Sligo.

April 2023

Knowledge transfer

NSAI standards officers spoke about standardisation and innovation at the *Unlocking the Value of Knowledge Transfer* conference, jointly hosted by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Enterprise Ireland and Knowledge Transfer Ireland. The event was supported by the European Commission's Directorate General for Research and Innovation.

Accessing standards

NSAI launched its new-look webstore to enable users to access national, European and international standards more quickly and efficiently. Around 280,000 standards are downloaded or viewed on average, every year, through Standards.ie.

May 2024

Making an impact

Minister of State Emer Higgins TD launched NSAI's *Year in Review 2023* alongside NSAI CEO, Geraldine Larkin and Chair, James Kennedy. The Minister also met with Irish businesses that have benefitted from certification and standards.

Housing and MMC

NSAI's MMC team spoke at multiple industry events and exhibited at several conferences throughout the year. At the MMC Ireland national conference in Kilkenny and at the Construction Industry Federation DIGICON summit in Dublin, NSAI presented on the pathway for NSAI MMC Agrément certification.

CE marking

NSAI Certification UK attended the Manufacturing and Supply Chain Conference and Exhibition in Dublin, providing information to businesses on CE and UKCA marking.

World Metrology Day

Minister of State Emer Higgins TD visited NSAI's National Metrology Laboratory in Glasnevin to mark World Metrology Day with NSAI scientists, legal metrology inspectors and local primary school students.

June 2024

Young Professionals Programme

At the PR Excellence Awards, NSAI and Carr Communications were highly commended for a project in the *Best Public Sector or Civil Service Campaign* category. The project recruited Ireland's next nominees for the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) Young Professionals' Programme.

Sterilisation of healthcare products

NSAI hosted an international technical committee plenary meeting at the Atlantic Technological University Campus in Galway. This brought global experts together to discuss the sterilisation of healthcare products (ISO/TC 198 *Sterilisation of health care products*).



Pictured: David Fleming of NSAI's NML at the announcement of Europe's first verified GPS/GNSS Data Stream service

July 2024

Measuring electrical voltage

NSAI's NML performed a primary realisation of the voltage unit using a *Josephson Array Voltage Standard*. This is a cryogenic standard requiring a temperature just a few degrees above absolute zero. The realisation of a voltage unit means creating a highly accurate and consistent standard for measuring electrical voltage.

Helping students use standards

NSAI collaborated with Dublin City University to produce a series of videos for students. The videos highlighted how to use standards for research and projects.

Circular economy transition

NSAI's Climate Action and Sustainability Centre of Excellence co-ordinated engagement with other government bodies and industry across both NSAI Certification and Standards Divisions. Together, they developed a viewpoint document called *Supporting the circular economy transition in the Irish Construction Sector*. This was an initiative of the Government's Construction Sector Group (CSG).

August 2024

Your Standards, Your Say

Public consultations took place over the summer, including one on the draft Irish standard for horse and stud fencing (I.S. 437:2024 Horse and stud fencing – timber post and rail).

NSAI also promoted a series of public consultations around concrete as part of a revision and restructure of EN 206:2013 +A2:2016 - Concrete - Specification, performance, production and conformity.

September 2024

Strengthening cybersecurity across Europe

TrustBoost, a new project co-ordinated by the NSAI to strengthen cybersecurity across Europe, was successfully launched. Supported by the Digital Europe Programme, the project consortium will develop new strategies, tools and technologies to create a more secure digital ecosystem for Europe.

Road safety and passenger safety

NSAI's Automotive Certification team hosted the European Type Approval Authorities Meeting (TAAM) in Dublin Castle. Members from 18 approval authorities across Europe attended this event. TAAM is a forum for approval authorities to discuss and harmonise policies and procedures related to type-approval legislation.

Verifying taxi fares

Ahead of the new national maximum taxi fare coming into effect, NSAI's Legal Metrology Service (LMS) held workshops for taximeter installers. LMS is responsible for the compliance of taximeters in Ireland, which must be verified at all times.

International standards community

NSAI CEO Geraldine Larkin represented the organisation at the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) Annual Meeting. The event showcased how international standards can drive sustainable and inclusive growth, promote responsible AI and shape the future of human capital.

Legal metrology – out of hours

Legal Metrology Inspectors from NSAI conducted several out-of-hours campaigns, with a particular focus on trade measuring instruments used for milk, oil, waste and in licensed premises.

October 2024

Environmental excellence

To mark World Ecolabel Day, NSAI launched an awareness campaign for the European Union's official ecolabel. Recognised internationally, the EU Ecolabel promotes environmental excellence. It is awarded to products and services that meet high environmental standards throughout their life cycle.

World Standards Day

Minister of State Dara Calleary TD delivered the opening address at the Standards Day Forum and Awards Ceremony centred on the theme of *Standards and the Digital World*. The event, organised in connection with World Standards Day, saw NSAI host delegates from across Ireland to recognise the work standards committee members undertake throughout the year.

#WeAreNSAIMedicalDevices

NSAI's Medical Devices department sponsored, presented and exhibited at the Global Access conference in Galway, organised by the Irish MedTech Association. The event brought together national experts, policy makers, regulators and representatives of the global medical technology industry.

Milestone: National Timing Grid extension

NSAI's NML announced the launch of Europe's first ever verified GPS/GNSS Data Stream (VGDS) service, an extension to the [National Timing Grid of Ireland](#).

Responsible recycling, globally.

NSAI Inc met client companies and businesses while exhibiting at the eSummit (Electronics Sustainability Summit), to promote certification and responsible recycling services. The event, held in Austin, Texas, brought stakeholders from the electronics lifecycle together to foster innovation and collaboration for a more circular and sustainable global economy.

November 2024

Energy management

NSAI achieved certification to ISO 50001:2018 Energy management systems covering our energy consumption across all our buildings and NSAI fleet vehicles in Ireland.

Business leaders

NSAI's CEO Geraldine Larkin spoke at a business leaders' convention about sustainability and competitiveness on a panel called *Striking the competitive – net zero balance*. Organised by Engineering Ireland Industries in IBEC, the event also featured contributions from IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland.

December 2024

Construction: Building Information Modelling

NSAI established the Building Information Modelling (BIM) department within its Certification division. BIM is a process for creating and managing information on a construction project throughout its whole lifecycle.

Bioeconomy in Ireland

NSAI set up a national committee for the bioeconomy (NSAI/TC 169 – Bioeconomy) to promote the role of standardisation and its potential to support the bioeconomy. This sector includes services and investments that conserve, produce, regenerate, process, distribute or consume biological resources.

Taxi fares

With the new maximum taxi fare coming into effect, NSAI's LMS continued its taximeter verification campaign for taxi licence holders.

Putting our work in context

Strategic & policy overview

NSAI's strategic goals showcase the breadth and depth of knowledge in the organisation, and include contributions to national policies. Throughout 2024, our work furthered these goals:

Irish SME growth

In one of our key strategic projects, *Supporting National Economic Growth and SMEs*, NSAI developed and rolled out self-assessment tools for SMEs relating to key management system standard – ISO 27001 (information security management). This new app will launch in spring 2025. We continued our awareness campaign and webinar series for Irish SMEs around the benefits of an information security, *Let's talk about information security*.

NSAI launched *Certification for Innovation Management Professionals* in partnership with the Research Institutes of Sweden (RISE). This promotes the link between innovation and economic growth and recognises innovation management professionals in Ireland.

Climate action and sustainability

NSAI fully supported European and national policy delivery under the *Climate Action Plan* by providing technical infrastructure services for:

- + emerging technologies
- + low-carbon and modern methods of construction (MMC)
- + climate adaptation
- + carbon capture and use of alternative fuels.

Meeting *Housing for All* commitments

Under the Government's *Housing for All* policy, NSAI offered:

- + certifications on the construction stage
- + sign-off on modern methods of construction (MMC) products
- + building system installation compliance under building regulations.

NSAI established its new BIM department in December 2024.



NSAI

NSAI online

Ireland: [NSAI.ie](https://www.nsi.ie)

UK: [NSAI.uk](https://www.nsi.uk)

Global: [NSAIinc.com](https://www.nsiinc.com)

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