

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Frontline Diagnostics first with AS4308:2008 NATA on-site screening accreditation

Frontline Diagnostics is the first drug and alcohol screening service to be accredited to sections of the Australian Standard AS4308:2008 for collection and on-site screening<sup>1</sup> by the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA).

According to Frontline Diagnostics' General Manager Richard Varnish, the company is the first service organisation to achieve this new level of accreditation.

"This is the first and only time that NATA has awarded accreditation for the on-site component of the new Standard. We are extremely proud to be the first to achieve this, and happy that all our hard work has paid off," he said.

"Receiving accreditation was not an easy process and has taken many months of hard work from our team. All our systems and procedures had to be heavily scrutinised by NATA to ensure they met the acceptable benchmarks and a large capital investment was required to ensure strict quality control.

"This accreditation means that our customers will be assured of the quality of service they receive from us, in addition to having greater legal defensibility. If an organisation is following old standards, it has not taken every reasonable step to ensure that procedures and results are accurate and comprehensive and therefore leave themselves open to legal dispute.

"Incorporating this new Standard into an organisation's alcohol and other drugs policy will ensure that this organisation follows the latest standards and receives the best legal protection against potential disputes," added Mr Varnish.

Adhering to the new Standard means that Frontline Diagnostics is compliant with the benchmarks for:

- Specimen collection
- Storage
- Handling and dispatch
- Integrity and identity
- Transportation
- On-site screening procedures.

NATA is the authority in Australia for the assurance of technical standards. It is the most experienced accreditation body in the world, and is highly regarded both nationally and internationally for its expertise in technical accreditation.

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<sup>1</sup> Procedures for specimen collection and the detection and quantitation of drugs of abuse in urine.

For more information about Frontline Diagnostics, call 1800 888 852 or visit [www.frontlinediagnostics.com.au](http://www.frontlinediagnostics.com.au)

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