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June 2025

Tēnā koutou

I te rawe ō tātou rā inenga o te ao 2025 e whakanui ana i te 150 tau o te tiriti ā-ao o te mita. | Our celebrations of world metrology day 2025, celebrating 150 years of the metre convention were wonderful.

I really enjoyed our events in Aotearoa (read all about them below if you weren't there in person) and also the opportunity to catch up online with the three days of events held in Paris.

In **one of those sessions** Prof. Lixing You from the Shanghai Institute of Microsystem and Information Technology presented their development of single-photon detectors, which are essential components for quantum information processing. He ended his talk reflecting on the 'technology and metrology problem', aka the 'chicken and egg problem'.

These advanced detectors are achieving 98% efficiency with a best uncertainty of around 0.5%. Besides enabling quantum technologies, they could help extend the accuracy limits of optical metrology. Yet ironically, continued progress may soon be hindered by the very metrological standards they aim to improve.

What a great problem to have – a technology that is asking for better than international metrology has to offer, and one that could help deliver it. We've been here before: this is how we unlock the next decimal place. Perhaps you see this is happening in your field too – where demand for accuracy is outpacing available standards. If so, I'd love to hear about it.

Ngā mihi

Annette Koo

Dr Annette Koo set to become BIPM Director



We have some bittersweet news to share.

In September, our Director and Chief Metrologist **Dr Annette Koo**, will leave Aotearoa and move to the global hub of metrology, the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (**BIPM**) in Paris.

There she will initially act as Director Designate, and will move into the top job when the current Director, **Dr Martin Milton**, retires.

She'll become the first woman and the first New Zealander to hold the Director role in BIPM's 150-year history.

The team at MSL is very proud of Annette. We are confident that the skills and expertise she has honed throughout her career here will stand her in great stead in Paris.



[Read more](#)



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 [Find out more](#)



Rapid-Tech MSA2025 final countdown

If you attended and enjoyed the World Metrology Day event in Wellington last month, then you will definitely enjoy three days in Sydney at Rapid-Tech MSA2025.

The preliminary programme is now available on the website, and included this year is an entire afternoon session dedicated to laboratory practice and the fundamentals of metrology. There will be plenty of trade stands to engage with and exciting social events throughout, including a cruise on Sydney Harbour. Get in early, as early bird rates end on 10 July.

 [Find out more](#)

TRADING
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Measurement
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of New Zealand

 Metrology Society
of Australasia



On 20 May, we held a technical expo and then moved to our evening event to celebrate 150 years of the Metre Convention, where we acknowledged the significance of our measurement system, how it keeps us safe, ensures fairness

in trade, and underpins innovation and development.

Scroll recent [LinkedIn](#) posts to check out carousels of images of our presenters and guests!

We would like to thank and acknowledge the valuable time and expertise of our guest presenters:

- Glenn Stirling – National Centre for Radiation Science
- Adrian Green – Revenue Metering – Omexon New Zealand
- Igor Shvarchuck – Fisher & Paykel Healthcare
- Gordon Brailsford – Atmosphere, NIWA
- Hugo Bussell – International Science Partnerships, MBIE
- David Hutchinson – Professor, University of Otago
- Julie Russell and Steven Levell – Independent Petroleum Laboratories

And our Panellists:

- Stephen O'Brien – Trading Standards, MBIE
- Sebastian Doelle – Standards New Zealand, MBIE
- Brian Young – IANZ
- Annette Koo – MSL

And MSL scientists for taking us into the past, present and future of measurement capabilities:

- Chris Young, Guy Dubuis, Rebecca Hawke, Peter Saunders, Adam Dunford and Ellie Molloy.

[Cynthia Lendrum and Daryl Pettit](#) from [Metrology Society of Australasia \(MSA\)](#), presented the NZ Metrologist of the Year award to a very deserving Chris Woudenbergh!

We were delighted that a special guest, [Jeannie Preddey](#), aka 'Miss Metric', agreed to join us for the evening event!

When she was born in 1970, Jeannie's weight was announced in kilograms rather than pounds. That led to her becoming a 'mascot' for the Metric Advisory Board, who were working hard to shift New Zealand from imperial to metric units.



Check out The Press article [here](#), and Jeannie's Radio New Zealand article and [interview](#) joined by Annette.

2025 is also the [International Year of Quantum Science and Technology](#), where public events are being held [across New Zealand](#) and the wider world.

Finally, World Metrology Day was also celebrated in style by the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), who brought our global metrology community together to celebrate.

View their celebration page [here](#) along with YouTube videos:

- [Why Measurement Still Matters](#)
- [UNESCO Livestream: Symposium](#)
- [BIPM Director's Message](#)
- [Anniversary Playlist](#)
- [How can metrology support global policy?](#)
- [What has been the Metric System's biggest impact?](#)
- [How will metrology help solve future global challenges?](#)



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[MSL's Strategic Plan](#)

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