

# MESSAGE



Over the years, Singapore has built a robust and trusted Quality and Standards value chain comprising standards, accreditation and conformity assessment which serve to facilitate trade and strengthen our economic competitiveness. With a small domestic market, Singapore companies need to venture out and seize opportunities in overseas markets to scale up and grow. To facilitate market access, accreditation plays an important role to ensure quality and assurance of Singapore products and services.

Under the aegis of Enterprise Singapore, the Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC) is the national authority for the independent accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) such as testing and calibration laboratories, certification and inspection bodies. SAC-accredited CABs play a key role in helping companies comply with the requirements of specific standards for products and services. For example, companies certified by SAC-accredited certification bodies would have in place quality management systems and/or products and services that conform to specified requirements of end-users. In addition, conformity assessment results by SAC-accredited testing laboratories and inspection bodies provide quality assurance and credibility to government bodies, businesses and individuals.

The SAC also participates in Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs) with economies of different countries for recognition of conformity assessment results to facilitate regional and international trade. These arrangements help to lower technical barriers for conformance and facilitate trade and market access for Singapore enterprises. MRAs also provide enterprises with cost-savings as there is no need to repeat conformity assessment of their products and services in end markets, thus enabling a shorter time-to-market for such products and services.

To date, SAC has established 17 MRAs with more than 90 economies in various countries and issued some 640 accreditation certificates for 350 CABs.

At SAC, we remain committed to working with our partners such as the Singapore Manufacturing Federation to support Singapore companies in their quality and assurance needs. I urge our enterprises to leverage on SAC accreditation to build capabilities and expand market outreach to capture the local and global growth opportunities.

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## Mr Renny Yeo

Chairman

*Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC)*