

The latest meeting of the National Aerospace NDT Board was held at the Sikorski-Helitech facility in Brisbane on April 7. This was a significant meeting in that the Deed of Agreement between the Board and CASA was signed. Peter Boyd, Executive Manager, Standards Division signed on behalf of CASA, and Colin Hockings the NANDTB secretary signed on behalf of the Board. The pic below was taken at a light hearted moment during the signing ceremony.

The Board and CASA have been working toward this agreement for some time, developing from earlier work on a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations.

Peter addressed the Board following the signing with a recollection of his NDT experiences when he was involved with the NDTAA in New Zealand. He went on to state that the Deed of Agreement was important and a milestone, especially with regard to the introduction of the new Part 145 Regulation for aircraft maintenance organisations, and the NDT training and qualification aspects described in it. He stressed the importance of the Board's international recognition and reputation and urged it to maintain these relationships and credentials. Peter said that CASA is pleased to now have access to the expertise of the Board through a formal agreement. He concluded by noting that it has taken some time to finalise, but it will be well worth it from both CASA and the industry's perspective.

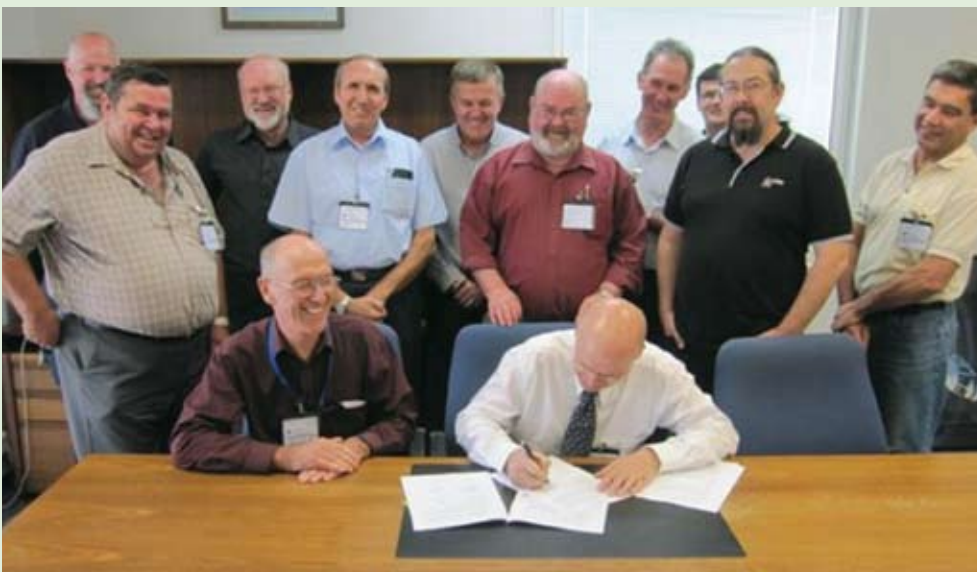
The general business of the Board included a decision to participate in the upcoming Ageing Aircraft Conference in Brisbane, by presenting a paper on the advantages and limitations of various NDT methods as applied to aircraft structural inspections. This conference has been held

previously and brings together both commercial and military interests, focussing on the ongoing airworthiness of aircraft which are continuing in active service beyond their planned retirement. It is this type of involvement with the Australian aerospace industry which CASA views as fundamental work of the Board.

The Board is also offering its comments and suggestions to the review committee for EN4179/NAS410 through its membership of the European Forum of Aerospace NDT Boards. These are the standards adopted by the Board for application to Australian aerospace. The review and amendment process is a lengthy one and the Board will both contribute to and monitor that process.

Nominations for membership of the Board will be publicised later this year, with the elections of members scheduled for March 2012. Various web sites and print media will be used to maximise the penetration of the notice. Shayne Flynn accepted the role as the Board's "webmaster" to oversee the content of the web page.

One final item was the AINDT's agreement for the Board to use its Federal Secretariat as the official address of the Board. This works well given that the Board is incorporated in the State of Victoria. The Board will provide some procedural guidelines for the AINDT office staff to follow. Email contact with the Board will still be available through the website contact menu.



*Peter Boyd (right) and Colin Hockings (left) signing the Deed of Agreement before Board members (front row L-R) Neil Joiner, Gavin Smith, Peter Virtue, Malcolm Oakey, Garry Bowden; (back row L-R) Garrett Booth, Dr. Gary Martin, Richard Allen, Geoff Lowden and Jason Maitland.*

## *Nominations for membership of the NANDTB*

Election of the Board members is due in March 2012. Nominations to join the Board are now open. Nominees are to be proposed by their employer. Self-employed persons may be nominated by their organisation. The election process is described in procedure NA-008 on the website [www.ndtboard.com](http://www.ndtboard.com). Nominations are sought from manufacturers, training organisations, major airlines, regional airlines, maintenance and repair organisations / NDT service providers, GA operators and others with an involvement in Australian Aerospace NDT.

Nominations on company letterhead are to be sent to the NANDTB Secretary, C/- AINDT PO Box 52 Parkville Victoria 3052 before COB 30th September 2011.