01

How NAATI sets its standard

Overall Design & Development Process

System Design
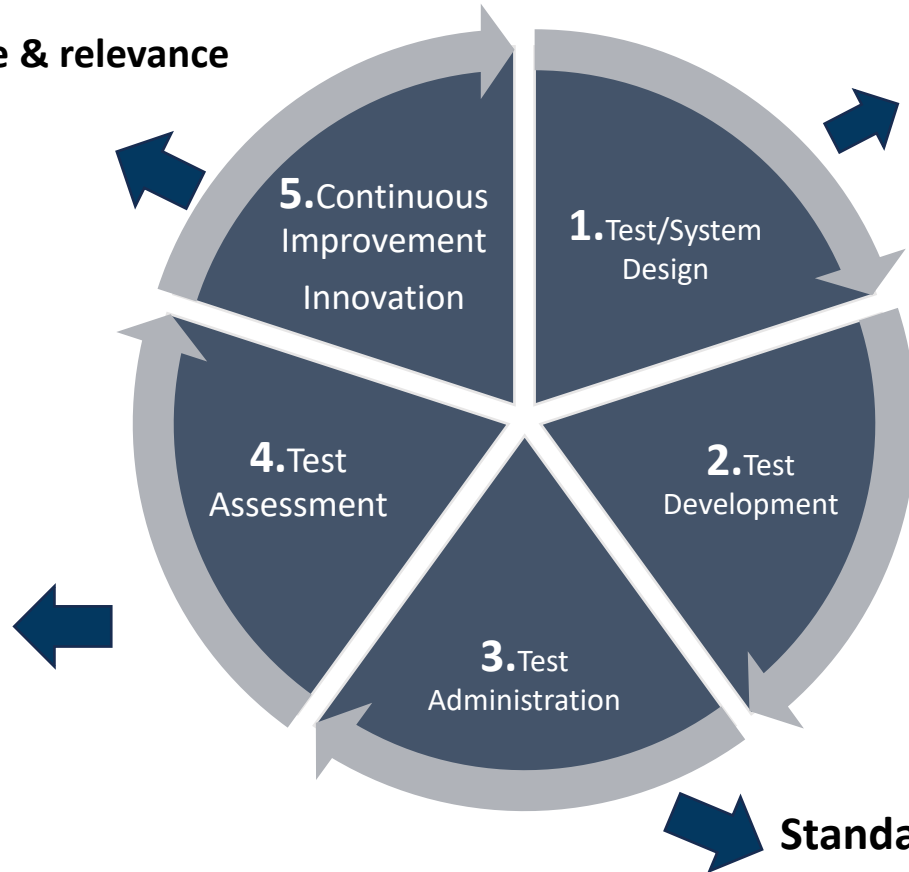
How NAATI maintains its standards: from setting and marking tests to recertification
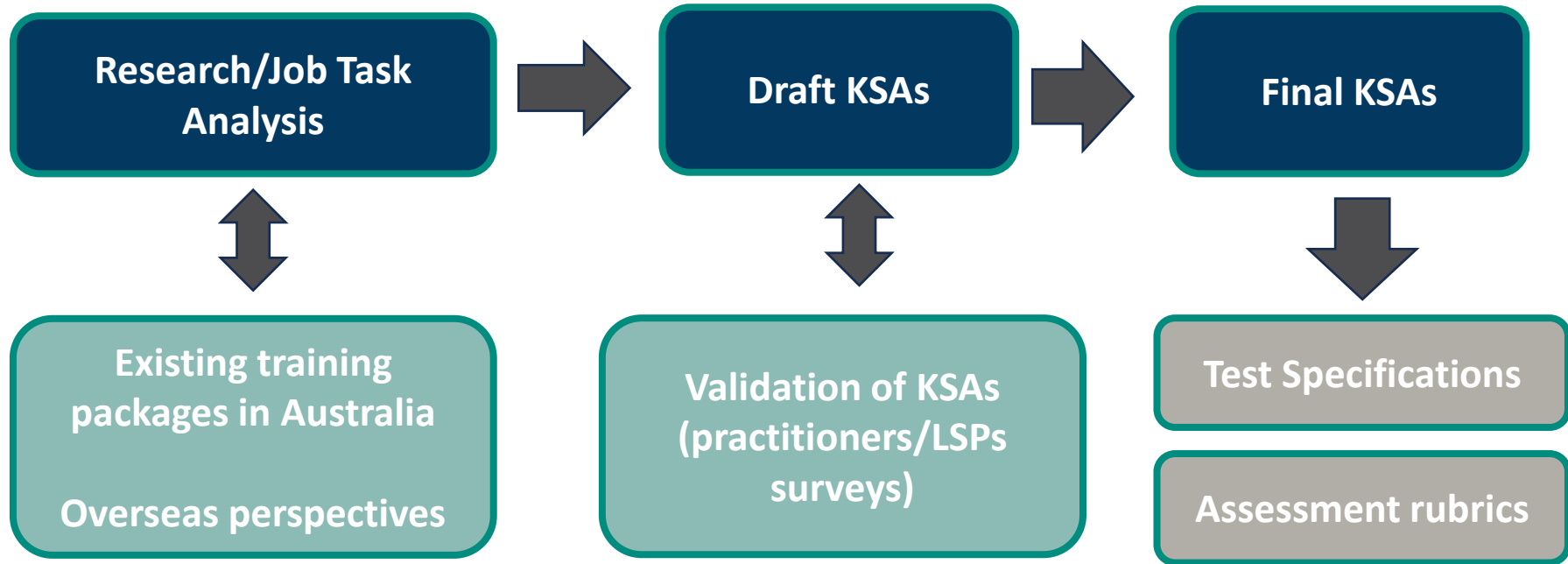
Draft KSAs (Interpreting)

Table 1 – NAATI Draft Interpreter KSAs

	Knowledge	Skills	Attributes
Language Competency (in two languages)	Vocabulary knowledge Grammar knowledge Idiomatic knowledge Language trends knowledge	Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer	Attentive-to-detail Desire-to-excel Reliable Willing-to-learn Objective Respectful Collaborative Self-reflective Problem-solving Confident
Intercultural Competency	Cultural, historical and political knowledge	Sociolinguistic skill	
Research Competency	Research tools and methods knowledge	Terminology and information research skill Create and maintain a knowledge bank	
Technological Competency	Interpreting technology knowledge	Interpreting through communication media Information and communications technology (ICT) skill	
Thematic Competency	General knowledge Current events knowledge Subject-matter specific knowledge Institution-specific knowledge		
Transfer Competency	Interpreting modes knowledge	Discourse analysis skill Discourse management skill Meaning transfer Memory skill Rhetorical skill	
	Interpreting standards knowledge	Self-assessment skill	
Service Provision Competency	Knowledge of the business of interpreting	Interpreting business skill Communication skill Interpersonal skill	
Ethical Competency	Ethics knowledge	Professional Ethics	

Current Rubrics (Dialogue task)

Competency areas

Assessed skills

Bands (1 to 5)

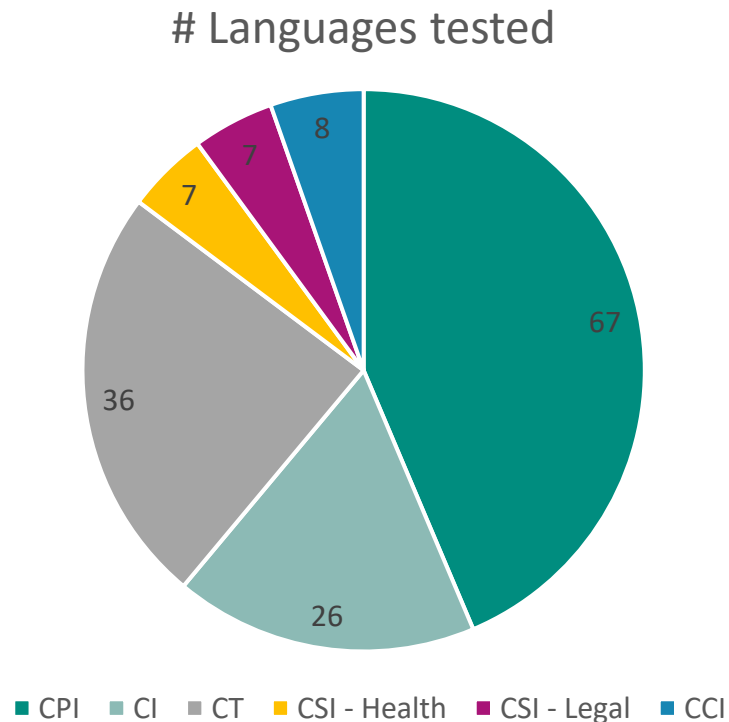|	Transfer Competency				Language Competency	
	Meaning transfer	**Application of Interpreting modes**	**Interactional management**	**Delivery**	**Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer: English**	**Language proficiency enabling meaning transfer: LOTE**
	Pass requirement: Band 2 or above	*Pass requirement: it is possible to receive a Band 3 in ONE of these skills, as long as all other skills receive a Band 2 or above.*		*Pass requirement: Band 2 or above*	*Pass requirement: Band 2 or above*	*Pass requirement: Band 2 or above*
Band 1	**Interprets the intent** and **consistently interprets the content** of the message accurately. Any distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions have **minimal or no impact**.	**Consistently** demonstrates ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode. **Skilfully** applies accepted techniques relevant to the interpreting mode and setting. Techniques include starting to interpret promptly, minimising false starts and repairs, interpreting into the target language, using direct speech and avoiding self-talk.	**Consistently** manages communication challenges politely and efficiently and maintains the flow of the interaction. Management techniques include cutting-in, requesting clarifications and/or repetitions, managing turn-taking, self-correcting, reacting to asides and keeping both parties informed.	**Consistently** uses vocal delivery techniques appropriate to the situation. The interpretation is **delivered smoothly**, with good enunciation, volume and voice projection. The tone and style of the speakers are **conveyed appropriately**.	**Consistently** uses spoken language competently and idiomatically. Any unidiomatic usage and/or errors of lexicon, grammar, syntax, register and/or pronunciation **are isolated** and **do not impact the overall quality of the communication**.	**Consistently** uses spoken language competently and idiomatically. Any unidiomatic usage and/or errors of lexicon, grammar, syntax, register and/or pronunciation **are isolated** and **do not impact the overall quality of the communication**.
Band 2	**Interprets the intent** and **mostly interprets the content** of the message accurately. Any distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions have a **minor impact** on the **meaning transfer as a whole** but **do not critically impact the purpose of the communication**.	**Mostly** demonstrates ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode and the application of accepted techniques relevant to the mode and setting. Techniques include starting to interpret promptly, minimising false starts and repairs, interpreting into the target language, using direct speech and avoiding self-talk.	**Mostly** manages communication challenges politely and efficiently and **mostly** maintains the flow of the interaction. Management techniques include cutting-in, requesting clarifications and/or repetitions, managing turn-taking, self-correcting, reacting to asides and keeping both parties informed.	**Mostly** uses vocal delivery techniques appropriate to the situation. The interpretation is **mostly delivered smoothly**, with **mostly** good enunciation, volume and/or voice projection. The tone and style of the speakers are **mostly conveyed appropriately**.	**Mostly** uses spoken language competently and idiomatically. Any unidiomatic usage and/or errors of lexicon, grammar, syntax, register and/or pronunciation have a **minor impact on the overall quality of the communication** but do not impact the understanding of the target language.	**Mostly** uses spoken language competently and idiomatically. Any unidiomatic usage and/or errors of lexicon, grammar, syntax, register and/or pronunciation have a **minor impact on the overall quality of the communication** but do not impact the understanding of the target language.
Band 3	**Some** demonstrated ability to interpret the content and intent of the message accurately. The distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions, taken together, have a **significant impact on the meaning transfer as a whole**. *and/or* One or more distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions **critically impact the purpose of the communication**.	**Some** demonstrated ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode and the application of accepted techniques relevant to the mode and setting. Techniques include starting to interpret promptly, minimising false starts and repairs, interpreting into the target language, using direct speech and avoiding self-talk.	**Some** demonstrated ability to manage communication challenges politely and efficiently. *and/or* The flow of the interaction is **sometimes** impacted. Management techniques include cutting-in, requesting clarifications and/or repetitions, managing turn-taking, self-correcting, reacting to asides and keeping both parties informed.	**Some** demonstrated ability to use vocal delivery techniques appropriate to the situation. The interpretation is **not delivered smoothly** and/or the enunciation, volume and/or voice projection have a **significant impact on the quality** of the delivery. *and/or* The tone and style of the speakers are **not conveyed appropriately**.	**Some** demonstrated ability to use spoken language competently and idiomatically. The unidiomatic usage and/or errors of lexicon, grammar, syntax, register and/or pronunciation have a **significant impact on the overall quality of the communication**. *and/or* One or more errors **impact the understanding of the target language**.	**Some** demonstrated ability to use spoken language competently and idiomatically. The unidiomatic usage and/or errors of lexicon, grammar, syntax, register and/or pronunciation have a **significant impact on the overall quality of the communication**. *and/or* One or more errors **impact the understanding of the target language**.
Band 4	**Limited** demonstrated ability to interpret the content and intent of the message	**Limited** demonstrated ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode and the	**Limited** demonstrated ability to manage communication challenges politely and	**Limited** demonstrated ability to use vocal delivery techniques appropriate to the	**Limited** demonstrated ability to use spoken language competently and idiomatically.	**Limited** demonstrated ability to use spoken language competently and idiomatically.

Performance descriptor
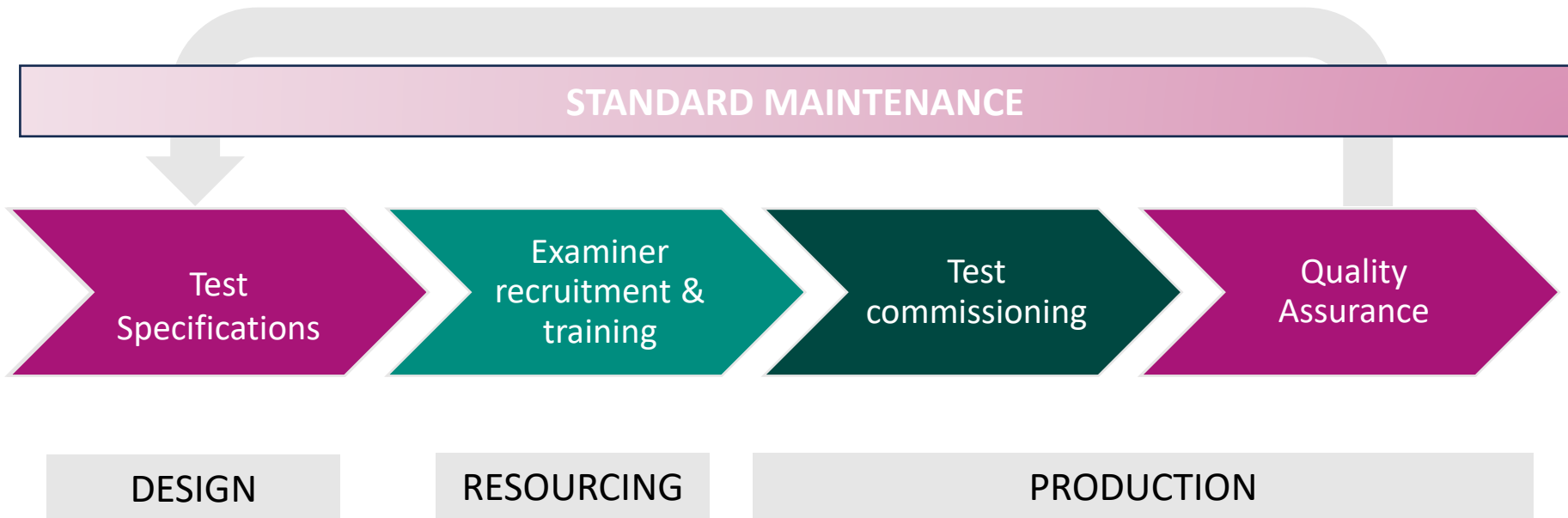
02
Developing a NAATI test

How does NAATI select languages for testing?

- **Total number of language speakers** in Australia

- **International status** of language

- **NZ** landscape and needs

- Language offer in **training institutions**

- Ability to establish a **NAATI Examiner panel**

- Candidates' **eligibility**

- **Immigration** trends

- **Community** needs

Languages tested

Legend: CPI · CI · CT · CSI - Health · CSI - Legal · CCI

Values: 67, 26, 36, 7, 7, 8

Development Cycle

STANDARD MAINTENANCE

Test Specifications → Examiner recruitment & training → Test commissioning → Quality Assurance

DESIGN | RESOURCING | PRODUCTION

How NAATI maintains its standards: from setting and marking tests to recertification
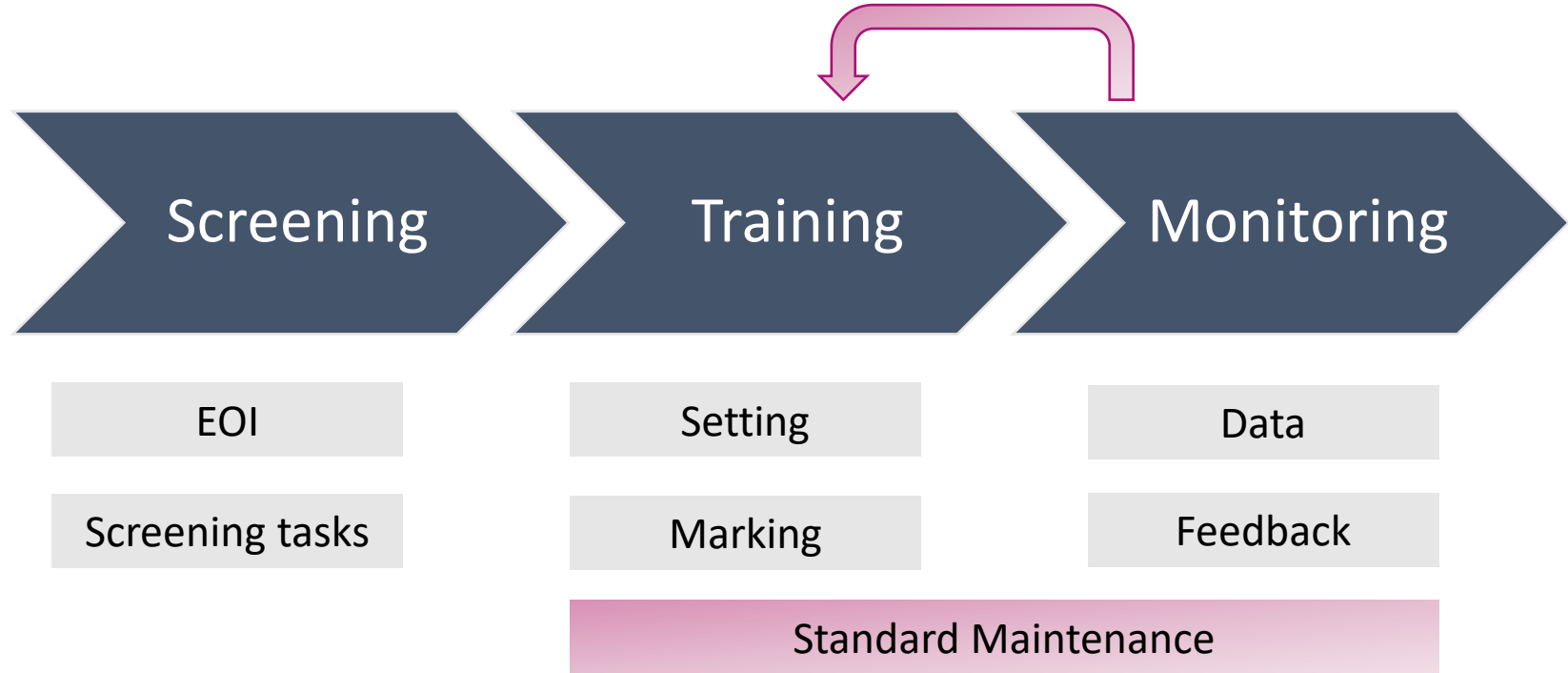
03

Awarding the standard

Who are NAATI Examiners?

- ➢ NAATI Certified

- ➢ T&I qualification or related

- ➢ 10+ years T&I experience

- ➢ Setting and assessment experience

- ➢ No conflict of interest

- ➢ 485 contractors, remunerated

Who are NAATI Examiners?

```
Screening  →  Training  →  Monitoring
```

Screening	Training	Monitoring
EOI	Setting	Data
Screening tasks	Marking	Feedback
	Standard Maintenance	

Test Task Assessment - Overall task result

EXAMINERS

TASK IS FAILED

TASK IS PASSED
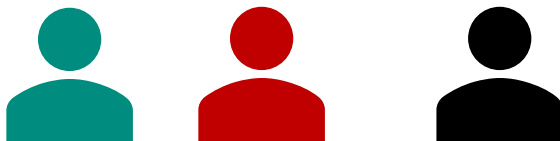
THIRD MARKER

How do examiners mark a task?

Transfer Competency		
Meaning transfer	**Application of Interpreting modes**	**Interactional**
Pass requirement: Band 2 or above	*Pass requirement: it is possible to receive a Band 3 in ON... all other skills receive a Band 2 or a...*	
Band 1 **Interprets the intent** and **consistently interprets the content** of the message accurately. Any distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions have **minimal or no impact**.	**Consistently** demonstrates ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode. **Skilfully** applies accepted techniques relevant to the interpreting mode and setting. Techniques include starting to interpret promptly, minimising false starts and repairs, interpreting into the target language, using direct speech and avoiding self-talk.	**Consistently m...** challenges polit... maintains the f... Management te... requesting clari... managing turn-... reacting to asid... informed.
Band 2 **Interprets the intent** and **mostly interprets the content** of the message accurately. Any distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions have a **minor impact** on the **meaning transfer as a whole** but **do not critically impact the purpose of the communication.**	**Mostly** demonstrates ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode and the application of accepted techniques relevant to the mode and setting. Techniques include starting to interpret promptly, minimising false starts and repairs, interpreting into the target language, using direct speech and avoiding self-talk.	**Mostly** manage... politely and effi... the flow of the... Management te... requesting clari... managing turn-... reacting to asid... informed.
Band 3 **Some** demonstrated ability to interpret the content and intent of the message accurately. The distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions, taken together, have a **significant impact on the meaning transfer as a whole.** *and/or* One or more distortions, unjustified omissions and/or unjustified additions **critically impact the purpose of the communication.**	**Some** demonstrated ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode and the application of accepted techniques relevant to the mode and setting. Techniques include starting to interpret promptly, minimising false starts and repairs, interpreting into the target language, using direct speech and avoiding self-talk.	**Some** demonst... communication efficiently. *and/or* The flow of the... impacted. Management te... requesting clari... managing turn-... reacting to asid... informed.
Band 4 **Limited** demonstrated ability to interpret the content and intent of the message	**Limited** demonstrated ability in the use of the consecutive (dialogue) mode and the	**Limited** demon... communication...

Bands (1 to 5)

③ Feeback comments that support the band choice for each skill being assessed

➢ Test are anonymised
➢ 2 examiners
➢ Holistic approach
➢ Feedback is not formative
➢ Feedback comments only provide a selection of examples

➢ **NAATI provides preparation resources for candidates**

How NAATI maintains its standards: from setting and marking tests to recertification

04

Maintaining the standard

Continuous Improvement

- Continuous improvement is an ongoing process (technological evolutions)

- Candidate, training institutions and examiner feedback is valued

- Work closely with industry experts

- Logistical considerations can lead to improvements

What about Practitioners?

Work practice criteria

Translators

- Average of 10,000 words per year
- 30,000 words over 3 years

Interpreters

- Average of 40 assignments or 40 hours per year
- 120 assignments/hours over 3 years

N.B. If you hold more than one NAATI credential, you are expected to provide evidence of work practice for each credential separately

PD Criteria

An average of 40 professional development points per year (120 points over 3 years) in the following compulsory categories:
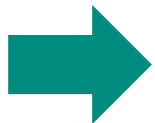
Skills Development and Knowledge

(30 Points)

Industry Engagement
(30 points)

Incl. Ethics
(minimum 10 points)

Maintenance of Language
(30 Points)

What if I do not reach the requirements?

➢ Difficult to meet the professional practice requirements in some languages

➢ Personal circumstances

➢ Delays in submitting your application

- Don't assume you are not eligible
- Contact NAATI to discuss your circumstances

05

Conclusion

Conclusion

➢ A robust and complex system

➢ Professional standard maintenance at the core of the system

➢ Support for candidates and practitioners available