

Quality Times

Section 1309

January 2007



Northern Colorado
Section

Website: www.asq1309.com
Email: info@asq1309.com



January Monthly Meeting

Section 1309 Monthly Membership Meeting

Date: 1/17/07

Time: 5:30—7:00 pm, with boardmeeting afterwards

Please RSVP by 1/12/07 to: info@asq1309.com

Topic: A representative from Colorado Performance Excellence will give a presentation on the criteria and evaluation process for the CPEX award and how participation can help a company's management system.

Location: Boulder Scientific conference room, this room is chilly so please bring a sweater. Directions: From I-25 and Hwy 119 (Longmont exit), go 1 block east to the Frontage Rd. Take the Frontage Rd south for slightly over 1 mile, then turn east onto Specialty Place. Take Specialty Place until it dead-ends into the Boulder Scientific parking lot, 4161 Specialty Place.

Dinner: (pizza or subs) and soda to be provided

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ISO 9001 and 9004 Gearing Up for Revisions

When the revised version of the ISO 9001 and 9004 standards are ready to be released in May 2009, there will have been many hours put in to get it "just so." With more than 500,000 organizations registered to 9001 throughout the world, it is difficult to please everyone. However, the international Technical Advisory Group working on the ISO 9001 revisions (that will replace the 2000 version) is working on getting feedback from users to ensure the changes reflect the voice of the customer.

In February 2007, a draft of both the ISO 9001 and 9004 will be available. Readers are asked to read through the drafts and provide comments. The reviewers will consider all comments received and send their final report to the Technical Committee secretary.

In the case of the 9001 standard, experts believe any changes will be subtle but still could have a great impact on current and newly registered organizations.

The ISO 9004 standard is seen as an essential standard for organizations already registered to 9001 and wishing to answer the "now what" question. In that way, ISO 9004 brings organizations toward sustainability, moving them forward from a basic management system. Here is where reviewers could use help from quality professionals willing to offer suggestions.

ASQ Weekly will continue to cover developments in the ISO 9001 and 9004 revisions.

For those interested in reviewing the revised standard drafts, copies will be available in February from ASQ Quality Press. (Please note: There will be a service and handling fee to cover costs.)

*CPEx, CAMT, and the KAIZEN Institute presents:
How to Implement Kaizen Strategies to Improve Performance
Excellence and Results.*

Jan. 30th at Kodak Colorado Division in Windsor, CO

Masaaki Imai, known as the Lean Guru, will conduct tours at Kodak in Windsor and Intel in Colorado Springs and lecture on Gemba Kaizen. He has been a pioneer and world-renowned leader of the KAIZEN® philosophy for two decades. As a result of his groundbreaking books, “KAIZEN: The Key to Japan’s Competitive Success” and “Gemba KAIZEN: A Commonsense, Low-cost Approach to Management,” innumerable companies and top executives have used this effective management philosophy to attain world-class success within industry, service, and the public sector. As founder and Chairman of the KAIZEN Institute, he is frequently invited to be a keynote speaker at industry conferences worldwide. Dr. Imai also educates top executives to implement KAIZEN® techniques, concepts, and tools as total system solutions in their organizations and in alignment with their corporate strategies.

What you will learn:

- KAIZEN–Toyota’s Corporate Culture: Imai will explain why KAIZEN® is the key success factor for developing and implementing your corporate strategy. As the author of KAIZEN®, he will discuss why it remains relevant since its introduction over 20 years ago.
- The fundamental difference between a traditional production system and Lean production system.
- Current and future challenges businesses face and how to address factors that prevent many companies from achieving world-class success.
- First hand Gemba KAIZEN® experience walking through a plant with Imai, followed by an in-depth discussion of how to convert problems into opportunities for improvement.
- The relationship between the Malcolm Baldrige Program For Performance Excellence and KAIZEN®.

Tuesday, January 30, at Kodak, 1-5 PM.

Wednesday, January 31, at Intel, 1-5 PM.

Cost: \$245 per person or \$195 per person if three or more from the same company.

To register, please visit: <http://www.coloradoexcellence.org>

Wedding Bells for Six Sigma and Lean

By: Tim Noble

Trends in industry are often telegraphed into candidate requirements in job postings and they can serve as a window into the latest corporate initiatives. As trends go, none has been more contested and anticipated than the evolving relationship between Six Sigma and Lean. Today there are increasing signs found in job postings that these two corporate initiatives are headed down the aisle of eternal matrimony.

Based on a recent study of over 3,000 internet job board postings, The Avery Point Group found that Six Sigma still outpaces Lean by a wide margin when it comes to desired skill sets. However, for those companies seeking Six Sigma talent, fully one-third are looking for practitioners to also have Lean expertise as part of their tool set. For companies seeking Lean talent the desire is even greater for candidates to also possess Six Sigma knowledge, with almost half of all Lean jobs posted requiring Six Sigma exposure. The merger between Six Sigma and Lean is also clearly evident for jobs posted at the very heart of Six Sigma's key leadership roles. Almost half of all companies seeking to specifically hire Master Black Belt and Black Belt talent required candidates to also possess Lean as a core part of their tool set.

When it comes to Six Sigma and Lean skill sets, it is becoming increasingly obvious that companies want to have their cake and eat it too. Furthermore, the study found that even though companies may not have a full-blown Six Sigma or Lean deployment underway, they highly desire talent that possesses both Six Sigma and Lean skills to be part of a candidate's DNA. Continuous improvement practitioners on either side of the aisle might want to sit up and take notice that this wedding is clearly underway.

For further evidence of this tryst, one only need look to published books. Six years ago books published on the combined topic of Lean and Six Sigma were virtually nonexistent. Today, however, they dominate the continuous improvement publishing landscape. Over the past two years alone, books published on the combined topic of Lean and Six Sigma represented almost half of the Lean books published and a quarter of the Six Sigma books published.

For some purists, this mixed marriage is viewed only with contempt; for others it is seen as a natural progression - the result of companies seeking to blend the best of both methodologies in order to remain competitive in today's global economy. Those that perpetuate the divide between Six Sigma and Lean are clearly missing the point. Core to both methodologies is the idea that challenges need to be approached with an open mind, because solutions can sometimes come from the most unlikely of sources. True Six Sigma and Lean practitioners will view this marriage with an open mind and realize that these are truly complementary tool sets, not competing philosophies.

About the Author:

Tim Noble is an executive recruiter and managing principal of The Avery Point Group, a leading national executive search firm providing functional expertise and executive search focus in the areas of Six Sigma, Lean, plant management, operations management, supply chain management and finance. www.AveryPointGroup.com

Author's Blog: <http://lean-sigma-insights.blogspot.com/>

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ASQ Certification Local Exam Schedule

Exam Date	Application Deadline	Certification Exam
Mar 3, 2007	Jan 12, 2007	CBA, CHA, CMQ/OE, CQI, CQT, CRE, SSBB
June 2, 2007	April 6, 2007	CCT, CQA, CQE, CQPA, CSQE, SSGB
Oct 20, 2007	Aug 17, 2007	CBA, CHA, CMQ/OE, CQI, CQT, CRE, SSBB
Dec 1, 2007	Oct 5, 2007	CCT, CQA, CQE, CQPA, CSQE, SSGB

For more details or to register please visit: <http://www.asq.org/certification/>

Job Openings

For current job openings please visit: <http://www.asq1309.com/jobopenings.htm>.

Submit your resume or job opening to: info@asq1309.com if you'd like it to be posted on our job site.

Volunteer For ASQ Section 1309

Open Positions:

Education Chair: Plans and manages educational and certification review classes.

Spring 2007 ASQ Boulder Section 1313 Course Offerings

The schedule for Spring 2007 Boulder Section 1313 courses will be released in a later newsletter. See <http://www.asq1313.org/> for instructor, course and registration info.

Newsletter or Website Submissions

Please contact info@asq1309.com for newsletter or website submissions. Acceptable submissions received before the 20th of each month will be included in the following month's newsletter or website. Examples of submissions are:



- Job Postings
- ASQ Member Resumes
- Ads (there is a fee for advertisements)

Remember to go to www.asq.org for ASQ news, events, courses, job searches, and updates to your profile.

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