



Greater El Paso
Section

Amigo Quality

Volume 27 Number 2

Welcome to the November 2006 issue of the Newsletter. Your local provider of information and learning opportunities related to quality professionals.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Membership meeting scheduled for 15 November

LOCATION: EPCC Advanced Technology Center

REGISTRATION & SOCIAL HOUR: 6:15 p.m.

DATE: November 15, 2006

SPEAKER: Jose Canales

TOPIC: Improvements to the ATC

MEETING IS FREE FOR EVERYBODY (MEMBERS OR NON-MEMBERS) AND THE SPEAKER STARTS AT 6:45 P.M.

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=epcc+el+pasos+tx&ie=UTF8&filter=0&z=15&ll=31.751197,-106.371174&spn=0.0181,0.03356&t=h&om=1>

<http://maps.yahoo.com/beta/index.php#maxp=location&q2=31.753496,-106.372978&q1=Hawkins+Bvd+At+I+10+El+Paso,+TX&trf=0&mvt=h&lon=-106.376882&lat=31.761852&mag=4>

The ATC is just south of the baseball diamond that is at the intersection of Hawkins Blvd and Phoenix Drive.

THE CHAIR SPEAKS

HECTOR LUGO

Hi Y'all,

WOW! 47 members and guests attended the October meeting. This is a record attendance for any October meeting since we've kept long-term records. AND, this follows the September attendance of 52 members and guests... a record too. We believe these high points are attributed to three key factors: (1) every officers (Program Chair) is recruiting speakers with topics you want to hear about. (2) Our

Member Invitation activities are bringing new members to the meetings, and bringing them back. (3) The UTEP's Quality Class is reaching a student segment we've not served well (30 attendees per month). We must also give special credit to Rajesh Tahiliani, from UTEP, who single handedly brought his students.

Also, I want to thank Dr. Tim Roth for his wonderful speech about the Economics in our environment. He talked about his experiences in the government and university as a professor and writer. Everybody in the meeting wanted to hear more about and what we do locally to improve our way of living (economically speaking).

Another key action is the First Meeting Hosting where we take someone attending a meeting for the first time a little 'personal touch', making them feel welcome and not just a face in the crowd. The last piece is a one-two punch where we sent a greeting message by email within a month of joining, and then do a personal call to greet them within a few months. In some future issue we'll highlight this all in a topic, with some performance stats.

NOTE: We're highlighting ... our first efforts in this long-standing ASQ sponsored outreach to students. The second is out **Quest for 100% Certification**, to encourage and assist members in getting their first certification. Read more...

AUTOMOTIVE SECTION

HECTOR LUGO

I want to start following the 'race' between GM and Toyota for the first position in the automotive industry or what company is going to take us to this century toward the fascinating world of cars!

First, I want to tell you that GM revised its third-quarter results to a net loss of \$91 million, an improvement of \$24 million that it attributes to a last-minute loan sale by its finance arm that wasn't previously reported.

GM told the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission it also narrowed the third-quarter net loss of GM Acceptance Corp. unit to \$324 million from the \$348 million loss originally reported. And they are very happy with that!

Toyota however, is buying a 5.9% stake in Isuzu Motors Ltd. To gain access to the Japanese truckmaker's diesel engine technology.

Isuzu will take the lead in developing and producing diesel engine and emission control technologies, while Toyota handles alternative-fuel systems and environmental technologies for gasoline engines.

It's the second time in a year that Toyota has forged a capital alliance with a former Japanese partner of GM. A year ago, Toyota bought GM's 8.7% stake in Subaru maker Fuji Heavy Industries. GM ended its 35-year capital alliance with Isuzu in April when it sold its 7.9% stake to raise cash.

Let's see what the future is bringing us in this exciting field and waiting for your feedback about it and be grateful for all of your comments to this Newsletter.

See you at the meeting!

Education Section

Kim Pries

What is a Cauchy distribution? It is a "thick-tailed" distribution that resembles a normal distribution. One way to form a Cauchy distribution is to create a ratio of two "normal" distributions; for example, distribution of height over distribution of weight. What is interesting about the Cauchy distribution is the following:

- It has no mean
- It has no variance

Yet the central limit theorem applies to it and a dispersion, but not a standard deviation can be calculated for it.

Do not assume that the central limit theorem automatically means you are looking at a normal distribution—it also applies to the t-distribution and the Cauchy distribution. Always check for normality—don't assume a distribution.

RE-CERTIFYING AND ASQ CERTIFICATIONS

STEVEN SCHAFER

Out of a total of 6 member(s) whose **certifications expired June 2006**, 3 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of December 2006, 1 member(s) re-certification are being processed and 2 member(s) completed their re-certifications.

Out of a total of 8 member(s) whose certifications **will expire December 2006**, 5 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify

by the end of June 2007, 0 member(s) re-certifications are being processed and 3 member(s) completed their re-certifications.

Some members are already re-certifying early! As long as you have enough points to re-certify early, you can. Your Certifications will be extended 3 years beyond the certification expiration date you currently have for your certification. So you don't loose anything by re-certifying early. Out of a total of 8 member(s) whose certifications will expire June 2007, 8 will loose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of December 2007, 0 member(s) re-certifications are being processed and 0 member(s) completed their re-certifications.

If anyone has questions on how to re-certify to extend their ASQ Certifications and/or how to synchronize them if they have more than one, please let me know. Re-certifying by exam now costs more money, since the prices went up January 2005 and is a lot more difficult than re-certifying. You can reach me, the Re-Certification Chair, at 915-612-7392 during working hours and at 915-584-0033 after hours. Both numbers have answering machines and if I don't answer, I will call you as soon as I can. You can also reach me via the Internet at **my new e-mail address** spikequate@sbcglobal.net. I am ready to help with any questions you might have about Re-Certifying or about any ASQ Certifications you might have. Call me. The Re-Certification Journal is at the following link <http://www.asq.org/certification/recertification/rucredits/index.html> .

Potential meeting and dinner schedule

MONTH	DAY	TOPIC	LOCATION
November 2006	15	EPCC Plant tour	EPCC – ATC
December 2006	13	Christmas Dinner Nolan Richardson Middle School	
January 2007	17	Business Page El Paso Times	
February 2007	21	Military	
March 2007	21	Statistics or Sports	
April 2007	18	Sports or Statistics	
May 2007	16	Hospital Quality Management	
June 2007	20	Policy Quality Document	
July 2007		ASQ Section Officers training	EPCC ATC
August 2007		ASQ Section Officers training	EPCC ATC
September 2007			
October 2007	??	Quality Conference 2007 El Paso	Chair Joe Publicity Alfonso Facility Hector

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Our Section is on-line! Make a suggestion – win a FREE meal! <http://asq1401.org>