



Greater El Paso
Section

Amigo
Quality
Volume 28 Number 11

Welcome to the September 2008 issue of the Newsletter! Your local provider of information and learning opportunities related to quality professionals.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

LOCATION: Hilton Garden at University & Oregon
REGISTRATION & SOCIAL HOUR: 6:30 pm-8:30 pm
DATE: September 17, 2008
SPEAKER: Executive Committee
TOPIC: 2008-2009 Plans

MEETING IS FREE FOR EVERYBODY (MEMBERS OR NON-MEMBERS)

THE CHAIR SPEAKS

JOE LISSBERGER

Greetings from the chair for the new year. The executive committee has work hard for two Sat. mornings this summer to put together what we think will be a very interesting year for the section. We have included two tours (plant visits) and a one day work shop to be held in March. I can only say that this is what the executive committee believes that you as a section wants, if there are other items that you, any member, can think of that you would like to include in the program we would really appreciate your input.

You will be receiving more information about these special occurrences as the time approaches for them, as for the one day work shop on March, Hector Lugo is the chair for that occasion. If you have any questions about this please contact Hector.

Thank you,
Joe

AUTOMOTIVE SECTION

HECTOR LUGO

After our executive meetings and Regional director introduction, the following is for this "new year" from our contributors:

“Dutch-based company announced plans Tuesday to produce affordable electric cars by the end of 2009, promising they will be much more powerful than existing models and have zero emissions.

Detroit Electric is in negotiations with Malaysia’s national auto maker, Proton, to produce the car in this Southeast Asian nation and is also talking to a German and a U.S. carmaker, said the company’s chief executive, Albert Lam. He declined to name the companies.

“We believe in affordable electric vehicles for the public. That is our dream ... to find innovative ways to counter global warming,” Lam told a news conference before journalists test drove a sports car, a sedan and a subcompact car fitted with Detroit Electric’s technology.

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi drove the sedan Sunday when he arrived at a National Day parade — which officials called a testament of the government’s commitment to finding green alternatives to tackle rising fuel prices.

Lam said the car will use lithium ion batteries and a motor developed in-house. “When people tell you it (an electric car) is not practical, that it runs at a slow speed and you can’t charge it, that is not true,” Lam said at Proton’s test track in central Shah Alam city.

An Associated Press journalist who drove the sports car felt it zoom from zero to 100 kilometers per hour (62 mph) in less than five seconds, comparable to gasoline-powered sports cars.

Most electric cars developed so far are quite a bit heavier than regular cars, weighed down by their battery and motor, which limits their acceleration.

Existing models were used for the demonstration — the sports car was a modified Lotus — but will create their own designs and market the vehicles under the Detroit Electric brand — named after a now-defunct U.S. company that produced electric cars in 1907.

Lam bought the rights to the name to restore its historical legacy. Detroit Electric’s chief scientist, Frits van Breemen-Schneider, who invented the motor, said it is four to 12 times lighter than existing motors and has a much higher power-to-weight ratio.

It can produce 5 kilowatts of power per kilogram, whereas the best

electric car in existence can only produce 0.25 kilowatts per kilogram, he said.

The 80,000 ringgit (\$24,000) price tag of the car will be more expensive than conventional vehicles in Malaysia, though the additional expense would be offset by fuel savings.

The car battery (the weakest link in electric cars) will have a life span of 200,000 kilometers (125,000 miles).”

EDUCATION SECTION

KIM PRIES

How does a team come to an agreement or a decision? Usually, we can classify the approaches into four categories: consensus, voting, subgroup, and individual. Consensus is a good choice when we are dealing with a small group and everybody has full information about the topic at hand. However, consensus can be difficult to achieve in larger (greater than 15 people) groups. In the case of larger groups, voting may be more efficient than consensus, particularly if the majority is able to function and achieve the goal even with the resistance of the minority. They should have some kind of plan for dealing with the dissenting minority. In very large groups, it may make sense to delegate a decision to a subgroup, especially if the decision primarily affects only the subgroup, which should also have the ability to effect the decision when made. Finally, in emergency situations, an individual may be chosen to make the decision. A quick reading of the *The Federalist Papers* shows that the idea of a President for the United States was chosen specifically to reduce reaction time during extraordinary situations.

Given that decision tools are available, we should be able to avoid a stalemate in most circumstances.

RE-CERTIFYING AND ASQ CERTIFICATIONS

STEVEN SCHAFER

Out of a total of 10 member(s) whose certifications expired June 2008, 7 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of December 2008, 0 member(s) re-certifications are being processed and 3 member(s) completed their re-certifications.

Out of a total of 15 member(s) whose certifications will expire December 2008, 15 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of June 2009, 0 member(s) re-certifications are being processed and 0 member(s) completed their re-certifications.

Members can re-certify 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 lose anything by re-certifying early. Out of a total of 8 member(s) whose certifications will expire June 2009, 8 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of December 2009, 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 spikeguate@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 and will guide you in the re-certification process <http://www.asq.org/certification/recertification/rucredits/index.html>.

A CQE Refresher Class is going to start on September 13 through November 15 (only Saturdays, four hours each) in order to present ASQ Exam on December 6 on El Paso Community College, Valle Verde Campus, Advanced Technology Center building.

The required number of people to make the class is four (the more, the better) in order to exchange experiences and knowledge. The cost per person is \$ 250.00 to be paid to ASQ1401 Section and Primer from Quality Council of Indiana is recommended because is updated to the new ASQ BOK.

Any interested person can communicate with Hector Lugo at phone number (915) 309-9429

JOB DESCRIPTION

Quality Assurance Monitor/Safety and Health Resource (QAM)

This full time exempt position provides technical support and process execution monitoring for security and firefighting operations at one or more domestic National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) facilities. The position serves both the Quality and the Safety/Health functions, and requires experience and knowledge in these areas. Willingness to travel overnight to other locations, sometimes by air, is required. U. S. citizenship is required. This position reports to the program's Manager, Quality Assurance and Safety.

Knowledge, skills, and abilities required for this position include:

- Demonstrated record of building positive working relationships with customers, peers, and Management
- Five or more years of experience of which:

at least two years involved direct support of an ISO 9001:2000-based quality management system (QMS)

at least some time involved direct support of an OSHA-compliant institutional safety and occupational health program, preferably in public safety functions (e.g., security, firefighting)

- Degree from an accredited college or university related to quality, safety, security, or firefighting (Bachelor's preferred)
- Proficiency in written and oral English communication
- Ability to communicate well in formal public speaking environments

Training

Reporting

Facilitating

- Track record of consistently delivering results on schedule
- Live-fire experience in the use of firearms, formal training preferred
- Basic knowledge of HAZMAT, HAZCOM, MSDSmanagement, PPG, incident investigation, and similar occupational safety topics
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and use of web-based applications (familiarity with Microsoft Access and SharePoint a plus).

Some of the ways QAMs will support the Quality effort include:

- Help plan and implement site quality management system (QMS) based on the ISO 9001:2000 standard
- Monitor and participate in execution of QMS activities such as audits
- Advise internal customers and other contractors on QMS planning and execution
- Report QMS progress and communicate status to external customers and other contractors as required, including expectations management and issues resolution
- Support customers in the use of computer-based QMS data capture and reporting tools such as SeeSOR
- Manage site on-line documents and quality records maintenance
- Participate in training others on vital Quality activities such as auditing, planning corrective actions, configuration management, documentation control, etc.

Some of the ways QAMs will support the Safety/Health effort include:

- Help plan and implement site occupational safety and health (OSH) requirements
- Monitor and participate in execution of OSH activities such as inspections and audits
- Actively participate in safety management at weapons and firefighting training/qualification events
- Support internal customers on OSH planning and execution
- Report OSH progress and communicate status to external customers and Management as required
- Support customers in the use of computer-based OSH data capture and reporting tools
- Monitor site on-line OSH documents and records maintenance

This job description is not an offer of employment.

These are immediate openings to be filled for a newly-awarded contract.

If you meet the requirements above and are interested in applying for a position, please send your resume to:

gwildermuth@sagealaska.com

Glen Wildermuth
(314) 603-0312

Potential meeting and dinner schedule

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	TOPIC	LOCATION
2008	August	16	Executive Committee Meeting 2	EPCC Valle Verde ATC
2008	September	17	Executive Committee Report on plans and conference	Hilton Garden Inn University Ave
2008	October	15	Lonie Wilson - Lean	TBD
2008	November	??	Northwire Tour	TBD
2008	December	10	Christmas Meeting	TBD
2009	January	14	ISO TC 69 Statistical Methods in Beijing, China	TBD
2009	February	18	Bhutanese Education	TBD
2009	March	21	One day conference Six Sigma Lean w Forrest Breyfogle	TBD
2009	April	15	Vision testing equipment	TBD
2009	May	20	HACEP Tour	TBD
2009	June	24	Desalinazation Plant tour	TBD
2009	July	22	Executive Committee Meeting 1	TBD
2009	August	19	Executive Committee Meeting 2	TBD

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