



**Greater El Paso
Section**

Amigo Quality

Volume 27 Number 4

Welcome to the January 2007 issue of the Newsletter and Happy New Year! Your local provider of information and learning opportunities related to quality professionals.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

LOCATION: Gerardo's Restaurant

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

DATE: January 17, 2006

SPEAKER: Mariano R. Amezcua Marti Varian, Inc.

TOPIC: *Measuring Leaks*

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

If you want to eat, we start our social hour at 6:15 p.m.

DINNER COST: \$10.00

THE CHAIR SPEAKS

HECTOR LUGO

Happy New Year and hoping this 2007 will be much better for everyone!

I want to be grateful to Nolan Richardson's Choir for the nice presentation and joy brought to all of us that attended December's and last meeting of 2006 at Gerardo's.

Once we are in another year, the commitment to improve and goals to make it possible are in the minds of all like new technologies and the ever increasing intensity of competition are forcing firms to re-examine how they do business.

Rapid advances in technology have given us new tools that have reinvented the way our possible routes are to be managed. These new tools allow us to reach beyond our own goals and synchronize the entire extended universe of ideas to improve.

So don't give up. Be confident. Quality field has not run out of opportunity. This is a never-ending battle and if you want to follow the chronicling of the demise and learn about the people who are helping

make Quality great, I can think of no better way than for you to 'tune in' to our Section meetings and help us to have more Certified Engineers, Auditors, Managers, Black Belts, Green Belts, etc. I must warn you, however. Both are highly addictive.

OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE THE NEXT GENERATION
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

JOE LISSBERGER

There will be science fairs all three middle schools under my Partners in Education this month. We are looking for judges for all of them.

Canyon Hills Middle School – Jan. 18, 2007 3:00 PM

Terrace Hills Middle School – Jan. 19, 2007 10:00 AM

Nolan Richardson Middle School – Jan. 23, 2007 2:30 PM

If you could help judge any of these science fairs please contact me at:

Home 821-3767, office 831-2892

Joe Lissberger

e-mail - jlissber@elp.rr.com

AUTOMOTIVE SECTION

HECTOR LUGO

Once again, I want to thank all the participants in this section for another year (2006) and counting with you in this 2007 for your input.

About nine in 10 vehicles sold in the U.S. carry the government's top five-star crashworthiness rating. That means the ratings aren't very helpful for consumers, observed Transportation Secretary Mary Peters during a walking tour of the North American International Auto Show on Monday January 8, 2007.

That's why DOT is proposing several changes in the rating system to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's New Car Assessment Program. Details of the plan are still being tweaked. Currently, vehicles are awarded five stars if the probability for a serious injury or death stemming from a crash is calculated at 10% or less. The threshold is expected to be lowered under the new rules. At the same time, vehicles could earn bonus points if they are equipped with crash-avoidance technologies such as electronic stability control, rear-collision avoidance, adaptive cruise control and lane-departure

warning. NHTSA has proposed requiring that all light vehicles be equipped with stability control systems by the 2009 model year.

More advanced crash dummies also may be required to better measure hip, thigh and head injuries in side impacts. DOT suggests that various front and side ratings for front and rear occupants and drivers and passengers either be integrated into two ratings – one for front and one for side impacts – or perhaps a single summary score covering all tests.

NHTSA will hold a public meeting in Washington, D.C., on March 7 to gather comments before issuing a final proposal on the changes to NCAP.

See you at the meeting!

EDUCATION SECTION

Kim Pries

Is there any reason to use the Taguchi approach to Designed Experiments (DOE)?

Yes. In some cases, the Taguchi approach—with signal to noise ratios—provides an easier method for determining the cost benefit of the improvements. Remember that each of the Quality Loss Functions derive from the 3.5 approaches: 1) smaller is better; 2) larger is better; 3) nominal is better; 3.5) nominal is better with a signal. Some people simply prefer the Taguchi approach, particularly since it is not particularly difficult to implement using spreadsheets.

The downside to the Taguchi approach is not the use of orthogonal arrays as some have said, but rather the fact that the “outer” array—the noise array—can lead to huge numbers of experiments while still having issues with the confounding of the mean with the variance in some of the signal-to-noise calculations. For true optimization, the response surface approach is the most powerful, particularly if the software used by the practitioner can automatically search for the optimum. However, the advanced software to do the optimization is effectively a requirement for this approach.

RE-CERTIFYING AND ASQ CERTIFICATIONS

STEVEN SCHAFER

Out of a total of 7 member(s) whose **certifications expired June 2006**, 1 lost their certification, 1 member(s) re-certification are being

processed and 5 member(s) completed their re-certifications.

Out of a total of 9 member(s) whose **certifications expired December 2006**, 6 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of June 2007, 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 June 2007**, 8 will lose 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.

Members can 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 lose anything by re-certifying early. Out of a total of 7 member(s) whose certifications will expire December 2007, 7 will lose their certifications if they do not re-certify by the end of June 2008, 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** 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 <http://www.asq.org/certification/recertification/rucredits/index.html> .

Potential meeting and dinner schedule

(note that 19 October is a Thursday):

MONTH	DAY	TOPIC	LOCATION
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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See above

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