



Greater El Paso  
Section

*Amigo*  
*Quality*  
Volume 29 Number 1

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

### **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**LOCATION:** Microtel Inn, 12211 Gateway W.  
(I-10 W at Americas Avenue)

**REGISTRATION & SOCIAL HOUR:** 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

**DATE:** October 15, 2008

**SPEAKER:** Lonnie Wilson

**TOPIC:** Principles of Lean

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

### **THE CHAIR SPEAKS**

JOE LISSBERGER

The section had a good meeting last month where we discussed the plans for the coming year and had an open floor where anyone could speak and offer their wishes and complaints. There were few if any complaints but a lot of give and take which is what we need for our section to operate as it should. We are well into our plans for the March "One Day Workshop" and we already have a promise of one sponsor lined up. This workshop which is being headed up by Hector Lugo should be a big occasion for the section.

Lonnie Wilson will be the speaker for this month and should be a very interesting one. I have known Lonnie for many years and he has always been very informative in his presentations. I invite everyone to attend and hear Lonnie. I am sorry that I will not be able to attend this meeting as I have been invited by the US Army to be at a dedication of the PysOps Museum at Ft. Bragg, NC on the 16th of Oct. and so it is with great regrets that I will miss this meeting.  
Joe

## **AUTOMOTIVE SECTION**

HECTOR LUGO

Thanks to all the participants in this section of the Newsletter and after another month (September) of US auto sales drop, as the nation's financial crisis and tight credit kept potential buyers away from showrooms, the following is just the results for such consequence:

Toyota fell 32.3 percent for its biggest single monthly decline in at least four decades, sold 144,260 vehicles last month, down from 213,042 in September 2007.

Honda plunged 24 percent; Ford posted its 10th straight month decline as its Ford, Lincoln and Mercury brands dropped 34 percent; General Motors fell 16 percent in all their brands; and Chrysler dropped 33 percent.

All of this is causing layoffs in automakers and its suppliers.

See you at the meeting!

Hector Lugo

## **EDUCATION SECTION**

KIM PRIES

I have been using the open source statistical tool R quite a bit recently. The commercial version is called S-Plus. R, however, is free but does not have the menu system support that S-Plus has. In spite of that, once the basics of R are learned, the tool is relatively easy to use, especially for basic Six Sigma and quality calculations and graphics.

The software is currently supported by 1,552 (!! ) add-in packages that perform a variety of mundane to exotic functions. Some packages support standard options like control charts for attributes, variable, and time-based data. Support also exists for designed experiments, although these packages are somewhat more abstruse. R is very strong with regression for both time series and potentially correlated historical data.

I have found the graphical output to be similar to that of Minitab®, although the appearance is sometimes more primitive. The graphics can be manipulated to be more attractive if one feels so

moved. One of the really strong capabilities is the support the lattice graphics; that is, plots that appear as if they were displayed in a very large matrix. These are sometimes called “Trellis” plot and provide a means for segregating the data into different patterns to assist in visualization.

R is freely available at <http://www.r-project.org/>. The web site also provides substantial written material in PDF format. Take a look and see what you think. R is one of the most-used tools by academic statisticians.

## **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](mailto: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>.

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### Senior Quality Engineer

**Company:** Allegis Group, Inc.  
**Location:** Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
**Category:** Engineering Jobs  
**Rate:** \$63,000 to \$74,000 per Year  
**Job Type:** Direct Hire  
**Posting ID:** 1757909  
**Posting Date:** 9/19/2008

*Senior Quality Engineer Job Description:*

The successful candidate will have a Quality Engineering background in a manufacturing setting. They will also have experience in an ISO9000 setting and a Mechanical Engineering degree. They will also have some testing experience and understanding of assembly. A blackbelt is preferred.

*Required Skills:*

- ISO 9000
- QUALITY
- MANUFACTURING

*About Allegis Group, Inc.:*

*People. Service. Performance.* These values are the foundation of the culture at Allegis Group and our family of companies. Become part of a company that cherishes its people. We offer an excellent salary and benefits package...and a place where you can grow and excel. Allegis Group and its subsidiaries are equal opportunity employers.

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## Potential meeting and dinner schedule

YEAR	MONTH	DAY	TOPIC	LOCATION
2008	August	16	Executive Committee Meeting 2	EPCC Valle Verde ATC
2008	September	17	Misc topic & certification items	Hilton Garden
2008	October	15	Principles of Lean (Lonnie Wilson)	Microtel Inn
2008	November	19	North Wire tour	North Wire plant
2008	December	17	Christmas Meeting	TBD
2009	January	21	ISO TC69 – Statistical Methods of Beijing China	TBD
2009	February	18	Bhutanese Education	TBD
2009	March	21	Forrest Breyfogle – Six Sigma	TBD
2009	March	18	Desalinization plant tour. Also, nomination of new officers for 2009-2010	TBD
2009	April	15	Vision testing equipment	TBD
2009	May	20	HACEP (Housing Authority) tour	TBD
2009	June	24	Unknown	TBD
2009	July	22	Executive Committee Meeting 1	TBD
2009	August	19	Executive Committee Meeting 2	TBD

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