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Questions or Comments?
Contact:
Greg Zimmerman, Chair
Kandy Senthilmaran, Chair-Elect
Murali Krishnan, Secretary
Brenda Fisk, Treasurer
Chair’s Message

The Software Division is a Gold sponsor for the SoCal Quality Conference, held October 15, 2011. This is an exciting regional event in southern California that our Chair-Elect, Kandy Senthilmaran, has been involved with for several years. If you would like to have the Software Division take part in an event in your area, contact Kandy and/or David Walker, Regional Councilor Coordinator, to discuss how we might be able to support this activity.

We are again organizing two conferences for the coming year. Put them on your calendar:

• Institute for Software Excellence (ISE) 2012 will be held in conjunction with ASQ’s World Conference (WCQI) May 21-23, 2012, in Anaheim, California. This will be the fourth consecutive year for ISE as a conference-within-a-conference at WCQI. As word about the great topics and speakers at ISE has gotten out, attendance has increased every year. If you are planning to attend WCQI and some or all of the ISE sessions, visit us at the Software Division booth, and join us for the Software Division hospitality event. And when you register for the conference, remember to select the Institute for Software Excellence.

• International Conference on Software Quality (ICSQ) 2012 will be held October 29-31, 2012, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The tutorials and technical programs of our past two ICSQs have received rave reviews from attendees. Be a part of it! The Call for Speakers is currently open; consider submitting a proposal – see the announcement in this issue. Encourage your company to become a sponsor for the event or send an exhibit booth (visit http://www.asq-icsq.org/ for more info).

The Business Plan and Budget for the fiscal periods through the end of 2012 were submitted on October 1st. The leadership team will be meeting in early November to update our tactical plans for meeting those objectives. We will also be revising the long term strategy. More on these plans in the next issue – stay tuned.

Greg Zimmerman, CSQE
Chair, ASQ Software Division
gregz@appliedqualitysolutions.com
2012 International Conference On Software Quality

October 29-31, 2012

Hyatt Regency Indianapolis
One South Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Presented by the ASQ Software Division (http://www.asq.org/software)

“Preparing for Tomorrow’s Software Challenges”

2012 ICSQ focuses on the current and future issues in software engineering, software quality and software testing, including security, disaster recovery, emerging technologies, mobile computing, lean techniques and vulnerabilities. Topics include:

- Cloud Computing
- Organic Computing
- Open Source Development
- Off-Shore Development
- Data Quality, Integrity and Privacy
- Application and Data Security
- Mobile Applications
- Vulnerabilities – Political Activism, Hacking, Piracy, Viruses, Malware, Software Hardening, Smart Grid
- Storage and Retrieval – Software As A Service, Remote and Mobile Data Centers
- Interoperability
- Revolutionary User Interfaces – Gesture Recognition, Voice Control,
- Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity
- Standards – Meaningful Use, HL7, Sarbanes-Oxley, Encryption
- Project Management in a Constrained Environment
- Unintended Use, Misuse
- New Methods for Capturing User Needs
- Software Analytics – Image Processing, Surveillance
- Evolution in Change Management

The Call for Speakers has been released and speaker selection will be completed in early Spring 2012. Save the dates in your calendar and plan 2012 budgets to participate as a speaker or to attend the conference.

For further information, please see the conference website at http://www.asq-icsq.org.
May 21-23, 2012 at the
Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, CA USA.

Theme:
Software, Enabling the World!

Topics:
- Applying Quality Principles to Software
- Software Quality Management principles
- Software Outsourcing
- Software Process Improvement
- Software Standards Developments
- Cost of Poor Quality in Software Development
- Certified Software Quality Engineer Knowledge Areas
- Proven Methods and Tactics

ASQ Software Division is sponsoring the fourth annual Institute for Software Excellence (ISE) with presentations by today’s leaders in the industry. With an emphasis on hands-on learning and the application of quality improvements, you will walk away with techniques you can apply immediately within your organization. Join other software quality professionals to learn, share, and network.

ISE is a component of the ASQ World Conference on Quality and Improvement which draws thousands of quality professionals worldwide. A registration to ISE includes full access to the co-located ASQ World Conference on Quality and Improvement with hundreds of presentations on world class quality techniques.

Take advantage of pre-conference Software Quality TRAINING this year!
- Software Quality Engineering, May 14-18 (Get your CSQE! Certification exams will be held onsite following the training)
- Software Requirements Engineering, May 16-18
- Introduction to CMMI-DEV, May 16–18

Questions regarding this exciting program can be directed to David Walker at walkercsqe@juno.com.

Take the next step in your ASQ membership! Get involved! Attend the 2012 ISE!
http://asq.org/conferences/institute-for-software-excellence/
**Update on SAE Standard AS9115**

*By Mike Kress*

In April 2010 the SAE announced the release of *AS9115 Quality Management Systems – Requirements for Aviation, Space and Defense Organizations – Deliverable Software (Supplement to 9100C)*. AS9115 clarifies the requirements for suppliers of aerospace deliverable software, whether delivered as a stand-alone product, embedded in an aerospace airborne, spaceborne, or shipborne product or field loadable in such product. AS 9115 is not mandatory, however, when specified by the acquirer, users of AS9115 will have higher assurance that the objectives of AS9100C are met. AS9115 provides greater depth of detail and granularity for software requirements than AS9100C. The main new elements added to AS9100C and AS9115 are risk management, airborne electronic hardware, critical items, special requirements and key characteristics. SAE also recently published guidance material for AS9115 within the International Aerospace Quality Group (IAQG) Supply Chain Management Handbook (SCMH) available on the IAQG website at: [http://www.sae.org/iaqg/](http://www.sae.org/iaqg/).

This guidance material provides the organization with answers for Frequently Asked Questions, guidance for training for auditors, software measurement, auditor qualification recommendations, and expanded explanation of the changes and additions in AS9115 from AS9006. One of the topics that will be added to the Handbook will be guidance for auditing to 9115. Auditing strategy will change from “elemental” (clause by clause) compliance auditing, to an emphasis on process effectiveness auditing. IAQG representatives have found that while some organizations comply with the clauses within AS9100/AS9115, they are sometimes ineffective in achieving the objectives of the processes. This strategy change is fully described in AS9101D.

For more information, contact Mike Kress, Americas Aerospace Quality Group leader for Project # 60, at [michael.p.kress@boeing.com](mailto:michael.p.kress@boeing.com).

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**SQP Journal Article**

*Should You Trust Your Data?*  
*By Erin Harper and David Zubrow*

The September issue of *Software Quality Professional* is dedicated to data quality. With greatly improved data analysis capabilities and the explosive growth of personal data, data are considered a resource as important as capital and labor to many businesses; companies treat information as a strategic asset. Business decisions that used to be made based on expert input and experience are giving way to those based on algorithms and analytics. The value of data is now recognized as a commodity, but do people trust their data? Not according to a study that reports “half the managers quizzed did not trust the information on which they had to base decisions.”


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**SQP Journal Seeks Volunteers**

*Software Quality Professional (SQP)* is an ASQ journal supported by the ASQ Software Division. Each issue has 3 to 4 peer-reviewed papers, book reviews, and a Quality Nugget. If you would like to write a paper for the journal – see the author guidelines. If you would like to write a Quality Nugget - practical tips that can be easily used by our readers - submit an article of around 1000 words to Rupa Mahanti, [rupa.mahanti@tcs.com](mailto:rupa.mahanti@tcs.com). If you would like to volunteer to review articles or books, or write a letter to the editor, contact Mark Paulk, [mcp@cs.cmu.edu](mailto:mcp@cs.cmu.edu).

In each quarterly issue there is a paper that is available to non-subscribers. The abstract of that article and a link to the current article are in the Columns section of this newsletter.
Update on the IEEE Standard 730 (SQA) Working Group

By Sue Carroll

The IEEE P730 working group on SQA has had one face-to-face meeting since my last update. Thanks to Tellabs in Naperville, IL for hosting us! We had good discussions and made refinements to the draft standard. Prior to the meeting I held some small group meetings to bring the standard to full draft status. This required agreeing on a format and assuring that each section of alignment with 12207 followed the format and read as one document. The working group put together a great start at each section and we used that work to complete the updates. In a parallel effort – group members finished up changes to the annexes. Our editor got a file of all annexes out for review.

Our plan going forward is to send the updated draft standard to the entire listserv. After a couple of weeks for reviews there will be a series of web/phone meetings to discuss each section of the draft so our editor can make final changes. The annexes will be released again with changes based on reviews we have received so far. For now we will leave the body of the standard separate from the annexes. Each PDF file is quite large and I don’t want reviewers to be put off by the length! Both the body of the standard and the annexes are open for review comments.

Our web portal is http://www.computer.org/portal/web/sqa. More information about the latest face-to-face meeting is included in the General/Agendas file folder. Check out the file library to see the latest draft and much more! Also, please join the IEEE Standards Association so you can ballot on the updated IEEE 730 standard. If you would like to join the working group and review the draft, please send me an email – Sue.Carroll@sas.com.

LinkedIn Group Reaches 900

The ASQ Software Division group on LinkedIn has reached 900 members! Our group has been growing by 200-250 new members every year, but there are two thousand more Software Division members not connected with this tool. Please help us get the word out to fellow Software Division members who are either not yet on LinkedIn, or who have a LinkedIn profile but are not aware of our group.

We have made some changes in how group content is being moderated. You will now find conference and training announcements are available under the Promotions tab. You may also want to visit the Jobs area. We have accepted a number of recruiters into the group and relevant postings are starting to appear.

We created a subgroup specifically for the ASQ Certified Software Quality Engineer (CSQE), the first officially sanctioned group for CSQEs. This subgroup is technically open to all members of the parent ASQ Software Division group, but is intended for those already holding the certificate. For those of you who are thinking of taking the exam, don’t feel left out - no exam secrets to be found here. There are, however, discussion threads in the parent group about which references and refresher courses others have used in preparation for the exam.
From the Regions

Region 6

If you are in the Seattle area on the third Thursday of every month (except December), The Seattle Area Software Quality Assurance Group (SASQAG) holds monthly public meetings in the Seattle area. SASQAG also supports certification and study groups. If you are in the area and want to attend, please look at www.sasqag.org for upcoming events, directions, and meeting time.

The Seattle SPIN (Software Process Improvement Network...The Sport and Politics of Software Process) is holding meetings on the first Tuesday, five months a year. The organization is driven with a single, clear-cut goal in mind: change an organization in a way that improves that organization’s ability to develop software. If you are interested in more information on SeaSpin, you can go to http://www.seaspin.org.

The Pacific Northwest Software Quality Conference 2011 was held October 10-12, 2011, in Portland, Oregon. If you missed this year, think about attending next year. They have tutorials, papers, and industry speakers. You can also talk to tool vendors and consultants. This year’s theme was “Delivering Quality”. See http://www.pnsqc.org/ for further information and the “program-at-a-glance”.

If you have information on local software quality and testing events in your area of Region 6, please send them to me for our events calendar. Visit http://www.tomgtomg.com/asq6 for information on events around Region 6.

Tom Gilchrist, Region 6 RC

Region 7

There are two major quality events in October in southern California this year. October 15th was the 4th Annual SoCal Quality Conference (SCQC) <http://www.socalqualityconference.com> in Pomona, CA. [Editor’s note: this is the event for which the Software Division is a Gold sponsor this year.] October 22nd was the Southeast Southern California Quality Day <http://www.sesocalqualityday.org/> in Temecula, CA.

The Society for Software Quality in San Diego has a monthly meeting schedule. Visit http://ssq.org/ for details. The October presentation highlights good communication skills.

SPIN – Southern California <http://ccpe.csulb.edu/SPIN/> also meets monthly. Send an email to spin@ccpe.csulb.edu to get on the list for future meeting announcements.

Nancy Pasquan, Region 7 RC

Region 8


The Dayton SPIN meets monthly at the Clark State Community College with a variety of thought provoking topics. Meetings start at 6:30. Visit http://www.daytonspin.org/ for dates because the day of month fluctuates, and to confirm location.

Greg Zimmerman, Region 8 RC