

About ASQ

A world of improvement is available through ASQ (American Society for Quality), providing information, contacts, and opportunities to make things better in the workplace, in communities and in people's lives. Established in 1946, and headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, ASQ has been the sole administrator of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program Award since 1991. ASQ marked the 30th anniversary of its International Team Excellence Award at the World Conference on Quality and Improvement in 2015. ASQ's participation and influence in international standards includes providing support to the development of international and American National Standards, such as ISO 9001 and ISO 9001-2015, ISO 26000, and ISO 14001.

- As a **global quality community**, ASQ advances the professional development, credentials, knowledge and information services, membership community, and advocacy on behalf of millions of individual and organizational members in 140 countries. ASQ offers 18 certifications, and has issued over 180,000 certifications to professionals worldwide. ASQ supports membership services and business operations through ASQ Global, ASQ China, ASQ Mexico and ASQ India; with ASQ WorldPartners® around the globe.
- As **champions of the quality movement**, ASQ provides support to a number of volunteer groups that develop and approve international and American National Standards. This includes the most widely known standards, such as ISO 9001, ISO 26000, and ISO 14001, as well as other standards and technical reports that apply quality management principles, tools and technology.

ASQ membership, currently numbering around 70,000, is broken down geographically into more than 230 local member communities and topically into more than 25 forums and divisions. Geographic communities, run by volunteer member leaders in several countries, allow members to come together to share and learn on all topics related to quality. Member benefits include substantial discounts on training, certification exams, conferences, books, and other resources.

Most ASQ member units offer meetings, newsletters, online information, and resources regarding educational courses, seminars, conferences and certification exams. All of our leadership comes from within, and members can get involved by becoming a volunteer member leader or serving on a team or committee. This allows opportunities to not only support the quality movement in a profound way but also to enhance leadership, communications and teamwork skills.

Our Columbia Basin member unit is based in Richland, Washington, and currently includes around 100 members from the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas – the geographic area includes the Tri-Cities, Yakima, Walla Walla, Moses Lake, Wenatchee, Hermiston, Pendleton, LaGrande, and other nearby communities.

Site visits and dinner meeting presentations our local group has offered in recent years include the following:

Site Visits

WSU Wine & Education Center – Richland, WA
 Wild Horse Wind Farm – Ellensburg, WA
 Railex – Burbank, WA
 Greenwood Tree Farm – Boardman, OR
 Caldwell Industries – Kennewick, WA
 Second Harvest – Pasco, WA
 AutoZone Distribution Center – Pasco, WA

Other Presentations/Topics

Conduct of Operations 24/7
 Root Cause Analysis
 ABCs of Probability
 Integrated Internal Auditing
 Software Quality Assurance
 You Can Be a Change Agent
 Suspect/Counterfeit Parts/Materials

More information about the Columbia Basin member unit and our activities may be found on our website at <http://www.asq614.org/>. Additional information about the global community of quality, including information about membership types, is available on the ASQ website at <http://www.asq.org/>.