

AQA INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

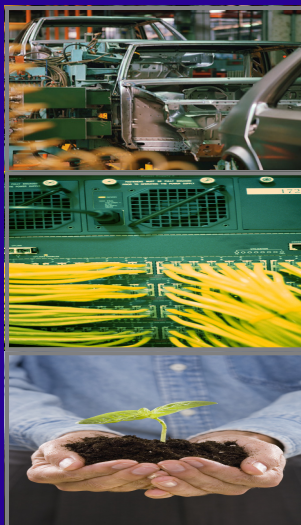
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Inside this Issue

What is BAN?	1
Business Scorecard	1
AQA Newsflash	1
Did You Know?	1
Featured Client	2
Who To Contact	2
Training Schedule	2



What is BAN?

The Basel Action Network, more commonly known as BAN is the world's sole organization focused on confronting the global environmental injustice and economic inefficiency of toxic trade and its destructive impacts. BAN is a 501(c)3 charitable organization based out of Seattle, Washington and promotes the sustainable and just solutions to our consumption and waste crisis by banning waste trade and promoting green, toxic-free consumer products.

BAN works domestically in the USA as well as globally with a particular focus in Europe and Asia. BAN's mission is to prevent the globalization of the toxic chemical crisis and to support the principle of global environmental justice. They work to ensure national self-sufficiency in waste management through clean production and toxics use. The Basel Action Network is named after the Basel Convention, an environmental agreement, which in 1994 passed a landmark decision to ban the export of hazardous waste for any reason from rich countries to poorer ones.

BAN is recognized by the United Nations Environment program as the leading organization dedicated exclusively to issues of "toxic trade". For more information on the Basel Action Network, please feel free to check out their website: www.ban.org

Developing a Business Scorecard...

Business scorecards are increasing in popularity throughout the United States by providing companies with a quick, visual method of assessing the status of an organization and involving the development of goals and objectives in all business processes. Perks of developing a business scorecard include but are not limited to ensuring all processes are involved in continual improvement; promoting a true management system; adding value to the management review process; and finding new uses for internal audits as well as corrective and preventive actions. To develop your own business scorecard, follow these 8 steps.

1. Identify functional areas of the organization to be measured.
2. Determine the metric for each function.
3. Determine and document the historical level.
4. Determine the long range goal (3 years or more).
5. Determine the objective for the current period.
6. Track and report monthly/quarterly progress at management review.
7. Determine Condition.
8. Apply internal audits, corrective actions, and preventive actions as conditions warrant.



AQA Newsflash...

AQA International Headquarters hosted our Regional Office Consortium on April 23-24. With attendance from our offices in Mexico, Turkey, Canada, and Serbia; it was a great chance to network with our regional affiliates. On April 24-25, AQA's Annual Auditor Reception was also held in Columbia, SC. AQA auditors from all over the US joined staff for a training provided by the executive management. Topics discussed included AQA's accreditation goals, business initiatives, vision, mission, and opportunities for growth. Carl Blazik, President of AQA International stated "I am pleased with the turnout of the Consortium and Auditor Reception. I know that all information relayed will prove to be very beneficial to the growth of AQA. We are thrilled to have such enthusiasm entering the second quarter of 2009."

Did You Know?

We would like to welcome...Mr. Warren Thomas as our new Business Development Associate. He is a recent graduate of the University of South Carolina and we are thrilled to have him on board!





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Who to Contact at AQA International

If you have questions about your certification or services we offer, please feel free to call :

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Accounting

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Program Coordinators

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Ext. 225

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Featured Client: North Carolina Zoo

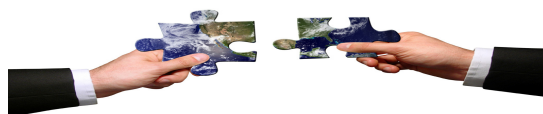
Located in Asheboro, North Carolina, the North Carolina Zoo is not only a place to enjoy wildlife from all over the world, it is a lead example of how to conserve the environment and take care of the world around us. The North Carolina Zoo is dedicated to minimizing waste and conserving natural resources. Conservation has always been central to the mission of the North Carolina Zoo and they work hard to maintain their grounds with this mindset.

Regionally, the North Carolina Zoo is involved in initiatives and programs to improve the quality of the environment. They also work internationally to protect animal habitats and help educate people on the value of wild animals and wild places. Since 1996, they have won more than 10 awards for their waste reduction and conservation efforts. Examples of these efforts include a biodiesel reactor which processes used vegetable oil from Zoo restaurants into clean burning biodiesel and picnic pavilions with 104 KW of solar panel mounted on the roofs. It is the policy of the North Carolina Zoo to conduct operations in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner, to comply with environmental laws and regulations, to reduce generation of waste, to strive for continual improvement, and to lead by example.

Lead by example they did when they became the first zoo in the United States to receive ISO 14001 certification in 2002. The Horticulture section of the zoo received the initial certification and it wasn't long after that the Hanes Veterinary Center and Animal Care Section followed. In time, all sections of the zoo will carry ISO 14001 certification. They truly are an inspiration!

To learn more about what is going on at the North Carolina Zoo, be sure to check out their website: www.nczoo.org

Training ...We Can Help Put The Pieces Together



Come join us for public training courses geared to meet your needs. Course flyers and registration forms are available upon request!

AQA 2009 PUBLIC TRAINING SCHEDULE

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Location</u>
May	11	ISO 9001:2008 Updates and Overview	.25	\$125	Webinar
	19	AS 9100 Overview of Changes	0.5	\$250	Webinar
	27-28	ISO/TS 16949 Internal Auditor	2.0	\$795	Columbia, SC
June	9-10	EMS ISO 14001 Internal Auditor	2.0	\$695	Columbia, SC
	11	Food Safety initiatives	1.0	\$395	Columbia, SC
	15	AS 9100 Overview of Changes	0.5	\$350	Cincinnati, OH
	24-25	ISO 9001:2008 Internal Auditor	2.0	\$595	Columbia, SC
July	21	Effective Management Review	0.5	\$295	Columbia, SC
		Findings ROI in your Management System	0.5	\$295	Columbia, SC
	22-23	ISO 13485 Internal Auditor	2.0	\$695	Columbia, SC
August	6-7	Core Tools	2.0	\$1000	TBD
	18-19	Core Tools	2.0	\$1000	Columbia, SC
	TBD	GD&T Training	1.0	\$750	TBD
	TBD	Blue Print Reading	1.0	TBD	TBD

Any of the above referenced courses can be customized to fit any of your training needs with on-site training. For more information regarding any of our classes or how to sign up, please contact Ansley Rhodes at 800-281-4383 or arhodes@aqausa.com.