



# October 2008

## **OCTOBER 14, 2008 MEETING**

AQAA Meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of the month, or as published. The meeting format is as follows:

- 6:30 – 7:00 Networking & Refreshments**
- 7:00 – 7:15 Welcome and Job Announcements**
- 7:15 – 8:15 Presentation. The last 15 minutes is for Q&A.**
- 8:15 – 8:30 Networking**
- 8:30 – 9:00 Board Meeting**

## **MEETING LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS**

### **Location:**

MDI - 35 Technology Parkway South  
Suite 150  
Norcross, GA 30092.

### **Directions:**

From Interstate 285 take the GA-141 North exit toward Cumming/Dahlonega. Merge right onto Peachtree Industrial Blvd., NW. Turn left onto Technology Pkwy South. MDI will be on your left in the office complex (about 5 miles from I285).

## **TOPIC: QA MATURITY ASSESSMENT: A FRAMEWORK**

Inefficient QA practices lead to increased defects, lower customer satisfaction, inefficient schedules, lower employee morale and many other ills that affect bottom line numbers by increasing costs. Increasing the efficiencies of QA practices is shown to provide more than 100 percent return on investment within the first three years. Add this to increased business opportunities, higher customer and employee satisfaction, and an overall boost in productivity, and the benefits of having a mature, optimized QA organization become invaluable.

In his presentation titled "QA Maturity Assessment: A Framework," Yesh Dattatreya, Delivery Director at MDI, outlines ways organizations can use a three-phase approach to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the QA department.

Yesh Dattatreya's eight years of experience in Information Technology spans clients in credit management, insurance, banking, healthcare, sourcing automation, professional services management, learning management, and mobile telephony. He has held project and program management roles at Equifax, First Consulting Group (now CSC Health Services) and Infosys. Yesh has led large engagements across the entire software development life-cycle, enterprise-wide IT initiatives, and implementing RUP and PMI processes. His focus has been on value added project and program delivery by linking all project and program initiatives to the company's strategic objectives.

Yesh's certifications include Project Management Professional (PMP) from PMI, Six Sigma Green Belt and Java Programming. He is an active member of the PMI's Atlanta Chapter. He



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holds a graduate degree in Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, and an MBA from Indian Institute of Management, both premier institutes in India.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Elections will be held at our November meeting for officers for 2009. If you are interested in being an officer, contact one of the current officers. (See list below).

## **QAI CLASSES**

AQAA will be hosting two QAI courses in Atlanta during the first week of December as follows:

- Test Planning and Test Case Design – December 1-3 (\$1075)
- Web Testing Techniques – December 4-5 (\$535)

For details, please see the AQAA website at <http://www.aqaa.org/>.

## **AQAA WEB SITE**

We will be re-designing our website soon. Please contact the webmaster (Tobias Holden [webmaster@aqaa.org](mailto:webmaster@aqaa.org)) to submit your design ideas.

## **AQAA LAPEL PINS**

Be sure to ask for your AQAA lapel pin when you are checking in for the meetings.

## **PURPOSE/MISSION OF AQAA**

The purpose of AQAA is to provide local interaction among organization members in the Atlanta area, to mutually support each other, and to supplement the exchange of information about Quality Assurance, Software Testing, and Total Quality Management. We host ten meetings per year. The meetings vary in format and usually include presentations by industry professionals.

## **POSITION OPPORTUNITIES**

AQAA recognizes a need for employment in the Atlanta area and receives notifications of job opportunities in the Atlanta market place. If you are a member who is seeking employment, contact the AQAA Director of Public Relations for specific opportunities at [publicrelations@aqaa.org](mailto:publicrelations@aqaa.org).

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

The next meeting will be held on November 11, 2008. If you have recommendations for speakers, please contact [vicepresident@aqaa.org](mailto:vicepresident@aqaa.org).

No December meeting.



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**WHY BELONG TO AQAA?**

If you have a stake in Software Quality as an IT Manager, Software Tester, Software Quality Professional, or Software Developer, we invite you to take a look at what AQAA has to offer. The Atlanta Quality Assurance Association (AQAA) was founded in 1984 with the belief that no one company or individual can learn everything that is needed to assure a Quality Environment. AQAA is a not-for-profit organization, which is organized to share state-of-the-art Quality Assurance methods, tools, and techniques among its members. Our membership is comprised of professionals working primarily in the information technology industry. For more information, go to [www.aqaa.org](http://www.aqaa.org).

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Is your membership information current? You can help us do a better job of keeping in touch with you by making sure the information we have is correct. Please let us know anytime something changes, like your place of employment, e-mail address, or phone number. AQAA memberships are currently available for both individuals and corporations with varying numbers of seats. The membership term runs from the date the application is accepted through the same date the following year. See below for individual membership or corporate membership forms. AQAA participation earns CPE credits toward CSQA and CSTE designation.

AQAA accepts credit cards via PayPal on the website. You can pay for new memberships or renew online, then either mail the application or bring it to the next meeting (we do request a completed membership application for renewals). We still accept checks at the meeting and in the mail so you also have that option. Please see <http://www.aqaa.org/memberships.html>. If you have any questions about Membership please contact [memberships@aqaa.org](mailto:memberships@aqaa.org).

<b>Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Price</b>
Individual	Memberships purchased at the same time from a single corporation or person. These are individual memberships purchased for one individual and stay with the individual for the membership term.	\$60 each
Corporate	A corporation may purchase "seats" which allows them to send a finite number of people to an AQAA meeting, although different people may attend from month to month.	\$60 each
Student	This membership is available to any full time student.	\$25 each



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**AQAA ANNUAL CORPORATE SPONSORS**

We have three corporate sponsors this year. For details on becoming an annual or monthly corporate sponsor please see <http://www.aqaa.org/sponsors.html>.



<http://www.theintersectgroup.com/>

The Intersect Group



<http://www.mdigroup.com/>



<http://www.libertymanagementsystems.com/>

Liberty Management Systems

**2008 AQAA OFFICERS**

The officers for 2008 are as follows. You can meet with the officers after each monthly meeting starting at about 8:30 pm.

Office	Name	Email
<b>President</b>	Diane Walker, CSQA, CSTE, CSQE	<a href="mailto:president@aqaa.org">president@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	L'Tanya Mathis, CSQA, CSTE	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@aqaa.org">vicepresident@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Pat Janas, CSTE	<a href="mailto:secretary@aqaa.org">secretary@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anson DeWolf	<a href="mailto:treasurer@aqaa.org">treasurer@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Communications</b>	Nel Nash-Hooks, CSTE	<a href="mailto:communications@aqaa.org">communications@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Education</b>	Tobias Holden, CSQA	<a href="mailto:education@aqaa.org">education@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Ken Rogers	<a href="mailto:memberships@aqaa.org">memberships@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Public Relations</b>	Karyn Volk	<a href="mailto:publicrelations@aqaa.org">publicrelations@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Special Events</b>	Steve Burnett, CSQA	<a href="mailto:specialevents@aqaa.org">specialevents@aqaa.org</a>
<b>Webmaster</b>	Tobias Holden CSQA	<a href="mailto:webmaster@aqaa.org">webmaster@aqaa.org</a>



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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL CSQAs AND CSTE**

The Common Body of Knowledge (CBOK) for CSQA and CSTE was updated in 2006. Some domain areas have been changed and others have been dropped. CPE recertification points received after January 1, 2006 must align with these new domain areas. An outline that includes information on the new domain areas is available on the Software Certification



Website, <http://www.softwarecertifications.org/>. Review this outline as you make your future training plans to ensure that your CPE credits can be applied to your recertification.

**Recertification is Now Available Online via the Customer Service Portal**

Candidates can now maintain, edit, and submit their recertification journal online through the Customer Service Portal. For more information, see the following website: <http://www.softwarecertifications.org/>. The new Customer Service Portal secure web pages allow you to apply online, manage your professional certifications, enroll for examinations, and view examination results all online. This has greatly reduced customer service turn-around times. The old paper-based application process has been eliminated and will no longer be accepted

**PROMETRIC™**

In 2008, Software Certifications selected Prometric, a world leader in assessment testing services, as its partner for the administration of certification examinations. Instead of having only four dates a year to take examinations at a given location, candidates can schedule a test via the Internet and take it at a **Prometric Testing Center**. Candidates must first register through the Customer Portal. After receiving a Prometric Exam Code and waiting at least 72 hours, then a candidate can schedule the exam with Prometric.

**WEBSITES – EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION**

The following table lists some websites of interest for education, training, and software testing information:

<b>Name</b>	<b>URL</b>
AQAA – Atlanta Quality Assurance Association	<a href="http://www.aqaa.org">http://www.aqaa.org</a>
ASQ – American Society for Quality	<a href="http://www.asq.org">http://www.asq.org</a>
ASQ Atlanta Section	<a href="http://www.ASQatlanta.org">http://www.ASQatlanta.org</a>
ASQ Customer Supplier Division	<a href="http://www.asqcsd.org">http://www.asqcsd.org</a>
ASQ Recertification	<a href="http://www.asq.org/certification/recertification/">http://www.asq.org/certification/recertification/</a>
Baldrige Award at NIST	<a href="http://www.quality.nist.gov">http://www.quality.nist.gov</a>
Georgia Oglethorpe Award	<a href="http://www.georgiaoglethorpe.org">http://www.georgiaoglethorpe.org</a>
IEEE Atlanta Section	<a href="http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/atlanta">http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/atlanta</a>
IIE – Institute of Industrial Engineers	<a href="http://www.iienet.org">http://www.iienet.org</a>
IIST – International Institute for Software Testing	<a href="http://www.iist.org/">http://www.iist.org/</a>
ISO – International Organization for Standardization	<a href="http://www.iso.ch">http://www.iso.ch</a>
Liberty Management Systems (Corporate Sponsor)	<a href="http://www.libertymanagementsystems.com/">http://www.libertymanagementsystems.com/</a>
MDI – Management Decisions, Inc. (Corporate Sponsor)	<a href="http://www.mdigroup.com">www.mdigroup.com</a>



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Name	URL
MSQA – Master of Science Quality Assurance	<a href="http://www.msqa.edu">http://www.msqa.edu</a>
NIST – National Institute of Standards and Technology	<a href="http://www.nist.gov/">http://www.nist.gov/</a>
QAI – Quality Assurance Institute	<a href="http://www.qaiworldwide.org/qai.html">http://www.qaiworldwide.org/qai.html</a>
Quality Leadership Awards	<a href="http://www.qualityleadershipawards.com">www.qualityleadershipawards.com</a>
RAB – Registrar Accreditation Board	<a href="http://www.rabnet.com">http://www.rabnet.com</a>
SPSU Center for Quality Excellence	<a href="http://www.ecfdesigns.com/cqe/index.htm">http://www.ecfdesigns.com/cqe/index.htm</a>
The Intersect Group (Corporate Sponsor)	<a href="http://www.theintersectgroup.com/">http://www.theintersectgroup.com/</a>

**ICSPI**  
**Washington, DC**

**October 20-24, 2008**

*The International Institute for Software Testing (IIST) aligns with non-profit groups around the world to promote educational events and disciplined practices for software test and quality professionals. Details for the ICSPI conference are listed at [www.icspi.com](http://www.icspi.com). Members of the AQAA will receive 25% discount on all conference sessions as long as they use promotional code "QAAAGA" on their registration. See AQAA website for additional information.*

**Agile Development Practices 2008**  
<http://www.sqe.com/agiledevpractices/>

**Nov 10-13, 2008**  
**Orlando, FL**

**Conference Description:**  
The Agile Development Practices conference is for anyone investigating or implementing agile development practices, processes, technologies, and leadership principles.

**Rosen Shingle Creek Resort**  
**9939 Universal Boulevard**  
**Orlando, FL 32819**