

# NEWSLETTER

FOX VALLEY SECTION

OCTOBER 2024

QUOTE(S) OF THE MONTH  
FROM ASQ QUALITY :

**"WE DO NOT NEED MAGIC  
 TO CHANGE THE WORLD;  
 WE CARRY ALL THE POWER  
 WE NEED INSIDE OUR-  
 SELVES ALREADY. WE HAVE  
 THE POWER TO IMAGINE  
 BETTER."** J.K. ROWLING

The Oxford Dictionaries define Generation Z as "**the group of people who were born between the late 1990s and the early 2010s**, who are regarded as being very familiar with the internet."



**October Program 10-1-24**

**GenZ – our next generational wave in the workplace**

**Presenter:**

Mary Erlain

President / Peak Development Strategies

The workplace has changed! We have had two significant transitions, 1) the pandemic, and 2) a generation that has aged out of the workplace. Over the past few years, time has flown by, bringing significant changes with it. In what feels like the blink of an eye, a new generation has made its way into the workforce. But have we truly noticed their arrival?

Many of us haven't, largely because this new group entered the professional world during an unprecedented upheaval. Instead of in-person meetings, many introductions happened via Zoom, making their entry somewhat inconspicuous. Despite this, their presence has significantly impacted organizations, often in unexpected ways. This session sheds light on these changes, exploring the misunderstandings and the reasons behind the confusion surrounding this generation..

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## Biography

Mary L. Erlain began her career in 1979 in family and clinical medicine, where she focused on compassionate care. In 2001, she transitioned to sales training and development. Six years later, she founded Peak Development Strategies with a mission to "Connect the dots and remove barriers!"™.

As a published author and international speaker, Ms. Erlain offers coaching and consulting to help professionals excel. She is also a recognized authority on workplace generational diversity, with multiple publications on the topic. Through Entrepreneur Groups, she provides peer support and one-on-one coaching. Driven by a deep passion for helping others discover their God-given talents, she shares her life experiences to inspire hope and growth.



**We will be hosting the OCTOBER General meeting as a Virtual meeting –Meeting date 10-01-24 Tuesday.**

**Please REGISTER on our website for the October Meeting:  
<https://asq-foxvalley.org/meetinginfo.php?id=>**

You can test your computer or mobile device in advance at <https://www.webex.com/test-meeting.html#>. Click the icon with three dots, then click the gear menu (Speaker, microphone, and camera).

**Important Notes regarding Registration:**

**It will Close at midnight on**

**Sunday September 29th.**

**in order to give section volunteers enough time to prepare.**

**\*Please note: – Attendees will earn RUs. Note: RU letters are issued during on-site meetings and via e-mail, normally the next day for Virtual meetings. If the letter does not arrive the next day. Members should contact us right away and not wait until recertification deadline to request the letters. You must attend a minimum of 50% of the meeting to receive your RU credit.**

**It's important to fill out the survey that comes with your RU letter. We, on the board value your input and the survey helps us continue to plan dynamic programs.**

The Senior Leadership meeting as of this printing is scheduled to be virtual on October 15th. At 6:30pm.

**05:45- 06:00 Test connection and join meeting**

**06:00 - 07:00 Presentation and Q&A**

**Please indicate any needs in the answer section of the first question on your registration ticket.**



## Call for Speakers

Our section is actively seeking speakers/presenters for our dinner/meeting programs and we need your help. If you have:

A success story, case study, or new technique in the field of Quality

A failure story with analysis

Practical application and technical implementation of quality tools, methodologies, and techniques

Strategies for building and sustaining a culture of quality

Real applications, real results, and real solutions based on quality principles or theory

.....we want to hear from you!

We are seeking speakers/presenters to share their knowledge and experience in any area of the *Quality Body of Knowledge* (QBOK), including quality principles/tactics, technical topics, standards, real-world case studies, “war stories”, successes/failures, examples/stories, application of tools and hands-on experience. Other topics and subjects could be in the area of personal/professional enrichment and development, insights and subject matter relevance.

If you are interested, please submit your name, contact information and topic. If you know of a colleague or someone who is a “subject matter expert”, recognized as an industry leader, or has knowledge of a subject/topic our members would be interested in, please submit their name, contact information, and their topic or subject knowledge.

Submit all suggestions via our website, at <http://asq-foxvalley.org/>

**We seek articles members may have written for a magazine or journal. If a member is making a presentation at a seminar or conference, we would like to list it . They can be forwarded to : [newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org)**





## **Futaba North America Engineering & Marketing Corporation**

### **QUALITY ENGINEER**

Imagine working for a large tier-1 supplier in the exciting world of automobile manufacturing. If you enjoy working in a collaborative and respectful environment with great team members, this could be the opportunity for you. Futaba North America provides management support to its automotive parts production companies in North America. The Futaba Group leverages its core technologies such as stamping and welding to create value added products that are in line with the needs of consumers, deliver peace of mind, and promote environmental initiatives that contribute towards a sustainable society.

We are looking for a talented Quality Engineer who can flex in the dual role of customer new model APQP (development of Control Plans, Inspection Standards, MSA, PPAP, PFMEA) and possess the ability to perform System and Process Audits according to Futaba and IATF 16949 requirements. This position identifies and resolves quality issues to ensure zero impact to the customer. The QE role supports new product introductions to ensure the robustness of product builds and works in a team environment to develop and implement best practices that emphasize defect prevention, reduction in variation and waste, and provide for continuous improvements in meeting all customer requirements. The Quality Engineer is a headquarters role located in Bloomington, IL. Major responsibilities are as follows:

- Manage all quality-related issues within the manufacturing team: internal, supplier, and customer to prevent compromising quality and safety standards.
- Identify root cause and implement permanent corrective actions for product quality issues.
- Conduct cost-analysis to determine advantages of system improvements.
- Support manufacturing in the development of job instructions and procedures.
- Develop, facilitate, and review risk assessments for routine and non-routine activities in consultation with the operations team.
- Report and monitor on quality-related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to adhere to process and prevent occurrence of any non-conformity relating to product, process, or system.
- Prepare reports by collecting, analyzing, and summarizing data. Make recommendations.
- Provide onsite support to customers/suppliers as needed.
- Lead quality audits.
- Lead and support group of team members and engineers.
- Support regular inspections meetings with representatives from appropriate departments to establish an action plan for improving build quality.
- Use Lean Six Sigma methodology to support Lean initiatives, improve processes, and reduce defects.
- Periodically review and modify the company quality management system documents.

- Develop, implement, and encourage a strong safety culture in the organization through safe job observation and top management inspections.  
Maintain communications with manager and quality team on progress, issues, delays, and other pertinent information.  
25%+ travel to our manufacturing facilities in North America and to customers' and suppliers' sites is required.  
Annual visits to Futaba Japan to meet with Futaba QA and Best Practices.  
Maintain professional currency in technical knowledge, engineering and manufacturing trends affecting quality, and relevant products, services, and marketplace developments.  
Comply with company policies and procedures and safety and housekeeping requirements.  
Performed other projects and duties as assigned.

**Requirements:**

If you are known as an exceptional employee who produces great work and believes in adding value to everything you do, we want you to join our growing team and share in our vision. The ideal candidate will have 5+ years of quality engineering experience within the automotive manufacturing industry. Bachelor's Degree is required, preferably in Quality or Mechanical Engineering or another related field. Must be certified as Internal/Lead Auditor to IATF 16949. CQE or CQA is preferred. The ideal candidate has a strong background and experience in the Toyota Customer requirements and expectations. Proficiency in MS Office Suite is essential. Working knowledge of GD&T and Mini Tab Statistical techniques is preferred. Metrology experience is preferred utilizing layout tools such as CMM and Romer Arm. We are looking for a Quality Engineer with solid problem-solving methodology experience utilizing 8-Step and PDCA process. Must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills and be highly responsive to customers' needs and deliverables.

Our full-time employees enjoy a competitive benefits plan that includes medical, dental, vision, life, disability insurance, 401(k) plan, and more! The work schedule is generally Monday – Friday. Must be able to work extended hours as needed and travel to our North America facilities and to customers' and suppliers' sites. Qualified candidates are requested to email their cover letter and resume. No phone calls please. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Email: [estefanski@futabanaem.com](mailto:estefanski@futabanaem.com)

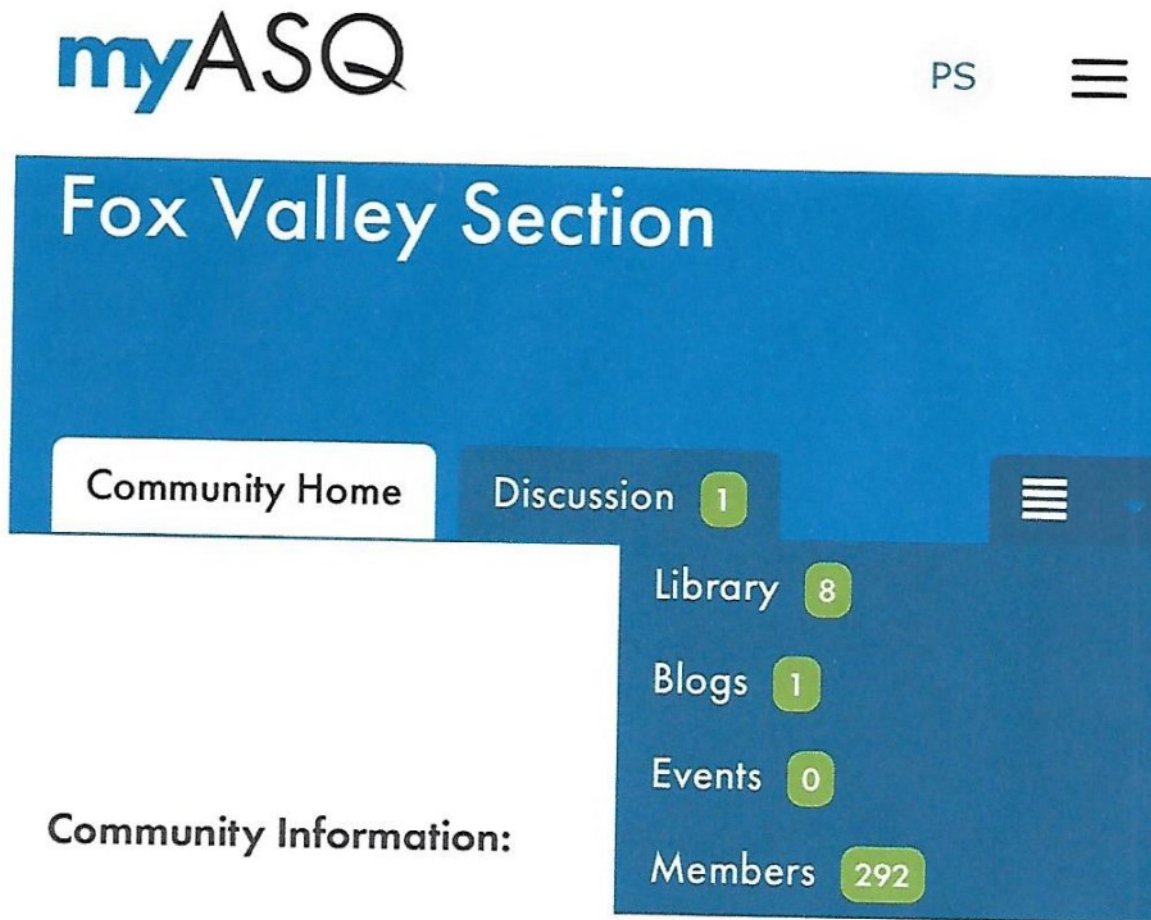
Website: <https://www.futabasangyo.com>

Elizabeth Stefanski

エリザベス・ステファンスキー

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Items can be found in the Fox Valley section of “My ASQ” .



Section 1208 includes the western, southwestern, and northwestern suburbs of Chicago, Illinois.

For more information about this section, please visit <https://asq-foxvalley.org>.

To get a glimpse of what our section members are doing to contribute to their geographic and professional communities, visit our [Section Members in the News](#) library.

# Workshops, Certificate Programs, and Certification Prep Web Interactive

## ASQ Fox Valley Section Web Interactive Exam Preparation Courses

This is still the perfect time to receive customized, flexible, and virtual ASQ Training for your next certification! More and more people are getting ASQ certified in the Fox Valley Section! Now may be a great time to invest in your career development with a flexible Prep Course taught by our own Education Chair, Chuck Gates. Chuck brings over 40 years of experience in various quality management roles, and he teaches Quality Management and ASQ Certification courses to several colleges and businesses in Illinois. Reach out to the Education Chair for more details.

Please review the Training Catalog on our website -<https://www.asq-foxvalley.org> and select the Education tab for more information regarding the schedule of courses and workshops.

Web Interactive Courses can be scheduled on flexible dates and times. Participants must purchase the study materials and pay for Certification Exams.

The Fox Valley Section of ASQ welcomes you and anyone interested in volunteering their time, to attend one of our Section Leadership Committee (SLC) meetings. It is during these meetings where decisions and updates are managed for the section. All feedback and participation are appreciated. For more information or if interested in attending a meeting, please contact [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org).

Date	Location
2023 6:30pm	
October 15	Virtual
November 19	Virtual
December 17	Virtual



# UPCOMING CERTIFICATION EXAM DATES

Please check exam dates & deadlines carefully as we will not make exceptions for late applications. All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. US CST on the date specified.

## Computer-Based Testing Dates

ASQ certification examinations are delivered by ASQ's testing partner, Prometric. The examination scheduling instructions in your eligibility letter will direct you to a section of Prometric's website, where you can select and schedule your examination date and location.

### ODD MONTH EXAM

[CQT](#), [CQI](#), [CRE](#), [CFSQA](#), [CMDA](#), [CMQ/OE](#), [CSSBB](#), [CSSYB](#), [CSQP](#)

November 1 - 30, 2024	October 13, 2024
January 1 - 31, 2025	December 8, 2024
March 1 - 31, 2025	February 9, 2025

The [Certified Master Black Belt \(CMBB\)](#) certification exam is available twice a year, in the July & November testing windows.

### EVEN-MONTH EXAMS

[CQA](#), [CQE](#), [CQIA](#), [CSQE](#), [CSSGB](#), [CQPA](#), [CCT](#), [CPGP](#), [CCQM](#)

Testing Window	Application Deadline
December 1 - 31, 2024	November 10, 2024
February 1 - 28, 2025	January 12, 2025

**Contact our Education Chairperson –  
Charles Gates for training classes.**

Please review the Training Catalog on our website -<https://www.asq-foxvalley.org>



## 2024 Future Meeting Dates and Locations

DATE	Location	Speaker	Topic
October 1st	Virtual	Mary Erlian President -Peak Development Strategies	GenZ –Our next Generation in the work place.
November 7th	Courtyard Banquets	Andrew Niess	History of AI and it’s Impact/ Opportunities for Quality Professionals.
December 3	TBD	Mathew Kroll	Establishing Continuous Improvement: getting the basics right.

## Watch this section for upcoming Scholarship information.

**We are always looking for opportunities for Plant Tours.**

Please contact [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org) for more details and assistance to pursue this opportunity.

**What are we looking for?**

Companies that would like to have 25-30 pairs of Quality eyes visit their operations for networking and dialogue on Quality applications, tactical ideas and new exposure of the great companies in the Fox Valley Area.

**What do we need?**

Fox Valley Section members that can sponsor a tour at their company or business site.

**What is our goal?**

Provide a Quality networking and educational event that is a win-win opportunity for both Fox Valley ASQ Section 1208 membership and companies in the Fox Valley Area.

**What is our target area?**

Most of our section’s members work or live between Elgin to the north, Yorkville in the south, Maywood to the east, and Dekalb to the west. We believe we will get the best turnout for a tour in this area.

**What is needed for a tour?**

Tours are most productive when there are Quality contacts working at the company to assist with completing the details. It is best if it is an area that doesn’t require extensive safety gear or high security restrictions. New projects, new ventures, new equipment and continuous improvement implementations are great opportunities for Quality feedback and networking exchanges. Early evening tours allow for good participation for our membership who work during the day.

**What is the suggested layout of a tour (actual time frame is determined by the companies needs)**

- 15 minutes introduction with organizational staff.
- 45 minutes of guided tour through the areas to be reviewed.
- 30 minutes for snacks and networking.

30-60 minutes of questions and dialogue on quality ideas and suggestions.

Contact [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org) to pursue this opportunity.



# Section Leadership Volunteers - Pay It Forward or Pay It Back

The Fox Valley Section Leadership Committee (SLC) is comprised of member-volunteers who work to provide services to section member, including creating educational opportunities, finding speakers for section member meetings, publishing newsletters, providing networking opportunities, selecting scholarships award-ees, and doing the behind-the-scenes work needed to deliver these services. We welcome new committee members and chairs, and the new ideas they bring. **We have multiple open positions, which need to be filled to continue to provide these services.**

Becoming a part of the SLC is an opportunity to get involved with ASQ, work with a great group of people, and have some fun. Benefits include seeing your ideas become real, learning, networking, expanding your resume, and earning recertification units.

There is a position for the interests, skills, and experience you have. Some roles are member-facing, others work in the background. Performing the mandatory functions of most roles takes a few hours a month on average. For a few hours more, you can make a greater impact by improving existing services or developing new ones.

A current list of committees and officers is on the [leadership page](#). If you would like to learn more or would like to sit in on a (virtual) leadership committee meeting, please contact Dani Hestermann, section chair, at [chair@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair@asq-foxvalley.org) or to [help@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:help@asq-foxvalley.org).

## Section Leadership

Chair **Danielle (Dani) Hestermann** [chair@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Oversees the management of the section and presides over Section Leadership Committee meetings.

Chair-Elect **Mike Vella** [chair-elect@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair-elect@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Assists the chair in leading the section. The chair-elect generally assumes the role of Chair when the Chair's term ends.

Works with the SLC to develop, implement, manage, and report on the Process Excellence Program (PEP) business plan and budget for the section.

Identifies section award candidates and develops methods to recognize section members and others who have contributed to the section, ASQ, or Quality as a whole.

Secretary **Wayne Tollefsen** [secretary@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:secretary@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Records and maintains all meeting minutes.

Schedules SLC meetings and reserves conference bridge as needed.

Treasurer **John Goerner** [treasurer@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:treasurer@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Oversees section funds. Maintain accurate section financial records. Reports on financial condition of the section at times directed by the bylaws and policies and procedures.

Arrangements **Jeff Seyl** [arrangements@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:arrangements@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Oversees arrangements for all regular meetings of the section and other special programs and conferences as assigned by the Section Leadership Committee (SLC) or other committee chairs.

Chair-emeritus **Mohammad Khan** [chair-emeritus@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:chair-emeritus@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 As the most senior member of the Section Leadership committee, advises the SLC chair, leadership committee, and other offices and chairs as requested.

Education **Charles Gates** [education@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:education@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Creates and oversees all education related activities.

Immediate Past Chair **Bob Kutter** [past-chair@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:past-chair@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Assists the incoming chair.

Leads ad-hoc committees as assigned.

Internet **Alan Berow** [internet@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:internet@asq-foxvalley.org)  
 Designs, implements, and maintains the structure of the section on-line services within limits set by ASQ and service providers.

Maintains credentials and access control for section's on-line assets

Maintains on-line content as directed.

Trains other SLC members in developing and maintaining content for section's on-line assets, and acts as their backup

Membership **Mohammad A. H. Khan** [membership@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:membership@asq-foxvalley.org)

Drives section recruitment and retention efforts. Develop and implements plans to maximize membership renewal and encourage interested persons to join ASQ. Upholds Society bylaws, policies and procedures, and section operating agreement.



Newsletter

**Paul Suffredin**

[newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:newsletter@asq-foxvalley.org)

Creates and delivers the section newsletter. Establishes and adhere to a publication calendar for the newsletter and share this information with other volunteers who will need to submit content throughout the year.

**Chris Gay**

Nominations

[nominations@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:nominations@asq-foxvalley.org)

Bob Kutter

Identifies candidates for elected positions, manages the election process, and assists in identifying candidates for committee chairs and members in conformance to the ASQ Section Operating Agreement.

**Open**

Programs

[programs@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:programs@asq-foxvalley.org)

Chris Gay

Works with the section leadership committee to set goals/metrics to support the section's management process as they relate to soliciting speakers to match topics, and scheduling/planning of programs, events and activities.

Publicity / Social Media

**Craig Heinze**

[social-media@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:social-media@asq-foxvalley.org)

Promotes ASQ and other quality-related events in value-added media venues. Manages section's social media programs and presence. The goal is to promote awareness and draw new members. This includes scholarship opportunities and recognition, an area typically underutilized by the population at large.

**Renee Webb**

Scholarship

Bob Kutter

[scholarship@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:scholarship@asq-foxvalley.org)

Mohammad A. H. Khan

Student Branch Counselor

**Charles Gates**

[student-branch@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:student-branch@asq-foxvalley.org)

Facilitates student organizations in the creation and operation of ASQ student branches associated with the section. Voice of student branches to the SLC. Coordinates activities between student branches and the section.

Voice of the Customer

**Thomas Kozlowski**

[voc@asq-foxvalley.org](mailto:voc@asq-foxvalley.org)

Collects and analyzes voice of the customer data to recommend section programs and services.



# ASQ QUALITY INNOVATIONS SUMMIT

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October 8-10, 2024 | Milwaukee, WI

In a fast-paced and ever-changing world, the pursuit of excellence is no longer a choice, but a necessity. At the Quality Innovations Summit, we believe that quality is the driving force leading organizations and individuals to be innovative and pursue excellence. Continuous improvement and innovation are the bedrock upon which success is built.

Join us at the Quality Innovations Summit to embark on a transformative journey towards organizational excellence. We will delve into the latest trends, best practices and explore the future of leadership, operational, and digital excellence through a series of captivating sessions and thought-provoking discussions. Industry experts and thought leaders will share vivid insights and personal experiences to help navigate challenges across organizations of all sizes and industries.

The Quality Innovations Summit is designed to connect you with Quality Leaders, peers, and like-minded attendees who share your passion for excellence. This event is more than just a meeting point; it's a gateway to becoming part of a vibrant community, committed to exchanging innovative ideas, overcoming challenges, and capturing new opportunities together.

Join us at the Quality Innovations Summit to embrace the chance to build a future of excellence side by side. Let's unite, innovate, and make a lasting difference together.

Go to the ASQ website for more information.

# ABOUT ASQ

American Society for Quality (ASQ) is committed to providing enhanced expertise, professional networks, tools, and solutions to help our members advance their products, services, and industries. We provide professional [training](#), [certifications](#), and knowledge to [members globally](#).

ASQ is a global organization with members in more than 130 countries. Headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, we also operate centers in [Latin America](#) and [South Asia](#). Our Society consists of [member-led communities](#) that help members connect with other quality professionals and practitioners, advance their knowledge and careers, and grow as thought leaders.

At ASQ Headquarters, we create the tools and resources and provide the support necessary to help our member leaders continue offering these opportunities. Our magazine [Quality Progress](#), online video series [ASQTV](#), library of [quality resources](#), and [international conferences](#) are all examples of the resources we provide and the chances you have to make a meaningful impact and deliver value to our members and customers.

## Our Mission

ASQ empowers individuals and communities of the world to achieve excellence through quality.

## Our Vision

ASQ will be the thought leader and community of choice for individuals seeking excellence through quality.

## Our Strategic Plan

[ASQ's 2023-2024 Strategic Plan](#) is available to members and customers.