

2018 Lean and Six Sigma Conference Call for Proposals

Conference Theme: *Sustaining a Culture of Excellence in a World of Disruption, Innovation, and Change*

The term “excellence” can mean different things to different organizations, but at its essence, all can agree that it is realized through the achievement of results and the ability to sustain those results over time. Organizations that are able to sustain this level of success, have one very important thing in common; a focus on and attention to culture. They strive for a culture in which excellence is an everyday practice and quality is more than just a role, department, initiative, or project.

The recent exponential growth of disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and the Internet of things has led to changes in the workforce, the markets organizations serve, and the capabilities they have access to. The opportunities these advances provide are also coupled with an ever-changing landscape that can distract from the attention and discipline needed by organizations to sustain cultures of continuous improvement and the excellence they bring.

ASQ is looking for leading lean and Six Sigma practitioners that are eager to share their best practices, tested solutions, and proven results that address these challenges and demonstrate their success within an ever-changing digital landscape. This search specifically seeks presentations that can integrate the conference theme with one or more of the focus areas outlined below. We invite you to share your successes and proven techniques to an audience representing an array of countries, backgrounds, and industries. To learn more and submit a proposal, please visit <http://asq.org/conferences/six-sigma/>.

Focus Areas:

➤ **Tips and Tricks: Sustaining Results**

*This area focuses on implementation, getting results from that implementation, and exploring ways to ensure that the achieved results are sustained. Area also focuses on topics that may include, but aren't limited to:

- Change management
- People and processes: the human side of quality
- Leadership development at all levels of the organization
- Sustaining LSS leadership in the organization

➤ **Lean and Six Sigma in the Age of Digital Transformation**

*Technological advances are growing at an exponential rate and have changed the amount of data that organizations have access to, where that data comes from, and the opportunities that can come from effective analysis of it. The opportunity to apply the principles, tools and

techniques of lean and Six Sigma to these changing conditions is being overlooked by many organizations that are instead looking for solutions from IT professionals. This area of focus explores the opportunities that exist to leverage lean and Six Sigma when addressing the challenges and opportunities brought on by disruptive technologies such as:

- Big data
- Artificial intelligence
- 3-D Printing
- The Internet of things

➤ **Lessons Learned: Implementation of Lean and Six Sigma**

*In this focus area, we are looking for real-life examples from quality practitioners who have applied lean and Six Sigma tools, methodologies, and techniques. Specific areas of focus could include (but are not limited to) topics such as:

- Case studies and real-world solutions that focus on challenges that were faced, mistakes that were made, and how each was handled and overcome.
- Getting buy-in (selling lean and Six Sigma to the uninitiated)
- Matching the right tool to the right problem

➤ **Masters Series**

*This focus area explores lean and Six Sigma from the perspective of the seasoned professional and offers advanced context covering the more complex and intricate areas of lean and Six Sigma methodologies. Areas of focus may include topics such as:

- Current trends and the future of lean and Six Sigma
- Emerging practices
- Advanced technical/applied/statistical tools