

SLAAQP NEWSLETTER



ABOUT SLAAQP

Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Quality and Productivity (SLAAQP) was founded in 1996 and was the successor to the Quality Circle Association of Sri Lanka, which had been established in 1989. Since then the association has immensely contributed to the Quality and productivity of our nation. SLAAQP is a nonprofit making organization comprised of Professionals those who wish to contribute their time and knowledge to uplift the Quality and Productivity in our nation.

Our key events comprise of Annual National Convention of Quality and Productivity, the annual 5S convention and further extends its services to the industry by holding public seminars and tailor made in-house training programs. Hence productivity promotion in private sector, public sector, education sector and community sector is being achieved through establishing a productive work culture within the country, encouraging innovation and creativity, launching an awareness program to the general public, socializing the program on productivity promotion as a national campaign. By enhancing quality and productivity it is hoped to provide benefits to consumers/workers in improving the standard of living, to business by creating more outputs with the same or fewer inputs and the Government by generating larger tax payments by higher economic growth.

NCQP 2018

The National Convention for Quality and Productivity is organized to promote quality and productivity in Sri Lanka and encourage employee involvement and leadership role in performance excellence. Improving quality and productivity on a national scale will deliver many benefits including better quality, higher reliability, reducing costs of production and service thereby reducing the cost of living and improving competitiveness of Sri Lankan industries. The event include competitions on quality circles, lean-six sigma, continuous improvement, best kaizen suggestions, poster competition and essay competition. The event will be graced by Hon. Karu Jayasuriya, the speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka as the Chief Guest and Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri, the Director of the Postgraduate Institute of Management of the University of Sri Jayewardenepura as the Keynote Speaker. The selected teams will get the opportunity to represent Sri Lanka at the next International Convention on Quality Control Circles (ICQCC) 2018 to be held in Singapore in October 2018.



KEY DATES

- NCQP Awareness – 23rd May at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Colombo 07
- NCQP Closing date for applications – 15th June 2018
- NCQP – 12th July 2018 at the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Colombo 07
- Evening for HR & Quality managers
- Total Quality Environment (5S) convention - Scheduled at August 2018

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SLAAQP TO PROVIDE A BETTER SERVICE THROUGH 5S SOLUTIONS

Guest Column



By **W.A.A.N. Weeratunga**

5S is the five step method used in any industry/organisation to improve productivity and quality which was originated from five Japanese words: 'seiri', 'seiton', 'seiso', 'seiketsu' and 'shitsuke'. In broader sense 5S can be described as bringing about cultural change through improving productivity, quality, cost, delivery, safety and morale. 5S can be considered as one of the most widely adopted techniques in the manufacturing and service sectors in Sri Lanka for sustaining continuous improvement.

The Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Quality and Productivity (SLAAQP) was founded in 1996 being the successor to the Quality Circle Association of Sri Lanka (QCASL) which was established in 1989. SLAAQP is one of the pioneer organisations in Sri Lanka for promoting quality and productivity. SLAAQP organised its second convention on 5S, titled as 'Total Quality Environment (5S) Convention' which was held on 5th November, 2015 at the PIM auditorium. All the Resource Personnel were from the organisations that have succeeded by implementing 5S concept in their organizations.

The SLAAQP President Nimal Perera started the session by welcoming the participants. Prof. Ajantha Dharmasiri delivered the keynote speech under 'Five S for the Mind'. He stressed that removing clutter from the mind is more important than that of removing clutter from workplace in the 5S journey. Further he said that even though Five S has been successfully implemented in many Sri Lankan workplaces, making the participants disciplined has not been adequately captured. Finally he elaborated Five P's of Five S's: purposefulness, prioritizing, purity, perseverance and proactiveness for the mind.

Chief Guest Deputy Minister of State Enterprise Development Mr. Eran Wickramaratne explained the importance of 5S for a developing country like Sri Lanka to enhance its quality wise and productivity wise values. Subsequently the eminent presenters did the presentations on how they used innovative methods to implement and sustain 5S, the way they overcame obstacles and the benefits they have had in adopting 5S in their work place with pictorial examples. Presentations came from manufacturing, banking, civil/defense, utilities, power generation and department store sectors. The day was remarkable for all the participants as SLAAQP has created a first class platform to learn from each other.

International Convention on Quality Control Circles (ICQCC) is an annual convention organized by countries in Asia to showcase the best international Quality Circles around the world. ICQCC 2014 was held in Colombo in Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) with the participation more than 900 foreign delegates which includes companies such as TOYOTA, Samsung, TATA, TVS, Hero, Bajaj, and Ashok Leyland etc. Four council members of SLAAQP represented Sri Lanka in the ICQCC held in Changwon city, South Korea. However participation of other Sri Lankan organisations for ICCQCs is still poor in recent years and identified as one of the biggest challenges for SLAAQP to promote quality circles in organisations in Sri Lanka.

Another major event organised annually by SLAAQP is National Convention on Quality and Productivity which includes paper presentations pertaining to the theory and practice of Quality and Productivity, and the competitions on several quality and productivity streams for non executive level employees of manufacturing and service organisations and schools. This is an important opportunity for organisations to promote their shop floor employees to present their successes in a national forum and to become an award winning team.

Also SLAAQP organizes many events, workshops and seminars and do consultations to organizations on improving quality and productivity.

[The writer, MBA – Post Graduate Institute of Management, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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CRITERIA TO BECOME A SLAAQP MEMBER

Individual Members: Persons who are interested in and engaged in the promotion of Quality, Productivity, or members of Quality Circles, facilitators, Steering committee members or those involves in the operation or promotion of Quality Circles.

Institutional members: Universities and other institutions promoting the development of the theory and practice of an integrated approach of quality and productivity with the participation of employees at all levels.

Organizational members: State or private enterprises which have programs to promote Total Quality Management and Quality circles or which have embarked on a programmed to launch quality circles in their organizations.

CONTACT US

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