2012 AQS Conference – Paperless and Wireless !

The 20th AQS Conference will be held at:

Renaissance Providence Downtown Hotel
5 Avenue of the Arts
Providence, RI   02903

August 20 – 24, 2012

We will have training sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning. Conference sessions begin Wednesday afternoon and continue through Friday morning.

This year's training and general sessions will be different in many ways from those held at previous conferences. In our quest to be more responsible stewards of the environment, we looked for ways in which to reduce the footprint of the event. We are doing this in a number of ways:

1. The event will be paperless. Binders with agendas and presentations will not be handed out when you check in for training or at the start of the conference. Instead, the training materials and general session presentations will be posted to this web site prior to the conference so you can download them to your lap top and have them available, or print them at your office and bring them with you.

2. Bring your own lap top for training. To participate in any of the training classes held Monday through Wednesday, you need to bring your own lap top and ensure it has the following capabilities:

- You have administrative rights to make changes to the lap top

- The lap top has a wireless card. A HARD LINE INTERNET CONNECTION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE!

- Your lap top has one of the following operating systems:
  Windows XP Professional, SP2 or higher;
  Windows Vista;
  Windows 7; or
  MacIntosh - recent versions OK with Java 1.6x
- Your lap top has one of the following internet browsers: IE 7.x or higher; or Safari
- Your lap top has the following minimum hardware requirements:
  1 CPU at 1.2 GHz or faster;
  1 GB RAM or higher;
  5 MB or more of free disk space
- Your lap top's monitor should have a resolution of 1024 x 768 or higher.

To take the AQS Introduction class, you need the following additional services on your lap top:
- Java 1.6x runtime (JRE)
- Adobe Reader

To take the AQSP&A class, you need the following additional services on your lap top:
- MS Excel 97 or higher

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We are going wireless for this year's training and general sessions. As stated above, a wired internet connection will not be available, so please make sure that your lap top has a wireless card and can connect to the Internet, and to AQS if you are attending AQS training. Be sure to have MS Excel installed if you are attending the AQSP&A training and want to participate in hands-on training. And make sure that you can connect to and run Discoverer if you are attending the Discoverer training classes.

The training courses will accommodate about 30 people in most cases. You can sign up when you complete the registration form . The registration form includes information about the courses and when they are offered.

The registration form also contains a link to the hotel's website so that you can make your room reservation. Be sure to reserve your room with the conference code of AQSAQSA so that you will be included in the group rate of $122 per night.

We plan on having a Wednesday evening event. We are hoping to make arrangements for a group dinner and walking tour of Providence. We will provide details as soon as we can. The event is a good way to get to know your fellow AQS users, as well as get out and about and see some of the city; we encourage you to attend!

We (the AQS team) hope to see you in Providence!