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## AAR QUALITY ASSURANCE AUDITOR & INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

Submitted by Gary Alderson – AllTranstek, LLC and Donna Jacobi – Amsted Rail

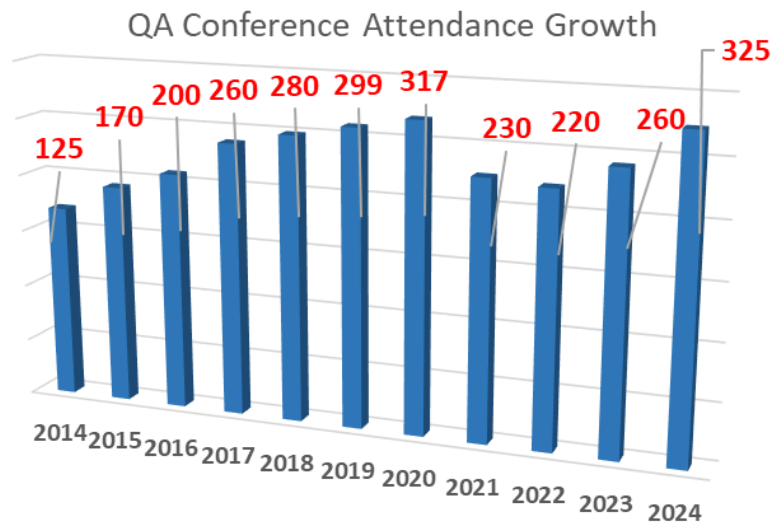
The AAR 's 36<sup>th</sup> annual Quality Assurance Auditor & Industry Conference was held at Phoenix Hilton Inn at the Peak on February 27-29, 2024. The conference was a huge success with 325 people in attendance, which is a new record! There were 114 different companies represented at the conference with attendees from 6 different countries.

During the conference RSI caught up with some of the attendees to get their feedback.

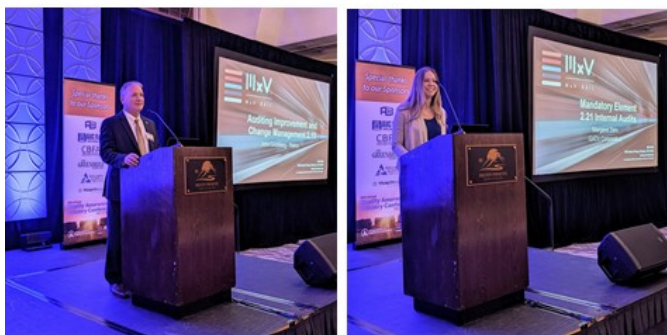
Debra Lynch of Holland LP said she liked the conference but she felt like it was a little too focused on tank cars and would like to see some other presentations or workshops on track work and the technology being used today for track maintenance.

Another attendee, Stephen Berkshire said he thought the conference was very good and included that he has retired from the AAR Mechanical Inspection Department after 30 years. When asked why he retired he said he wanted to allow younger folks an opportunity to fill the role as Manager of the MID and he said he wanted to spend more time with family. But, he did also admit that he had accepted a position with ITC Global as a consultant just to keep his feet wet in the quality world.

Other folks interviewed said they liked the conference and found the content valuable. There was a lot of new information presented. The hands-on workshops were also greatly appreciated (as noted in the last issue of the newsletter, the workshops were put on by the RSI QAC Education TAG).



Below are a few photos from the conference:



The AAR Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) has already begun planning next year's conference. Everyone be sure to save the date, which will be February 25 – 27, 2025. The venue will be in Phoenix again next year. Hopefully the weather will be just as nice as it was this year!



## PASSING OF THE TORCH

Submitted by Gary Alderson – AllTranstek, LLC

Every two years the chairman of the AAR Quality Assurance Committee moves on and passes the torch to the new Chairperson. This year Tony

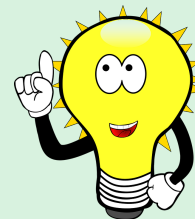


Paralusi – Amtrak (left) completed his term and handed things over to Sanjay Verna – Union Pacific (right). Sanjay will serve the next two years and we all look forward to seeing where he will guide the industry as chair.

## CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEWSLETTER

Submitted by Donna Jacobi – Amsted Rail

This newsletter is published by the RSI Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) Newsletter TAG. The committee has been dedicated to publication of a quarterly quality newsletter since 2020 and prior to that to a joint AAR QAC and RSI QAC quality newsletter. Since 2021, the newsletter has also been available in a Spanish language version thanks to the contributions of Alfredo Ricardo – AllTranstek, LLC. To keep this newsletter viable, we need to get some additional contributor. If you are interested in participating on the RSI QAC newsletter TAG, please contact Gary Alderson ([alderson@alltranstek.com](mailto:alderson@alltranstek.com)), the current chair of the TAG. Even if you don't want to be a member of the TAG, the newsletter needs to be supported through the submission of articles. Without the support of all of you, the newsletter won't be able to continue, so please consider submitting an article or participating on the TAG.



### Have an Idea for an Article?

Please submit your drafts to Gary Alderson at [alderson@alltranstek.com](mailto:alderson@alltranstek.com) or Alfredo Ricardo at [ricardo@alltranstek.com](mailto:ricardo@alltranstek.com)

### Interested in Joining RSI QAC?

Contact Sheena Prevette at [sprevette@rsiweb.org](mailto:sprevette@rsiweb.org)

### Not Getting the Newsletter and Want to Subscribe?

Contact Sheena Prevette at [sprevette@rsiweb.org](mailto:sprevette@rsiweb.org)



## 2024 AAR QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING SCHEDULE

Course	Date	Location
Basic Auditor Training Class	May 21-23	San Diego, CA
	July 16-18	New Orleans, LA
	October 22-24	Nashville, TN
Advanced Auditor Training Class	June 4-6	Indianapolis, IN
	June 18-20	Saltillo, Mexico (Spanish)
	August 6-8	Pueblo, Colorado
	November 5-7	Lincoln, Nebraska
Root Cause Analysis Class	August 27-28	Guadalajara, Mexico (Spanish)
	November 19-20	Pueblo, Colorado

### USEFUL LINKS

[Railway Supply Institute](#)

[RSI QAC & Previous Newsletters](#)

[RSI Tank Car Resource Center](#)

[Registry of M-1003 Certified Companies](#)

[M-1003 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[American Society for Quality - Training](#)

[RSI 100](#)

[AAR M-1003 Certification on-line Application](#)

[AAR M1003, Section J Specification for Quality Assurance](#)

[AAR Training Schedule](#)

[AAR Circulars](#)

[MSRP Publication Current Revision Status](#)

[AAR Online Material Nonconformance Reporting System \(Chapter 7\)](#)

[AAR FAQ Page includes QAPE](#)

### THE FOLLOWING RSI QAC TEAM MEMBERS WORKED ON THIS NEWSLETTER:

Gary Alderson – AllTranstek

Donna Jacobi – Amsted Rail

Alfredo Ricardo – AllTranstek

Sheena Prevette – RSI

Michael Ruby – TrinityRail

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