EFCOG SQA Group Monthly WebEx Meeting Notes Chat and Attendance June 15, 2022

Meeting hosted by Teri Vincent Co-Chair, of Y-12/Pantex.
Notes section follows the Agenda for the meeting, topic items. Chat and Attendance sections are after Notes.

Notes:

A. Safety/Security Moment, hosted by Teri Vincent of Y12/Pantex.
Teri shared the security moment, about cyber security & low risk version control software. She mentioned, given our programs, it is extremely important to pay attention to what is going on at work for software. Teri described an recent email she got from Security Today (here is the link to this [Software Supply Chain Attacks are Skyrocketing -- Security Today](#)), regarding several software issues. It was a good reminder that our programs monitor all software. Teri shared an example: previously commercial control, low level, basic general software at her lab was not watching version control. Not being kept in loop of updating software, so version control was not monitored, now her lab does do this for all software. All technology programs need to change to keep up with times. Not just SQA for consideration of risks and vulnerabilities, need to include Cyber Security. Need to manage both sides SQA and Cyber Security, not separately. SQA integrated with Cyber team will help manage software applications better. So, risks can be mitigated from both sides. Please consider version control of low risk level software. recommended with the warmer weather, be sure to wear sun protection, and be hydrated.

B. Announcements, Updates, hosted by Teri Vincent of Y12/Pantex.
1. Teri asked Christian Palay of DOE, if he is aware of any improvement or more use of the Community of Practice (COP) website. There was a problem logging into it recently. Christian responded, Chris Beaman (the DOE SQA contact) is on vacation, so Christian is responding on behalf of Chris, he does not see much improvement in the use of the COP by people. Looks like not many people are logging onto it, and not many people are using it. Christian noted the site has been improved, more slick, and the issues associated with logging into it were addressed. He encourages people to use it, it is only effective by how much it is used. The COP abides by DOE best practices of sharing info, and responding to questions across the complex.

C. Dates to Remember, hosted by Teri Vincent of Y12/Pantex.
1. Carol Olijar of Argonne noted Linda Westfall is going to be providing on-demand ASQ Certified Software Quality Engineer (CSQE) course starting mid-June, from 10am-6pm CST. The cost is $1,100 and will have a class on the holiday July 4th. Can find out more details about the class at the Software Excellence Academy website, here is link: [Linda Westfall's Software Excellence Academy](#).

D. Future Site Presentations, hosted by Teri Vincent of Y12/Pantex.
1. Cristy Renner of Portsmouth recommended we ask John Hendricks of Curtiss-Wright Nuclear Division to present at our July or August meeting on the topic of the Supply Chain, similar to what he did at the Spring 2022 QA EFCOG meeting. Spencer Daw of Idaho offered to contact John regarding this. Cristy is going to communicate with Spencer regarding having this presentation at one of our meetings.

E. **Software Procurement - *Acceptance Processes Including Software,*** by Spencer Daw of Idaho.
1. Spencer reviewed his presentation with attendees, allowing opportunities for questions/comments. He reviewed slides 1-3 of his deck of 9 slides, whereas slides 4-9 are reference information slides describing good procurement practices.
2. Slide 2: **How is Software Acceptance Different?** He noted that there is a uniqueness with regard to software procurement of items versus non-software, in the NQA-1 requirements.
    a. Teri mentioned CGD of NQA-1 is only for safety software.
    b. Christian noted the DOE O 414.1D invokes NQA-1 to meet Attachment 2 of a site's QA program for all software items. Must verify software is in line with the site's software quality assurance program plan (SQAP). Some sites only use NQA-1 for all software. Still must meet QA Attachment 2, Criteria 7, that is for all software.
    c. Teri responded never should do a Commercial Grade Dedication (CGD) for non-safety software.
    d. Christian noted, there is only 1 vendor/site with NQA-1 qualified program.
    e. Spencer mentioned there is a White Paper he is working on based upon quality requirements. It describes how labs can use more than NQA-1 to do CGDs. NQA-1 doesn't make difference in describing what must be done for safety software. For example, we have software acquired from NRC, can't dedicate NRC. The software was developed at Argonne.
    f. Teri responded we qualify vendors. We CGD other than safety software items.
    g. Christian noted the CGD process is for your site's SQAP program, not software. Scope of NQA-1 Part 2.14 is narrow. 10 CFR 830 Part A is for non-safety software. Could do "CGD light" using another version of NQA-1, that allows for this, that would be ok.
    h. Cristy mentioned that we have instrument coming in, don't want to do NQA-1 for, that is for Test or Research. Working on getting buy-in from DOE to do "NQA-1 light" process.
    i. Spencer responded, NQA-1 Section 102, could be used as boiler plate of critical characteristics. For performing as required.
    j. Charlie Givens of BNL mentioned that the NQA-1 Committee he chairs, is working on expanding Part 2.7 so that it will not go to 2.14 in the next update. Found in standard to be too restrictive in section 302, which took you to 2.14, only could do if item dedicated to safety. NQA-1 2008/2009 version provides leeway in standard, can use for more than safety.
    k. Spencer concurred with Charlie on section 302 being expanded.
3. Slide 3: **Case Study.** Spencer described how INL is acquiring analysis software from NRC that was developed by Argonne. Software was acquired and used as delivered. Should INL perform a dedication? The software is considered open source, intended to be modified as needed, only need to notify NRC. Software is for marble reactor; software doesn't consider such things.
    a. Hollis Henry of INL noted that her lab brought in the source code and changed it, such that the software changed from acquired to custom. All requirements were tested. Processed as custom developed software.
    b. Spencer responded, operate as simple software.
    c. Christian noted, the INL Acceptance Process of software procured/acquired would be followed, would be stopped by being NRC's, when INL changed the software. It is now INL's software, custom developed. Must test.
    d. Spencer noted a comparison of this case study is the fabrication of a vessel, to meet design requirements changed, nothing to do with software.

e. Teri responded need to re-verify to meet requirements.

f. Christian noted need to have qualified sources for where you get software from.

g. Spencer responded when you do you own self development, you need to do testing. This software from NRC/Argonne, was a two-parter, Accept the Acquired version, then change to custom type software version.

h. Hollis noted that yes, as brought in, did not use as acquired. No CGD needed at acquiring because software from NRC. No CGD needed after revision of source code, because INL is NQA-1 certified.

i. Corwin Jones of INL mentioned that dedication of software is specific to the site/organization.

j. Spencer responded this was a unique activity, good team mix of development, procurement, SQA folks which leaded to success. Better to engage all groups – SQA best requirements and IT.

4. Slides 4-9: ***Backup Slides of procurement process.*** Such as CGD process flow, and cross functional flowchart with swim lanes.

   a. Someone asked if Spencer's presentation deck will be sent out.

   b. Hollis responded the presentation deck has been cleared by INL to be available to send out.

   c. Carol noted the presentation deck will be sent out with the meeting notes.

   d. Spencer noted that on Slide 8 there is a list of **Best Practices**. People assume all components of a safety software application are tied to SSCs, the safety functions. Need to be clear about which components have safety functions, such as the software, but not the hardware. Have design folks concur on this. There should be rigor on the procurement process dedication for safety functions only. DOE O 414.1D is a holistic view on safety.

   e. Cristy responded that other people will probably need/appreciate the flowchart. Appreciate this presentation.

F. Sub-Task Updates, hosted by Teri Vincent of Y12/Pantex.

1. Teri noted that in May meeting, we talked about a sub task team that would work on the procurement software language, so good process in purchase requirements. Cristy and I thought having this task team would provide value to the group. There were comments in chat for this topic. Would anyone want to lead this new sub task team? Please give this some thought, if interested in team or leading, please contact Teri at teri.vincent@pxy12.doe.gov or Cristy at cristy.renner@ports.ppo.gov.

2. Teri also noted that she spoke with Charlie Givens regarding the NQA-1 Software Committee he chair's, and if anyone from this group is interested in being a SQA rep on his committee, there is an application process, and you may get info on how to participate by contacting Charlie at cgivens@Bechtel.com.

3. The following sub-tasks have been completed and closed: Toolbox, Standards/Orders, Otherwise Acquired Software. We have a new task group as discussed in this meeting for Procurement.

G. **Next Steps,** hosted by Teri Vincent of Y12/Pantex.

1. Christian mentioned that there was email from Chris Beaman approval on the ITD Integrated Project Team receiving permission to start. The next step for this would be assignments to the team.
2. Volunteer to present a presentation at one of the monthly meetings. Contact Teri, Cristy, or Carol if you are interested in doing so. Around 20-minute presentation, 10-minute Q&A.

H. **Chat Info:**

from Cristy Renner to everyone: 3:10 PM
yes

from Charlie to everyone: 3:28 PM
Working on my mic, but NQA-1 Subpart 2.7, para. 302 has been expanded and will not only go
to 2.14 in the next edition.

from Christian Palay to everyone: 3:34 PM
"otherwise acquired software"?

from Christian Palay to everyone: 3:36 PM
you break it, you bought it

from Cristy Renner to everyone: 3:37 PM
That makes sense

from Christian Palay to everyone: 3:47 PM
Spencer: Are your tools and charts on Org Ex page for QA CoP?

from Christian Palay to everyone: 3:53 PM
DOE needs its own QA standard based on its regulations 10 criteria vice a standard based on the
18 requirements from those other regulations.

From SARAH HARTSON to everyone: 3:53 PM
Great idea

from Marylou Apodaca to everyone: 3:53 PM
It's a great idea

from Marlene Underwood to everyone: 3:54 PM
Great idea. We were talking about this need this week.

from Charlie to everyone: 3:57 PM
Spencer, I appreciate your thoughts and presentation. Two observations - (1) it is great to
correlate software to hardware...it has always been helpful in understanding that "nebulous thing
called software" :-); and (2) the cross functional team is invaluable...

I.   Attendance:

If anyone attended this meeting but does not see their name on the list on next page, please contact:

Co-Chair:	Cristy Renner (cristy.renner@ports.pppo.gov)
Co-Chair:	Teri Vincent (teri.vincent@cns.doe.gov)
Secretary:	Carol Olijar (cschultz@anl.gov)
Meeting Coordinator:	open

28 Attendees.

#	First Name	Last Name	Site
1	Call-in User_3	???	???
2	Call-in User_5	???	???
3	Marylou	Apodaca	SNL
4	Todd	Billings	DOE-Hanford
5	Aaron	Clare	RL
6	Laura	Cook	LLNL
7	Mary	Curtis	FNAL
8	Spencer	Daw	INL
9	Orlando	Ferrer	RL
10	Faith	Girolamo	SRS
11	Charlie	Givens	BNL
12	Chris	Hall	SRS
13	Sarah	Hartson	NNSA
14	Hollis	Henry	INL
15	Corwin	Jones	INL
16	Orlando	Ferrer	RL
17	Steven	Mahnesmith	SNL
18	Don	McKinstry	LANL
19	Carol	Olijar	ANL
20	Christian	Palay	DOE
21	Vicki	Pope	LLNL
22	Cristy	Renner	PORTS
23	Terry	Scoggins	ORNL
24	Justin	Suder	MSTS
25	Dave	Thoman	Amentum
26	Teri	Vincent	Y12/Pantex
27	Marlene	Underwood	PORTS
28	Al	Zuckero	DOE-SRS

*Sorted by Last Name, First Name.