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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kathleen S. Gilbert Receives ASQ-Certified Quality Auditor Recognition

Milwaukee, WI, May 3, 2006 — The Certification Board of the American Society for Quality is pleased to announce that Kathleen S. Gilbert has completed the requirements to be named an ASQ-Certified Quality Auditor (ASQ CQA). As such, Kathleen S. Gilbert has reached a significant level of professional recognition, indicating a proficiency in and a comprehension of quality auditing tools and techniques. Individuals who earn this certification are allowed to use “ASQ CQA” on their business cards and professional correspondence.

“ASQ provides certification as a way to provide formal recognition to professionals who have demonstrated an understanding of, and a commitment to, quality techniques and practices in their job and career,” explains Jerry Mairani, President, American Society for Quality. “This is a great accomplishment and, although not a formal registration or licensure, bestows a high level of peer recognition as well.”

In order to sit for the CQA examination, an individual must have eight years of on-the-job experience in one or more of the areas of the Certified Quality Auditor Body of Knowledge. A minimum of three years of this experience must be in a decision-making position. Successful candidates for this certification are expected to be able to apply a variety of auditing techniques in examining, comparing, and evaluating products, processes and quality systems to specific standards. Candidates must also be able to plan, develop, communicate, and execute an audit within a defined scope. Additional areas in the examination include applying team/project management skills (scheduling resources, conducting effective meetings), using appropriate tools and methodologies to verify, document, and communicate audit results and the audit report, and evaluate the effectiveness of corrective action/follow-up.

Since 1968, when the first ASQ certification was given, more than 100,000 individuals have taken the path to reaching their goal of becoming ASQ-Certified in their field or profession, including many of who have attained more than one certification. To learn more about ASQ’s Certified Quality Auditor program, visit <http://www.asq.org/certification/quality-auditor/>.

The American Society for Quality (www.asq.org) is the world's leading authority on quality. With more than 100,000 individual and organizational members, the professional association advances learning, quality improvement, and knowledge exchange to improve business results, and to create better workplaces and communities worldwide. As champion of the quality movement, ASQ offers technologies, concepts, tools, and training to quality professionals, quality practitioners, and everyday consumers, encouraging all to Make Good Great. ASQ has been the sole administrator of the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award since 1991. Headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., the 60-year-old organization is a founding partner of the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI), a prominent quarterly economic indicator.