

# **Memorandum of Understanding**

***Between***

**Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur**

***And***

**American Society for Quality, India New Delhi**

## **Introduction**

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IITKGP) is a reputed institution of higher learning situated at Kharagpur, India, 721302.

The American Society for Quality India Pvt. Limited (ASQ India), is a 100% owned subsidiary of ASQ Inc (USA) which is a not for profit organization. It has his headquarters at 325, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, DLF Tower-B, Jasola District centre, New Delhi 110025. It has earned the reputation as leading brand in quality and offers knowledge through membership, certification and education programs.

## **Preamble**

Both IITKGP and ASQ India jointly propose to enter into alliance through Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote a common mission to create a strong infrastructure of quality education in the professional education curriculum in India. The common objective is to create the culture of quality by exposing students early to the concepts, methodologies and tools as taught in curriculum and practiced in the field. This will help the persons for adopting a disciplined and systematic approach to problem solving. Also, the purpose is to impart quality systems and guidelines to improve the performance of Industry and business by conducting joint program in the form of workshops leading them by demonstration.

## **Strategic Intent**

IIT KGP and American Society for Quality, India have agreed for a long term institutional collaboration in education and research. The primary objective is to promote dissemination of knowledge in the domain of quality management and develop best practices manual for industry specific Quality Management Systems (QMS) including implementation practices, carry out research on real-life issues of manufacturing and service organization. This document presents a general framework for such a relationship. It also includes some specifically identified areas of cooperation, which shall be updated from time to time with mutual agreement.

## **Participation and Coordination**

The Head of Department of Industrial and System Engineering of IITKGP shall be the coordinator from IITKGP. The Managing Director of ASQ India shall be the Coordinator from ASQ India. The participants and Coordinators may change from time to time as decided by appropriate authority of the respective institutions.

It is proposed that both the Coordinators meet as and when needed to review the activities.

## **Objectives**

To conduct the following

1. Management Development Program (MDP) for industry / government executives with emphasis on problem solving methods.
2. Certificate programs for trainers
3. Joint conferences/seminars/workshops
4. Collaborative industry oriented research.
5. Developing case studies on best practices in quality improvement philosophies like Total Quality Management (TQM) applications, Quality and Reliability Engineering.

This alliance is non exclusive and would not prohibit either of the alliance partners to enter into other alliances.

For specific activities the terms of collaboration including financial arrangements, knowledge sharing and execution, and location of the program shall be decided, case to case basis between the competent authorities of both the institutions.

## **Intellectual Property**

IITKGP and ASQ India agree to respect each other's rights to intellectual property. Further, the intellectual property rights that arise as a result of specific collaborative research activity under this MOU shall be jointly held by IITKGP and ASQ India. This joint ownership also entitles each party to explore commercialization. However, transfer of jointly developed technology and associated sharing of revenue shall be governed by a separate agreement.

## **Financing**

All the programs as would be mutually agreed upon will form a part of this agreement. These programs shall be mutually designed and commercial model would be mutually agreed basis and also for sharing of net surplus after accounting for all operating costs.

## Legal Status

This document is a statement of intent to foster genuine and mutually beneficial cooperation and is not legally binding on both the parties. Any disputes shall be resolved through mutual discussion.

## Validity

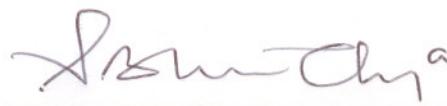
This agreement is valid for an initial period of three years and becomes effective from the date it is signed by the partners. The partnership period may be extended by mutual consent. The agreement can be terminated with three months' notice on either side.



**Managing Director**

American Society for Quality, India,  
New Delhi

Date: 3.3.2016



**Deputy Director**

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur  
Kharagpur

Date: March 3, 2016

  
CIBY C JAMES

**Representative**

American Society for Quality, India,  
New Delhi

Date: 3. 3. 2016



**HOD**

Industrial and System Engineering  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

Date: March 3, 2016