



Dear Joe ,

Register NOW for tomorrow's dinner meeting and find out why creating test cases BEFORE development starts is the smarter way to ensure high quality automated Unit Tests and QA Testing.

What's the focus this month?

QAI and TASSQ are offering discounted rates for the upcoming CSTE Prep Course. This **one time reduced price of \$210** for members and non-members is one you don't want to miss! See below for details and register today.

One last note: **TASSQ is on Linked In** with a growing discussion group. Search for the TASSQ QA group today and help spread the word!

Looking forward to seeing you at the April dinner meeting.

Regards,

The TASSQ Board

April 2009

Interested in speaking at a TASSQ dinner meeting? Email admin@tassq.org with a proposed topic and you could be a 2010 speaker...
June 2010 open right now!

April 28th TASSQ Meeting - Register by THIS Friday!

Never Test Alone: The Route to Success

**Presented by Debra Forsyth
(ObjectSharp)**

Tuesday, April 28th, 2009

Extras...

- [CSTE Prep Course](#)
- [QAI Canada Presents...](#)
- [IIST and IISP Free Webinars](#)
- [Upcoming Meetings](#)
- [New TASSQ Referrals](#)
- [Requirements Engineering Course](#)

NEW
TASSQ Referrals

Find out why creating test cases BEFORE development starts is the smarter way to ensure high quality automated Unit Tests and QA Testing. I'll cover the ins and outs of this process as well as the many benefits it will reap for your team and your projects. Let's utilize our test team to its fullest and improve the IT industry's project success rate (currently at only 30%). Warning: This presentation may include some disturbing content in the form of real life examples that will show you how I learned the hard way!



Debra Forsyth is the Quality Assurance Practice Lead and a Senior QA Consultant with ObjectSharp Consulting. As QA Practice Lead, Debra is an experienced Visual Studio Team System and Test Edition instructor and consultant, providing training and support to clients.

Debra is skilled in the design and execution of comprehensive Quality Assurance processes/procedures, with proven qualifications in test life cycle, strategy/plan, case/data design, risk assessment, functional/performance automated tools implementation, environment set up, defect and configuration management. As well Debra has a Computer Programming Certificate from Sheridan College, and is experienced with IBM/Rational Test Suite and Compuware products.

Debra currently participates in Microsoft's Inner Circle meetings for all Visual Studio Team System Edition for Tester's related products.

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Location: King Edward Hotel -- 37 King Street
East, Toronto
Windsor Ballroom, 2nd Floor

Dinner and Presentation: \$35 Members / \$50 Non-Members

Payment for dinner meetings is now available online via PayPal. Cash and Cheques will also be accepted at the

If you select TASSQ as your referral company when registering for any QAI Certification Exam, TASSQ gets a reimbursement to help improve our own programs, dinner meetings, etc.

The same applies for any QUEST Chicago registrants.

For information regarding QAI's certification courses, please [CLICK HERE](#).

For information regarding QUEST Chicago, [CLICK HERE](#).

New QAI Certification!! Certified Software Business Analyst

This certification has been created to address IT organization's need for business analysis skills that are typically inadequate in IT technical professionals. The need for improved and more reliable information transfer calls for Software Business Analyst professionals who can effectively bridge the knowledge and language gap between the business and IT communities. Acquiring the designation of CSBA indicates a professional level of competence in the principles and practices associated with the business analyst profession.

For further information [CLICK HERE](#).

door.

Please [RSVP](#) by noon on April 24, 2009.

5:30 P.M. Networking | 6:00 P.M. Dinner
7:00 - 8:30 P.M. Presentation

For further information please [CLICK HERE](#).



CSTE Prep Course - 2 Days - Saturday June 6 & Sunday June 7, 2009

The CSTE Prep course reinforces current knowledge, re-introduces concepts that may not be used everyday, explains the rationale for use, and highlights both multiple choice and essay type sample examination questions and responses.

The Common Body of Knowledge (CBOK) skill categories have been selected to address the challenges faced by today's software testers.

1. Software Testing Principles and Concepts
2. Building the Test Environment
3. Managing the Test Project
4. Test Planning
5. Executing the Test Plan
6. Test Status, Analysis and Reporting
7. User Acceptance Testing
8. Testing Software Developed by Outside Organizations
9. Testing Software Controls and the Adequacy of Security Procedures
10. Testing New Technologies

It is recognized that many software testers do not need to be competent in all of the CBOK categories to fulfill their current job responsibilities. However, the CSTE candidate should have a working knowledge of the information in all skill categories and will be examined on all ten CBOK categories. This course provides a background of the IT testing fundamentals and also includes the more advanced concepts, which the Certified Software Tester must understand.

Special Interest! **Requirements Engineering Course**

IREB is offering a new certification course:
Certification for
Requirements Engineering

Visit the following link to
download the syllabus:
[http://certified-
re.de/en/downloads/syllabi/](http://certified-re.de/en/downloads/syllabi/)

More information can be
found by [Clicking Here](#).

If you are interested in
taking this course, please
email TASSQ at
admin@tassq.org.

*Please note: this is not a
TASSQ course. TASSQ is
monitoring interest for IREB.

The completion of this course along with the necessary practical experience and related resource familiarity will help prepare the candidate for the CSTE examination. This course is designed for people who have registered for their candidacy at www.softwarecertifications.org and have begun to study the CBOK toward writing the CSTE exam. Due to time limitations, this course is not intended to cover every component of the CBOK in great depth.*

** Taking this course does not constitute, nor imply, the successful passing of the CSTE examination.*

Registration Information:

This two-day course will be held on Saturday, June 6 & Sunday, June 7, 2009, at the University of Toronto, St. George Campus - **Bahen Centre Information Technology - 40 St. George Street, Room B025**

Course Time: The course will begin at 8:30 am and end at 4:30 pm each day

One time reduced price for TASSQ members and non-members of \$210.

In a response to these difficult economic times, the QAI Foundation is providing the funding necessary to offer certification preparation courses at significantly reduced costs to Chapter members.

This registration fee does not include refreshments or lunch in order to maintain a low registration fee. Students will receive information regarding the corporate rate discount at the Holiday Inn Midtown for those wishing overnight accommodation.

QAI Canada Presents...



New for 2009

**QAI Canada's
Software Testing Manager's
Workshop and Symposium**
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel,
123 Queen Street West, M5H
2M9

The Manager's Solutions Workshop (October 26-27)

focuses on the top challenges facing managers in building, testing, and delivering quality software applications and products in today's fast-paced and demanding environment. This intense and interactive workshop provides a unique opportunity for managers to leverage group problem solving skills and industry expert knowledge in developing pragmatic solutions.

The Software Testing Symposium (October 28-29)

provides two days of presentations and workshops given by industry leaders that focus on best practices and advanced methods for software testing in today's diverse software delivery platforms. The new symposium format provides opportunities for in-depth learning and discussion of today's key topics within software testing.

New Course Offering! **Proactive Testing - Risk Based Test Planning**

Date: Sept 29 + 30

Instructor: Robin F. Goldsmith

Topic: Proactive Testing - Risk Based Test Planning

Location: Holiday Inn Midtown

Varsity Room - 280 Bloor Street West

8:30 am to 4:30 pm each day

Cost: \$700 members, \$750 non members

Registration Cut Off: Monday Sept 14 2009

Registration Form: [Click Here to Register](#)



Turn QA/Testing Push-Back into Proponents

Do developers, managers, and even users often resist your Quality Assurance (QA) and Testing efforts? Do they consider QA/Testing an obstacle to making their deadlines? You're not alone, but that's mainly solace that doesn't really help your situation. Chances are you feel your problem is not effectively communicating QA/Testing's value.

Proactive Testing™ can help by making your QA/Testing more effective in ways that others readily recognize and--more importantly--appreciate and want! Rather than perceiving QA/Testing as impeding project progress, they'll see that Proactive Testing™ helps them deliver software systems quicker and cheaper, as well as better.

Join prominent author, speaker, and advisor Robin Goldsmith in this eye-opening interactive two-day seminar workshop. Learn how this risk-based

methodology applies a number of more powerful special methods, along with well-known traditional test techniques, in far more effective ways that enable identifying numerous ordinarily-overlooked critical test conditions-earlier when defects can be fixed more easily.

Visit the TASSQ website for a bio, complete description, and registration form.

www.tassq.org/events/

Robin is also speaking at our September dinner meeting!



The International Institutes for Software Testing (IIST) and The International Institutes for Software Process (IISP) present **FREE WEBINARS!!**

IIST Free Webinars -

<http://www.testinginstitute.com/seminar.php>

IISP Free Webinars -

<http://www.spinstitute.org/freeseminars/>

Our Free Webinars are purely educational and packed with practical advice. They are designed to help project teams gain control over their projects and deliver the quality your customers expect.

If 10 or more people sign up and attend any of our Free Webinars, we will give you the opportunity to attend FREE of charge any of our upcoming live, interactive web-based courses - a value of \$595!

All your team members need to do is to input your email address into the referral box on the registration form. In a year when training budgets are as tight as they are now, we encourage you to take advantage of this referral program.

Upcoming Meetings...

April 28, 2009

Debra Forsyth (ObjectSharp Consulting) presents

"Never Test Alone - The Route to Success"

May 26, 2009

Raif Murray (Navantis Inc.) presents "Test Planning"

June 30, 2009

Tom Ticknor (QAI Worldwide) - Topic TBD

September 29, 2009

Robin F. Goldsmith (Go Pro Management Inc.)
presents "Overcoming Requirements-Based Testing's
Hidden Pitfalls"

October 27, 2009

Kevin Burr (Ottawa Software Quality Association) -
Topic TBD

November 24, 2009

Keith Jonah (Trusted by Design Inc.) - Topic TBD

January 26, 2010

Rob Sabourin (Amibug.com) - Topic TBD

February 23, 2010

Jane Steward (Bell Canada) presents "Metrics Tell the
Story: A Case Study in Offshore Decision"

March 30, 2010

Jeff Somerville (RBC Global Technology & Operations)
- Topic TBD

April 27, 2010

Richard Bender (Bender RBT Inc.) - Topic TBD

May 25 2010

Pedram Faghihi (Aviva Canada) presents "Software
Testing Process Improvement Hidden Challenges"

June 29, 2010 - Looking for a speaker!

Details to follow...

[CLICK HERE](#) for Calendar

Message from the TASSQ Board

The Toronto Association of Systems and Software Quality (TASSQ) was established in 1993 as an organization for Quality Assurance professionals. Our attendees include anyone who has an interest in software quality, whether they work for a large corporation, a small software house, or whether they are independent consultants.

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[TASSQ Homepage](#)