

From: Christopher Paris
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015
To: [TAG membership]
Subject: US TAG elections

Dear TAG members:

This email is sent to you as official US representatives and developers of US positions; this is not spam, nor have you been added to any automatic email lists. As official delegates, your responsibilities include considering the opinions of all stakeholders, even if you choose to do nothing with the information. There is no expectation that you will reply to this email. The spirit of this endeavor is to improve the ISO 9001 standard for the benefit of its customers, the end users.

TAG elections are upon us, and your vote is due within a few weeks. As you know, there were some limited nominations offered by a tiny minority of the membership, which is disappointing. The list was then culled by the non-elected Nominating Committee. Again, disappointing. As you may know, the leadership resisted calls to improve the TAG election rules to ensure the democratic process, and so we have the current situation.

I strongly urge all of you to vote, and not to abstain or forget to vote. There is a disturbing lack of participation in these votes, which leads to the problems we face now: the same handful of five or so consultants leading the US TAG decade after decade. This has to stop. The US is in the weakest international position in years, and we command no respect from our international friends. The US TAG has alienated entire American industries, and ISO 9001 adoption is yet again on decline.

Worrisome still is that the TAG general membership is comprised of 47% of consultants and registrars -- which is troublesome enough -- but the "approved" ballot slate would result in a 67% dominance of consultants in the leadership, grossly misrepresenting the membership and solidifying the perception that the TAG is nothing more than a marketing arm for consulting firms. Factor in actions taken by the TAG leadership to squash events held by competing consultants, and you have more than a whiff of potential FTC concerns and liability.

Your choice for Chair has been limited to Paul Palmes and Craig Williams, with that decision likely already decided. Nevertheless, I have asked both men to provide a public statement on their intent for the US TAG, should they be elected, and to provide a vision of their leadership prior to any vote. We will see if they respond, or if they prefer to keep the membership in the dark.

The leadership is depending on your inertia so that their ballot will pass unopposed. I urge you to vote nevertheless, and to ***write-in the following candidates*** in order to overcome the dominance of consultants, and restore control to actual ISO 9001 end user organizations:

Chair: Sheronda Jeffries (Cisco)
Vice Chairs: Jim Cosco (HP) & Govind Ramu (SunPower)
SC 1 Chair: Govind Ramu (SunPower)

SC 2 Chair: Mark Finewood (Harris)

SC 3 Chair: Donna Thomas (Xerox)

Note that *none of those named by me are aware of this email*, nor have I had any communication with any of them. My choices are based on their resumes and their capabilities, as known to me. Other than a dedication to ISO 9001 end users, it is likely that none of my recommended officers agree with me on anything else.

I beg you to put ISO 9001 users first. Good luck.

--

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