



The Auditor YEAR II

by Christopher Paris



Oxbridge Quality Press

Mature
Readers



The Auditor YEAR II

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Events indicated as “really happened” really happened, although specific details have been fictionalized for dramatic purposes.

THE AUDITOR: YEAR TWO. Wait, *what?*

I'm a surprised as anyone that the adventures of Ray Battlesbee have continued for a full second year, with quite a number of strips published since his last annual compendium.

As I wrote in the forward to YEAR ONE, the strip was first imagined in 2013, but didn't reach publication until six years later. It was intended as a monthly feature for The Oxebridge Report newsletter, but that publication never quite came out monthly and has since largely been dropped, in favor of a weekly email blast of latest headlines. With nearly all of Oxebridge's content shifted to the website at www.oxebridge.com, **THE AUDITOR** was made into a feature there, and never appeared as a newsletter feature at all.

I get a fair amount of fan mail regarding Ray, but to be honest, I can't really tell how popular the strip is. As a feature buried inside the website, THE AUDITOR seems to get good traffic, but I haven't done significant number-crunching to be sure. But I also don't really care. I enjoy drawing it, and it provides some good downtime from the usual, dull work of running the ISO Whistleblower Reporting tool or reporting on what ring of human traffickers UKAS is accrediting on any given week.



For this second year's worth of strips, we find the intrepid lead auditor from the National Quality Foundation (NQF) continuing a single audit of his client Mundrum Machining Corporation and their Quality Manager, Alex Mendes.

In early 2020, I felt that random content was running thin, so I decided to follow Ray as he audited the ISO 9001 standard clause-by-clause. So in May of that year, I ran a strip ("The Opening Meeting") that began the practice of having each strip dedicated to showing Ray auditing a sentence or two from ISO 9001 (and occasionally the aerospace standard, AS9100, as well.)

As I write this, it's November 2021, and we're still only up to clause 8.3, so there's ***a lot*** to go.

If it seems like Ray's audit is taking years, well, technically it is, but if you've been through an ISO audit by someone like Ray, you will agree that even a 5-day audit can seem like hundreds of days by the time it's over.



I do still break from the “clause audit” format occasionally to show what’s happening outside of Mundrum, and within the greater world of ISO standards. On Christmas Day of 2020, we were introduced to the new headquarters for ANSI TAG 176, the US group of ISO standards authors, which is located in a Waffle Hut under a run-down train overpass. Its parking lot is frequented by hookers and hobos, who often go on to do great things at ANSI.



In fact, locations have become as much of a part of **THE AUDITOR** as the characters themselves. We now know that Ray and Mundrum’s Quality Manager, the put-upon Alex Mendes, take lunch at Rubber’s Rib Shack. We learned that Ray buys pearl necklaces at Primo’s jewelry store (so he can clutch them in horror is someone suggests documentation isn’t necessary), and that the Ivory Tower where ISO’s TC 176 calls home was burned mid-way to the ground after Paul Simpson opened an unapproved text of Annex SL and released the full power of God, causing his face to melt.

(Only the hardest core fans – or my stalkers – would recognize that the Rubber’s Rib Shack logo features the character “Billy Sprinkle” from Twitch game streamer [Bananaduck](#).)

I won't rehash all the strips that appear here in this book, and will let you read them yourselves, but I can point out a few bits of insider info you might otherwise miss.

As I mentioned, the client company Mundrum finally got a name, but this came about as I developed a full Wiki page for **THE AUDITOR** on the Oxebridge website. In fact, a lot of places, characters, and companies got official names as a result of the Wiki, but these details don't actually appear in the strip itself.

Characters have some backstory now, too. We learn that Alex – the prime victim of Ray's auditing malpractice – is half Mexican and half Moroccan. His change in character design – from when he first appeared with a decidedly crooked posture, to his more streamlined appearance – is now explained away as the result of back surgery.

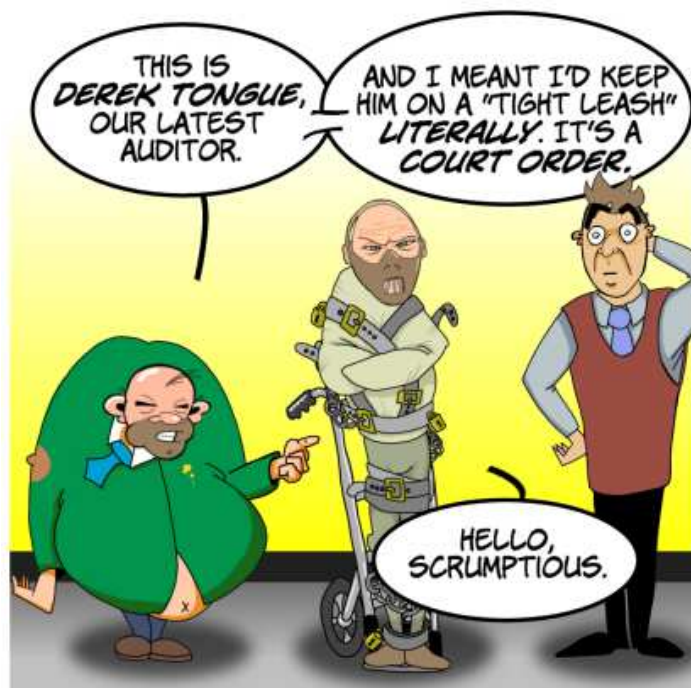
Other Mundrum employees are now given names and backstories as well, including QC Inspector Igor Griboyedov, IT guy James R. Pestilent, HR Manager Joan Sims, Sales guy Roger Bellick and Maintenance Manager Terry Potsweeper.

For those outside of Mundrum, their stories (and names) are often more interesting. There's Nadcap auditor Wesley Pisschurch, who wears an S&M outfit and rubber ball gag; CMMC expert Randall Fapfast, who has a metal bolt permanently embedded in his skull; and John Smith, the IAF representative who is definitely **not** a Chinese spy wearing a fake Groucho mustache and glasses so he can blend in and steal US intellectual property.



John Smith

I've had the most fun with new auditor Derek Tongue, a serial killer strapped to a handtruck and wearing a straightjacket, but nevertheless permitted to work as a trainee for NQF. Derek was based on a real auditor from BSI, whose entire manner was so outright creepy, the client and I were fully convinced he had a basement full of human-skin-lamps.



Much of **YEAR TWO**'s content was done during the COVID-19 pandemic, when I had a lot of free time on my hands. I was pumping out multiple strips per day, until finally the Oxebridge work began to ramp up again, putting Ray on the back burner. Since then, new strips have come out about weekly, but sometimes even less frequent than that. I'm expecting **YEAR THREE** to be a smaller volume, but I certainly hope not.

COVID hit us hard in our family here, and my father-in-law passed away after a rapid, two-week struggle. As you may know, we live in Peru and the healthcare system largely collapsed. It was a living nightmare, stuff out of an apocalypse film, and I'm lucky to have survived. Much of that was because I locked myself indoors for over a year, and shifted all of my Oxebridge work to remote services only.

For a while, I thought I'd incorporate the pandemic into the comic strip. At one point, Alex even appears wearing a mask. But I immediately realized that hiding my characters behind masks for the entire length of the pandemic was not only a bit too slavish to reality, but also would cripple my ability to show their emotions. So the mask idea was dropped after a single appearance.

I brought the pandemic into the storyline, though, but intentionally kept it brief. Ray catches COVID, sneezes on a few people, and gets past it. I knew that if I dwelled on the virus, it would make the series depressing, and that's not really the point. If you're an ISO employee, then yes, I **want** to depress you. But not everyone else.

The "Ray Receives a Complaint" storyline was fun, and it tracks with how the process plays out in real life. If you want to file a complaint against your auditor, it's a long and arduous process that is entirely skewed against you, since the Certification Body pays the folks who eventually adjudicate the complaint. In the strip, Ray accidentally shows a picture of his ass during a remote audit and eventually gets away with it, all with the blessing of ANAB. When the complainant tries to escalate the issue to the IAF, they don't even



bother to pick up the phone. Other than the “hairy ass pic” part, this is **exactly** how things go down.

We also finally get to see Ray land the big one: a “**legitimate nonconformance**.” Most of the findings Ray spouts are absolute garbage, just like the work done by real-life ISO auditors. He makes stuff up outright, then claims it’s a law. But then he finds an actual nonconformity that the client can’t dispute: a simple document control issue. Everyone reading this who’s ever gone through an ISO 9001 audit knows how this plays out.

Ray immediately congratulates himself, thinking he’s found the Holy Grail. You see, auditors know most of their findings are crap, and then they get all gooey-pantsed when they find something real, no matter how insignificant it is. In Ray’s case, he gets so filled with himself that he declares himself **King**.



Some details you may have missed:

- At Rubber's Rib Shack, what exactly does Rubber rub on his ribs?
- Certificate mill operator Daryl Mongo looks like Ray to emphasize just how hard it is to tell real auditors from fake ones.
- You totally know who Elmer Pathetic is based on.
- The scenes where Ray is on the toilet but still continuing to throw out audit questions really happened. Seriously.
- Ray seems to talk a lot about goat semen.
- "Cataração" is not a real monkey soup.
- "Indiana pipefitter" is not a real sexual position.
- Ray did strip shows for soldiers under the name "Ruby Probe"

I have no idea what might happen next, but I don't expect we will finish seeing Ray audit the standard before the next year is up, so you should have more of **THE AUDITOR** throughout 2022.

If you enjoy the strip, visit our merchandise website at www.oxebridge.biz and see what Ray-themed goodies we have. And also, you can always donate to **THE AUDITOR**'s Patreon page at www.patreon.com/oxebridge if you want to help support the work.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christopher Paris has worked in ISO standards for over thirty years, and has helped hundreds of clients obtain certification. He has worked on advisory boards for certification bodies, and now helps set up both certification and accreditation bodies. He manages the ISO Whistleblower Reporting System, which processes industry filings on waste, fraud, and abuse, and has provided filings and testimony to the US Dept. of Defense, Dept. of Justice, FAA, FDA, EPA, NASA and both house of the US Congress. Paris' reporting has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *MarketWatch*, and more. His clients include SpaceX Starlink, Northrup Grumman, and many large firms, as well as hundreds of small companies, some with only a few employees. He writes wine reviews for the site Winepissier.com and enjoys getting French narcissists fired from the US Air Force in his free time.



SO LEMME SEE
YOUR RECORDS OF
**PREVENTIVE
MAINTENANCE.**

I DON'T SEE ANYTHING
HERE ON WHEN YOU LAST
CHANGED THE **AIR FILTERS**
IN THE **HVAC SYSTEM.**

WE DON'T DO THAT.
THAT'S DONE BY A COMPANY
WE HIRE FOR **GENERAL
PLANT MAINTENANCE.**

WELL IF THE **FILTERS** AREN'T
CHANGED, THE AIR GETS **DIRTY**.
IF THE AIR GETS **DIRTY**, YOUR
WORKERS CAN'T BREATHE.

OH, I **SEE**.
SO YOU'RE SAYING
THIS COULD BE A
SAFETY ISSUE.

LEMME **FINISH**, PELLETHEAD.

IF THE PEOPLE CAN'T
BREATHE, NO ONE CAN PAY
MY **PER DIEM**. SO I HAVE
TO WRITE A **MAJOR
NONCONFORMITY** HERE.

SO LET'S MOVE ON. NOW I HAVE TO AUDIT YOUR WORK ENVIRONMENT.

UMM... OKAY.

THE ISO 9001 STANDARD HAS CHANGED A LOT OVER THE YEARS ON THIS SUBJECT.

FOR EXAMPLE, NOW WE ALSO CONSIDER WHETHER THE WORKPLACE IS **STRESSFUL**, PERHAPS DUE TO **DISCRIMINATION**.

WAIT, ... WHAT?

YES, THE STANDARD SUGGESTS THAT YOU HAVE TO MAINTAIN A "**NON-DISCRIMINATORY ENVIRONMENT**."

IN THE OLD DAYS, THIS WAS ONLY ABOUT **SPECIAL** WORK ENVIRONMENTS LIKE **CLEAN ROOMS** OR **REFRIGERATED WORK AREAS**.

WHAT CHANGED?

IT'S MUCH **BROADER** NOW. IT COVERS **ANYTHING** ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT THAT MIGHT AFFECT **QUALITY**.

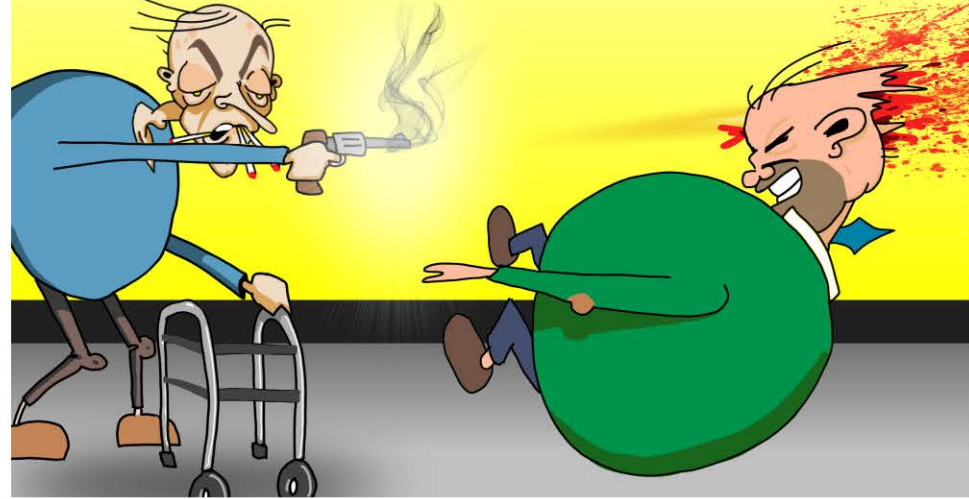
I'LL GIVE YOU A **FREE TIP**, THOUGH. IF YOU JUST MAKE SURE YOU NEVER HIRE ANY **LAZY, GOOD-FOR-NOTHING MINORITIES** YOU'LL BE FINE.

I WON'T PUT THAT IN MY **REPORT**, THOUGH SINCE I'M REALLY NOT SUPPOSED TO **CONSULT**.

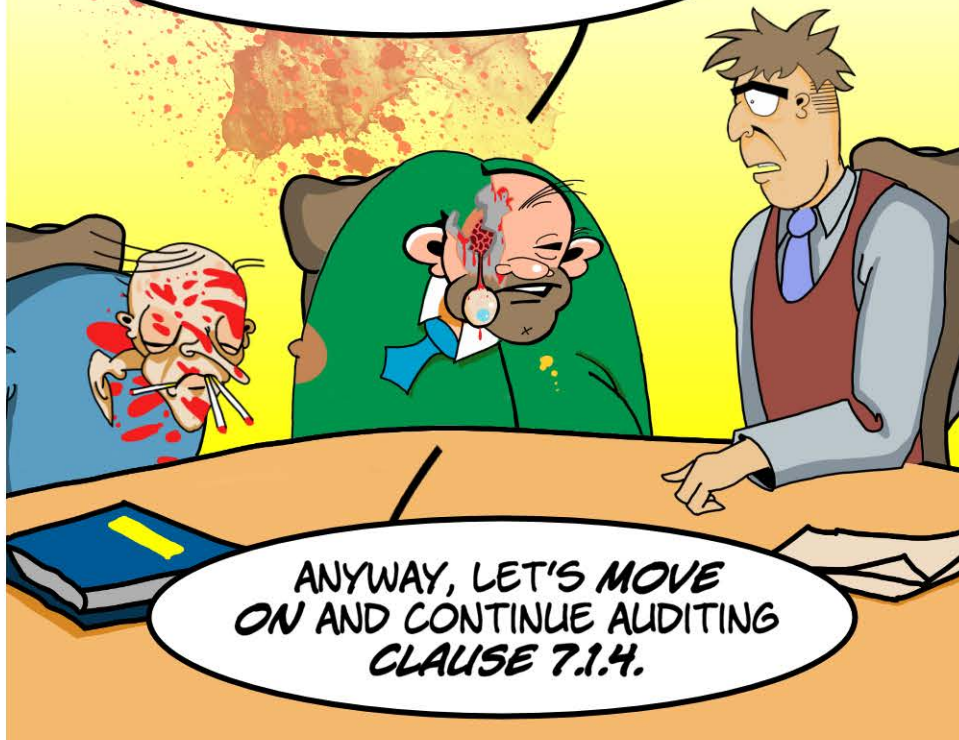
**I'M SICK OF YOU, DALE
YOU FRICKTETY-FRICKKIN'
BASTARDICKY HOMORAPIAN
DICKTRACKER!!!!**



KA-SHOOOT!!



SORRY, SOMETIMES DALE
AND I HAVE **DISAGREEMENTS**
DURING AUDITS.



ANYWAY, LET'S MOVE
ON AND CONTINUE AUDITING
CLAUSE 7.1.4.

IN THIS CLAUSE, ISO WANTS TO
KNOW IF YOU MAINTAIN A **CALM**
AND **EMOTIONALLY-PROTECTIVE**
WORK ENVIRONMENT.



I'LL BE BACK IN A
MINUTE, I GOTTA GO
WASH THE **BLOOD** OFF
OF MY FACE.

OOOOOOOOOO

UMM... WHAT'S *THIS* NOW?

SHHH! I'M MEDITATING.

IN 2015, SOMEBODY STUCK A *CLAUSE* INTO *ISO 9001* THAT SAYS YOU MUST MAINTAIN A WORK ENVIRONMENT THAT IS *CALM* AND *EMOTIONALLY PROTECTIVE*.

UMMM.....
OKAY.

FRANKLY, I THINK IT'S A BUNCH OF *HOO-HAH*, BUT IF *ISO* IS GONNA GIVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO *AIR-DRY* MY *JUNK* IN THE MIDDLE OF AN *AUDIT*, I'M NOT ABOUT TO *REFUSE*.

AFTER AN *HOUR* OF SITTING, IT GETS LIKE A *MISSISSIPPI SWAMP* DOWN THERE.

WHERE'S RAY?

HE'S OUT ON THE
SHOP FLOOR
MEDITATING IN
THE NUDE.

NUDE, EH? HE MUST
BE AUDITING *CLAUSE*
7.1.4 THEN.

YES, HE SAID HE'S
TRYING TO MAINTAIN
A *CALM AND EMOTIONALLY*
PROTECTIVE WORK
ENVIRONMENT.

YEAH, SOME *SWEDISH*
IDIOT SNUCK THAT IN THE
STANDARD AFTER THE
DRAFT HAD ALREADY
BEEN *VOTED ON*.

SO WHAT DO
WE DO?

YOU DO WHATEVER YOU *WANT*,
BUT I'M GETTING *NAKED*.

IF ISO IS GONNA GIVE ME AN
OPPORTUNITY TO *AIR-DRY*
MY JUNK IN THE MIDDLE OF
AN *AUDIT*, I'M NOT ABOUT
TO *REFUSE*.

I GOTTA TELLYA, MAN,
YOU'VE GOT ONE OF THE
CHILLEST WORKPLACES
I'VE EVER AUDITED.

DEFINITELY NO PROBLEM
SATISFYING CLAUSE 7.1.4
OF ISO 9001, BABY.

WELL, I'M NOT "CHILL," RAY!
YOU SPENT THE LAST HALF
HOUR **SMOKING WEED** ON THE
SHOP FLOOR!

YOU'RE GOING TO GET
US **SUED**, ASSUMING WE
AREN'T **RAIDED** BY
THE **POLICE**!

WHATEVER, DUDE, BUT I'M JUST
HELPING TO CREATE A **CALM AND**
EMOTIONALLY PROTECTIVE
WORKPLACE, WHILE YOU'RE
BEING A MAJOR **BUZZKILL**.

AND WHERE'S THAT
ANAB WITNESS AUDITOR,
ANYWAY? SHOULDN'T HE
BE WATCHING THIS SO HE
CAN **GRADE** YOU?

THE ONLY THING I'M GRADING
IS THAT **GRADE-A KUSH**, MAN.

REMINDS ME OF THAT
TIME WE AUDITED **SPACEX**,
AND **ELON MUSK** HELPED
"FACILITATE" THE AUDIT WITH
THAT STRAIN FROM
AFGHANISTAN!

MEANWHILE, AT THE
WAFFLE HUT UNDER
THE BRIDGE ...



ALRIGHT, EVERYONE! I'D LIKE TO
WELCOME YOU TO THE 2021
PLANNING SESSION FOR THE ANSI
TECHNICAL ADVISORY
GROUP FOR ISO TC 176.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE **NEW**,
WE REPRESENT THE **UNITED
STATES** ON THE COMMITTEE THAT
WRITES **ISO 9001**.

WE HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT
ROLE TO PLAY, BY ENSURING
AMERICAN NATIONAL INTERESTS
ARE INCLUDED IN THE STANDARD.

WHY ARE WE MEETING
IN A **WAFFLE HUT**
UNDER A **BRIDGE**?

I'M **GLAD** YOU ASKED THAT.
THE US DOES NOT **REIMBURSE**
TAG 176 VOLUNTEERS, SO WE
HAVE TO KEEP OUR **BUDGET**
WITHIN REASON.

LORRI, I THINK I SEE SOME
CRACK DEALERS USING YOUR
CAR AS THEIR **BATHROOM**.

> **SIGH** <
I REMEMBER THE **OLD DAYS**
WHEN WE'D MEET AT **DISNEY**
RESORTS AND THE **WORST THING**
WE HAD TO DEAL WITH WAS THAT
ASSHOLE FROM
OXEBRIDGE.

THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS

AS **ANSI TAG** MEMBERS, YOU ALL HAVE A VERY **SOLEMN DUTY**.

WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THE NEXT EDITION OF **ISO 9001** REFLECTS THE BEST **AMERICAN** IDEAS FOR **QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**.

BUT WHAT **ARE** THE BEST **AMERICAN** IDEAS FOR **QUALITY SYSTEMS**?

GREAT QUESTION! **JACK**, YOU WANT TO ANSWER THAT ONE?

OF COURSE. AS YOU KNOW, I'VE BEEN ON THIS COMMITTEE SINCE THE **1990s**.

I CAN SUM UP THE **AMERICAN APPROACH** TO **QUALITY SYSTEMS** IN **ONE EASY SENTENCE**.

"MAKE THE **GODDAMN THING** AS **CONFUSING** AS **GODDAMN POSSIBLE**, SO WE CAN **GODDAMN CASH IN** LATER SELLING **GODDAMN CONSULTING SERVICES**."

AMAZING!

THAT'S JUST **INSPIRING!**

PURE POETRY!

MY GOD, IT'S FULL OF **STARS!**

THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS

SORRY, I'M NEW HERE.
WHO IS THE **CHAIRMAN**?

THAT WOULD BE **ME**...

JACK! SIT DOWN. WE
TALKED ABOUT THIS!

OH, **COME ON!** I REALLY WANNA
BE A **LEADER** AGAIN!

JACK, YOU **HAD** YOUR SHOT.
UNDER YOUR **LEADERSHIP**, ISO 9001
TOOK A **NOSEDIVE** THAT IT **STILL**
HASN'T RECOVERED FROM.

THAT WASN'T **MY** FAULT! THAT WAS
ALL BECAUSE OF **ALKA** AND **PAUL**!

BALONEY, JACK. ALKA BARELY **SHOWED**
UP, AND THEN WHEN SHE **DID**, SHE
SEALED HER OWN MOUTH SHUT WITH
GAFFER TAPE.

AND PAUL GOT TANGLED IN A **BALL**
OF **YARN** AND NO ONE HEARD FROM
HIM FOR **FOUR YEARS**!

BY THE WAY, WHERE
IS PAUL?

HE'S **OK**. HE'S OUTSIDE IN
THE **DUMPSTER**, FIGHTING A
RACCOON FOR A PILE OF
POTATO PEELINGS.

The Auditor

by CHRIS PARIS



SO OUR LATEST CHAIRMAN
IS *ALAN DANIELS*, FROM
BOEING.

WHY ISN'T HE
HERE?



HE WAS *FLYING* IN THIS
MORNING. ANYONE SEE
HIM AT THE *AIRPORT?*

WAIT... WHAT TYPE
OF *AIRPLANE* WAS
HE ON?



WE REALLY DON'T HAVE TO
SAY THE NEXT PART
OUT LOUD, RIGHT?

YEAH, LET'S JUST *MOVE*
ON. LORRI, BRING OUT THE
DONUT TRAY.

THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS

HOLD ON A SECOND! THE U.S. COMMITTEE THAT WRITES ISO 9001 IS BEING LED BY A GUY FROM A COMPANY THAT DOESN'T USE ISO 9001?

YEP.

THIS IS THE SAME COMPANY THAT DELIVERS BRAND NEW MILITARY AIRPLANES WITH GARBAGE STUFFED IN THE FUEL TANKS?

SHO NUFF.

THIS IS THE SAME COMPANY THAT HAD SUCH A POOR CULTURE OF QUALITY IT RESULTED IN THE WORST AIRCRAFT RECALL IN HUMAN HISTORY?

IRONIC, RIGHT?


THIS IS THE SAME COMPANY THAT SNUCK DEFECTIVE SOFTWARE INTO THEIR AIRPLANES TO OVERRIDE THE DEFECTIVE ANGLE-OF-ATTACK INDICATORS, THEN HID ALL OF THIS FROM THE PILOTS WHO HAVE TO FLY THE DAMN THINGS?

SURE, BUT IT WAS EITHER ALAN DANIELS OR ANOTHER THREE YEARS OF PAUL WRESTLING WITH BALLS OF YARN.



OK, SO THE GENIUSES OVER IN **EUROPE** WANT TO INCLUDE "**CLIMATE CHANGE**" IN THE NEXT EDITION OF ISO 9001.

THAT'S CRAZY! ISO 9001 HAS **NOTHING** TO DO WITH THE WORLD'S ENVIRONMENT!



YEAH, BUT THEY ARE STILL **GIDDY** OVER THE LAST VERSION, WHERE THEY INSERTED LANGUAGE ABOUT ENSURING A "**CALM AND EMOTIONALLY PROTECTIVE**" WORK ENVIRONMENT.

ALRIGHT, FOLKS, WE KNOW WHAT WE HAVE TO DO. EVERYONE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO **GOOGLE "CLIMATE CHANGE."**



OKAY, ALL DONE? **GREAT!**

NOW THAT WE ARE ALL **EXPERTS**, LET'S GET BACK TO OUR **HOTELS** AND START **WRITING BOOKS** ON HOW TO **FIX CLIMATE CHANGE**.

THE ANSI COMMITTEE
FOR ISO 9001 MEETS
AT THE WAFFLE HUT
UNDER THE BRIDGE.

GUYS, WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM.

WHAT IS IT, ALKA?

ISO TOOK A VOTE, AND A MAJORITY
OF THE WORLD'S NATIONS VOTED
AGAINST REVISING ISO 9001!*

WHAT THE HELL???

I KNOW, I KNOW... THEY HAVE NO
IDEA THE IMPACT THAT WILL HAVE
ON THE WORLD'S ECONOMY!

* REALLY HAPPENED

UNEMPLOYMENT IS GOING TO
SKYROCKET! WHY, IN SWEDEN
ALONE, **OVER 75%** OF THE COUNTRY'S
WORKERS ARE EMPLOYED IN
ISO 9001 COMMITTEES!

MY GOD, ALKA! I HAVE **THREE KIDS** WHO
ARE ALL GETTING READY TO GO TO
COLLEGE! WHAT AM I GOING
TO DO??

IF I CAN'T SELL A NEW
ROUND OF **BOOKS AND**
SEMINARS, MY WIFE
WILL LEAVE ME!

I TOLD MY HUSBAND I'D TAKE
HIM TO THE NEXT **TC 176**
CARIBBEAN ISLAND
MEETING!

PAUL!! PUT DOWN THE GUN!!
IT'S NOT WORTH IT!! WE'LL
FIGURE **SOMETHING** OUT!

The Auditor

by CHRIS PARIS



OKAY, LET'S PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER, GUYS.

IF THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S NATIONS VOTED **AGAINST** UPDATING ISO 9001, WE'RE GONNA **STARVE**.



WE HAVE TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO **OVERRIDE** THE INTERNATIONAL VOTE, WHILE MAINTAINING AN **APPEARANCE** THAT WE **GIVE A SHIT** ABOUT WHAT THE WORLD SAYS.

THAT'S A **TOUGH NUT!** PRETENDING TO BE AN ORGANIZATION DRIVEN BY **CONSENSUS** HAS BEEN OUR COVER FOR OVER **100 YEARS!**



YEAH, WE'VE LARGELY GOTTEN AROUND THAT BY **RE-DEFINING** THE WORD "CONSENSUS" SO IT MEANS THE **OPPOSITE**. THAT WAS **GENIUS!***

WELL, **COME ON**, THEN! LET'S **THINK OF SOMETHING!**



ALRIGHT, LET ME GET A CALL INTO **NIGEL CROFT**. IF ANYONE CAN INSPIRE THE TC 176 MOTHERSHIP BACK IN **GENEVA** TO RIG A SOLUTION, IT'S **HIM**.

TO BE CONTINUED...

* REALLY HAPPENED

MEANWHILE, AT TC 176 HQ...

SIR, THERE'S SOME *GUY* IN THE LOBBY, BUT HE'S STANDING IN A *BATHTUB*.

SEND HIM UP!

NIGEL, BABY!! STILL TRAVELING WITH THAT DAMN *BATHTHUB*, I SEE!

OF *COURSE!* STATISTICS SHOW MORE PEOPLE FALL WHILE STEPPING OUT OF THE *SHOWER* THAN ANY OTHER HOUSEHOLD ACCIDENT!

WOW! SO IF YOU *NEVER* STEP OUT OF THE *SHOWER*, YOU MIGHT BECOME *IMMORTAL!*

RISK-BASED THINKING, MAN! ANYWAY, I'M HERE TO TALK ABOUT THAT *VOTE*.

YES, THE WORLD VOTED *NOT* TO REVISE ISO 9001. IT'S A *NIGHTMARE*.

DON'T *WORRY*, I'VE GOT AN *IDEA*. JUST GIVE ME A MINUTE TO RINSE THIS *CONDITIONER*.



SO, NIGEL, HOW CAN WE **IGNORE** AN INTERNATIONAL ISO MEMBER **VOTE**, BUT STILL **APPEAR** LIKE WE OPERATE BASED ON **CONSENSUS PROCEDURES**?




WELL, FIRST OF ALL, YOU KNOW THAT THE ISO HQ IN **GENEVA** WILL FORCE AN UPDATE TO **ANNEX SL**, RIGHT?

SURE, AND ANNEX SL IS **MANDATORY TEXT** FOR ISO 9001. SO IF THEY UPDATE ANNEX SL, WE HAVE TO UPDATE **ISO 9001**, NO MATTER **WHAT** THE VOTE IS!



EXACTLY! SO WE REALLY DON'T HAVE A **CHOICE**, AND ISO 9001 WILL BE UPDATED **NO MATTER WHAT** THE WORLD WANTS.

THAT'S A **RELIEF!** BUT HOW DO WE **JUSTIFY** THIS WITHOUT LOOKING LIKE **DOUCHEBAGS**?




SIMPLE. THE WORLD'S GOVERNMENTS ARE MORE INTERESTED IN **PROCEDURES** THAN **CONSENSUS**. SO WE WRITE A PROCEDURE THAT SAYS THE ANNEX SL MANDATE JUSTIFIES **NEGATING** THE VOTE ON ISO 9001.

THAT'S **GENIUS!** YOU REALLY ARE ONE OF OUR **BEST AND BRIGHTEST**, NIGEL!

THANKS! NOW HAND ME THAT **LOOFAH**, PLEASE.



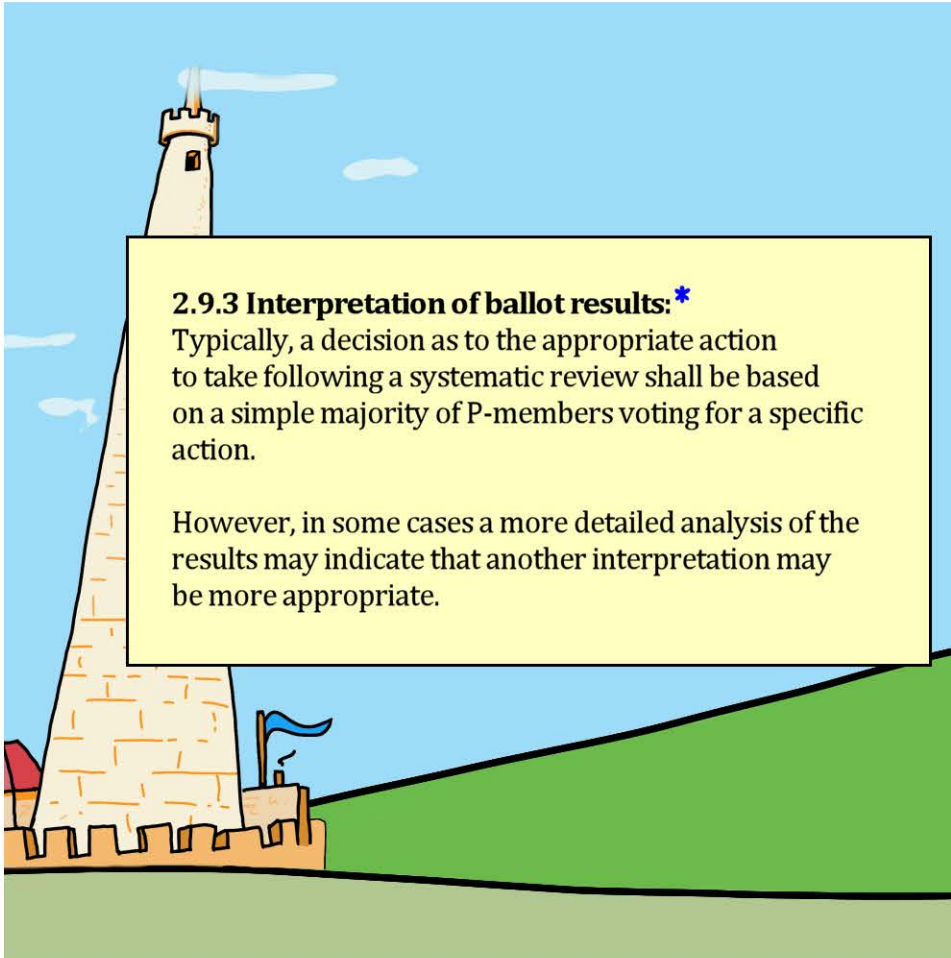
WAITAMINNIT, GUYS! I JUST FOUND AN EXISTING **ISO PROCEDURE** THAT LETS US IGNORE **OTHER PROCEDURES**!



EXCELLENT, NIGEL! YOU MEAN THERE'S A WAY WE **CAN** REVISE ISO 9001 WHILE IGNORING THE **OFFICIAL VOTE** WHERE THE WORLD VOTED **AGAINST** REVISING IT?

WE SURE CAN!

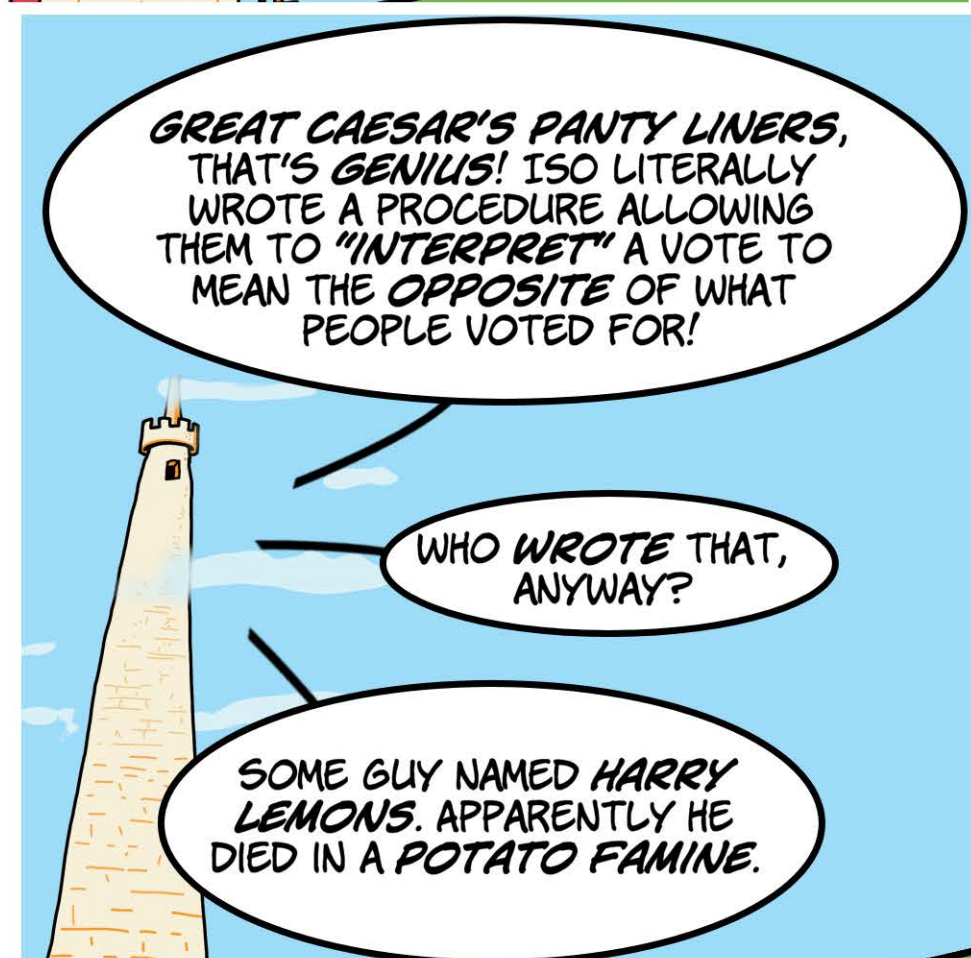
CHECK OUT THIS PARAGRAPH FROM THE "**ISO/IEC DIRECTIVES, PART 1 - CONSOLIDATED ISO SUPPLEMENT: PROCEDURES SPECIFIC TO ISO**"



2.9.3 Interpretation of ballot results:*

Typically, a decision as to the appropriate action to take following a systematic review shall be based on a simple majority of P-members voting for a specific action.

However, in some cases a more detailed analysis of the results may indicate that another interpretation may be more appropriate.



GREAT CAESAR'S PANTY LINERS, THAT'S **GENIUS!** ISO LITERALLY WROTE A PROCEDURE ALLOWING THEM TO "**INTERPRET**" A VOTE TO MEAN THE **OPPOSITE** OF WHAT PEOPLE VOTED FOR!

WHO **WROTE** THAT, ANYWAY?

SOME GUY NAMED **HARRY LEMONS**. APPARENTLY HE DIED IN A **POTATO FAMINE**.

* THIS IS LITERALLY A REAL THING.

NOW I WANT TO SEE
YOUR **CALIBRATION**
RECORDS.

THE ISO 9001 STANDARD SAYS
THAT ANYTHING YOU USE TO **MEASURE**
ANYTHING MUST BE **CALIBRATED**
BY SOMETHING OR ANYTHING,
OR SOMETHING.

FRANKLY, THIS CLAUSE USED
TO BE **EASY**. IT WAS LIKE TWO
SENTENCES, AND NOW IT TAKES
UP FIFTY PAGES. I HAVE **NO IDEA**
WHAT THEY'RE ON ABOUT,
ANYMORE.

SO JUST SHOW ME
SOME **STUFF WITH**
STICKERS, AND WE
CAN MOVE ON.

STICKERS? WHAT
ARE YOU **TALKING**
ABOUT?

I DUNNO. THOSE **METAL**
THINGS YOU USE TO
CHECK **OTHER** METAL THINGS.
THEY USUALLY HAVE
STICKERS.

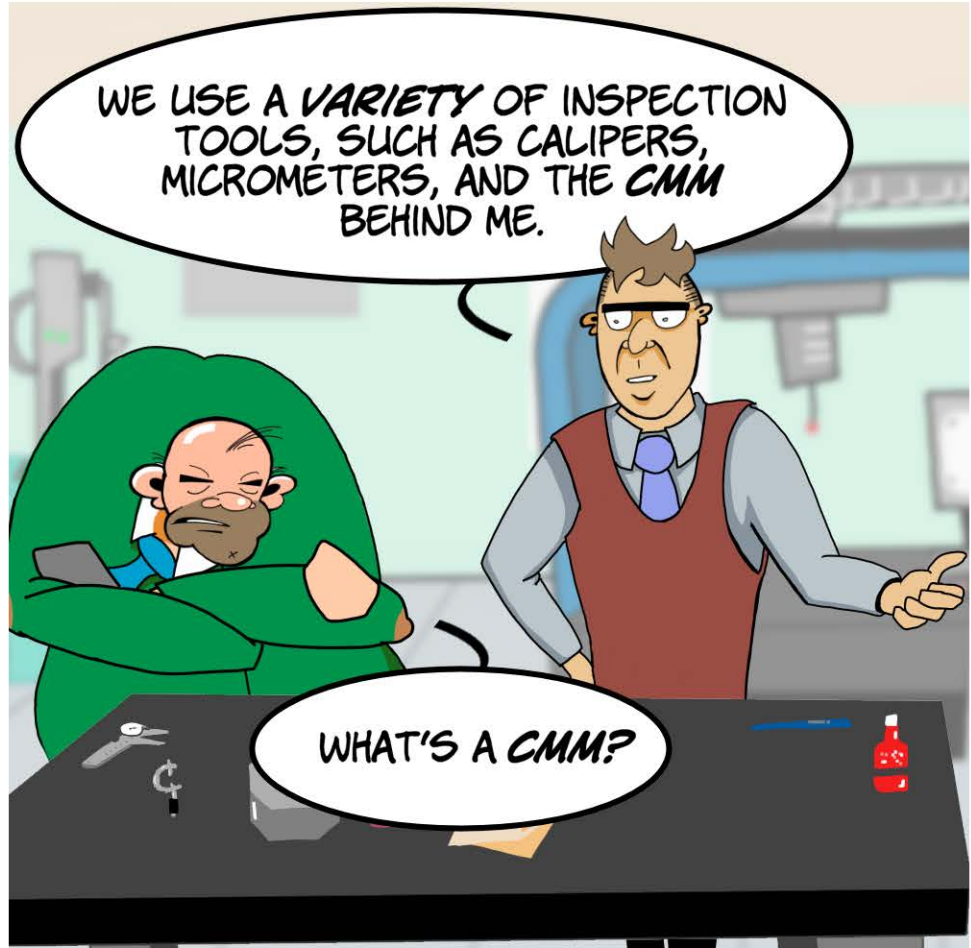
YOU MEAN THE **CALIBRATION**
LABELS ON OUR
INSPECTION TOOLS?

WEREN'T YOU A **QUALITY MANAGER**
BEFORE YOU BECAME AN **AUDITOR**?
HOW DO YOU **NOT** KNOW
THIS STUFF?

"**INSPECTION?**"
WHAT'S THAT, SOME
FANCY COLLEGE-BOY
FRATERNITY **HAZING**
RITUAL?



THIS IS OUR QC LAB,
WHERE WE DO OUR
INSPECTIONS.



WE USE A **VARIETY** OF INSPECTION
TOOLS, SUCH AS CALIPERS,
MICROMETERS, AND THE **CMM**
BEHIND ME.

WHAT'S A **CMM**?



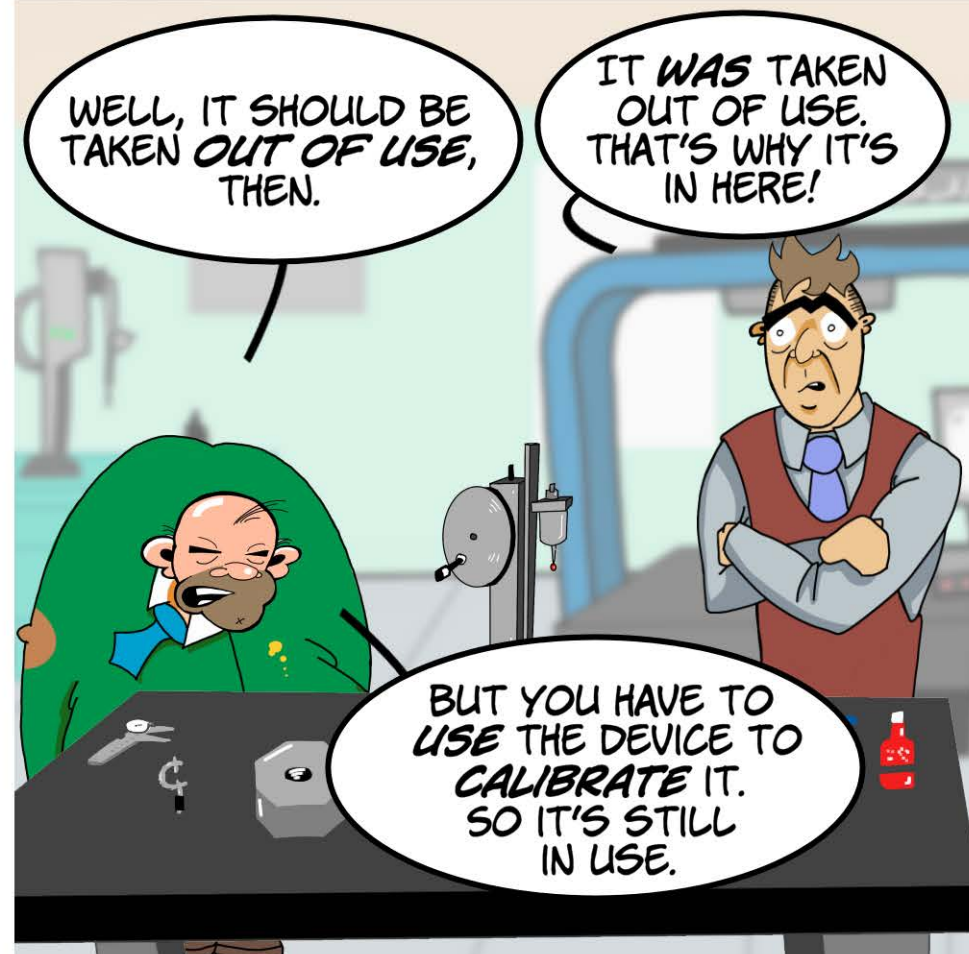
UHM... IT'S A **COORDINATE
MEASURING MACHINE**. IT'S A
COMPUTER-DRIVEN INSPECTION
DEVICE USED TO INSPECT
COMPLEX PARTS.

IT USES A **RUBY PROBE**
TO TOUCH AND RECORD
EVERY DIMENSION.



HEH, WHAT A **COINCIDENCE**.
"RUBY PROBE" WAS MY **STAGE
NAME** WHEN I DID **STRIP SHOWS**
FOR OUR BOYS DURING THE **WAR**.

I GOT **TOUCHED AND
RECORDED** A LOT, TOO.



SO, TELL ME HOW YOU **CALIBRATE** THIS DEVICE.

I FOLLOW AN **INDUSTRY STANDARD**, AND I USE **CERTIFIED GAGE BLOCKS**.

AND WHO ARE THE **GAGE BLOCKS** CERTIFIED BY?

WELL, THEY ARE CERTIFIED BY A **GOVERNMENT CALIBRATION LABORATORY**.

AND WHO IS THE **GOVERNMENT** CERTIFIED BY?

THE
ELECTORAL
COLLEGE.

THIS IS OUR **CALIBRATION DATABASE**.

YEAH, OKAY, SO IT'S A BIG FANCY LIST OF **NUMBERS AND DATA**.

IN MY DAY WE DIDNT HAVE FANCY **SPREADSHEETS** AND **COMPUTERS** AND **ELECTRICITY**.

WE HAD TO CALIBRATE TOOLS USING NOTHING BUT OUR **GRIT** AND **GOAT SEMEN**.

HOW **OLD** ARE YOU?

YOU PEOPLE TODAY HAVE IT **EASY**.

I ONCE CALIBRATED A **MICROMETER** IN THE MIDDLE OF A **MUSTARD GAS** ATTACK WHILE WEARING ONLY A **FOXSKIN COAT** AND **GOAT SEMEN**.

THERE'S AN EXTRAORDINARY AMOUNT OF **GOAT SEMEN** IN THIS STORY.

IF YOU NEED ANY HELP, HERE'S MY **CONSULTING CARD**. SORRY IT'S SO **STICKY**.

THIS NEXT CLAUSE ASKS IF
YOU HAVE INSTITUTED
"ORGANIZATIONAL
KNOWLEDGE."

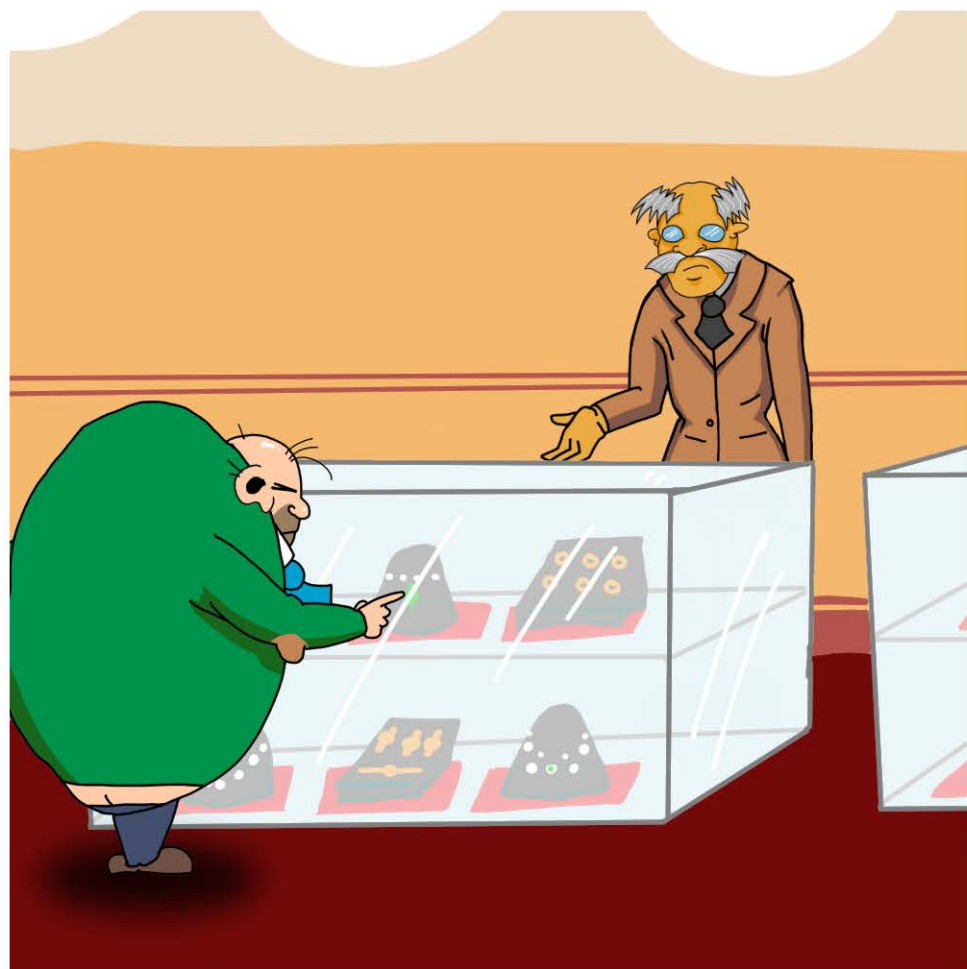
LET ME READ YOU HOW
ISO 9001 *DEFINES* IT.

*"Organizational knowledge is knowledge
specific to the organization."*

THAT'S THE MOST *RIDICULOUS* THING
I'VE EVER HEARD. THEY LITERALLY JUST
RE-ORDERED THE WORDS FROM THE
TERM IN ORDER TO *DEFINE*
THE TERM.

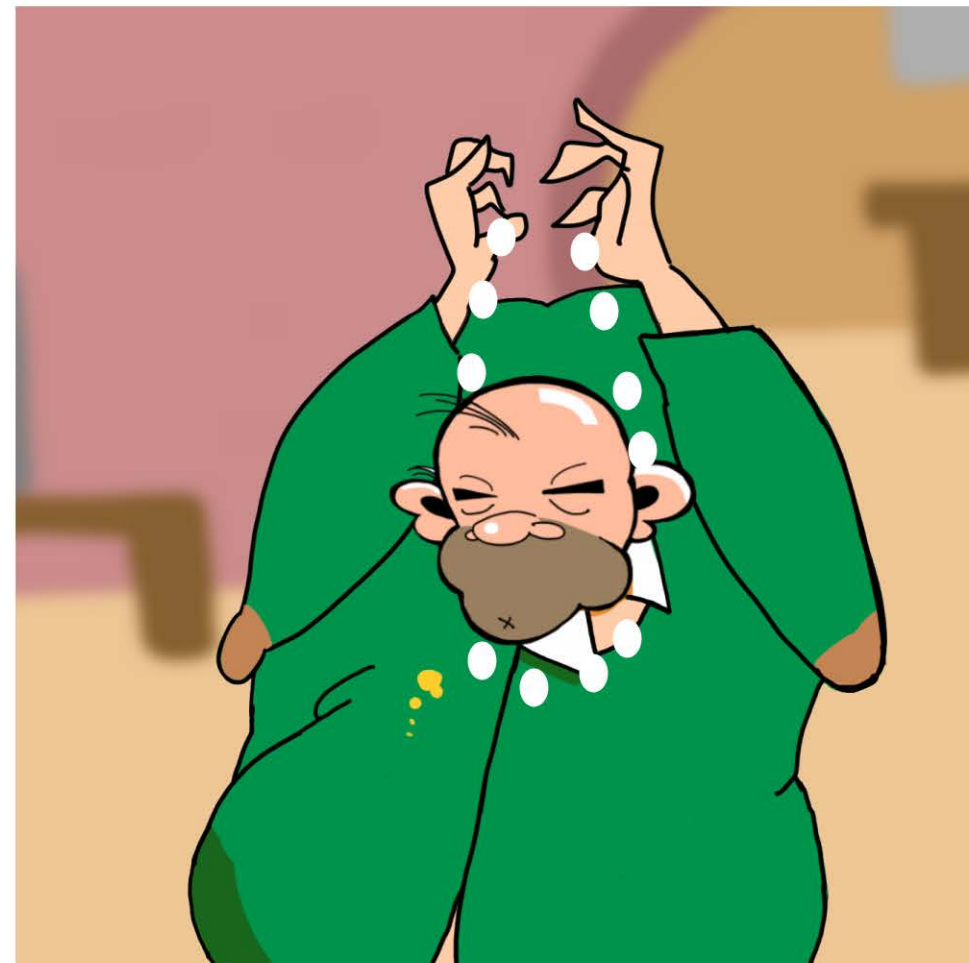
KEEP IN MIND, THEY MEASURE THE *IQ*
OF *TC 176 MEMBERS* BY COUNTING HOW
MANY FINGERS THEY *DIDN'T* LOSE IN
LAWN MOWER ACCIDENTS.





THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS



The Auditor

by Chris Paris





The Auditor

by CHRIS PARIS



TO BE CONTINUED...

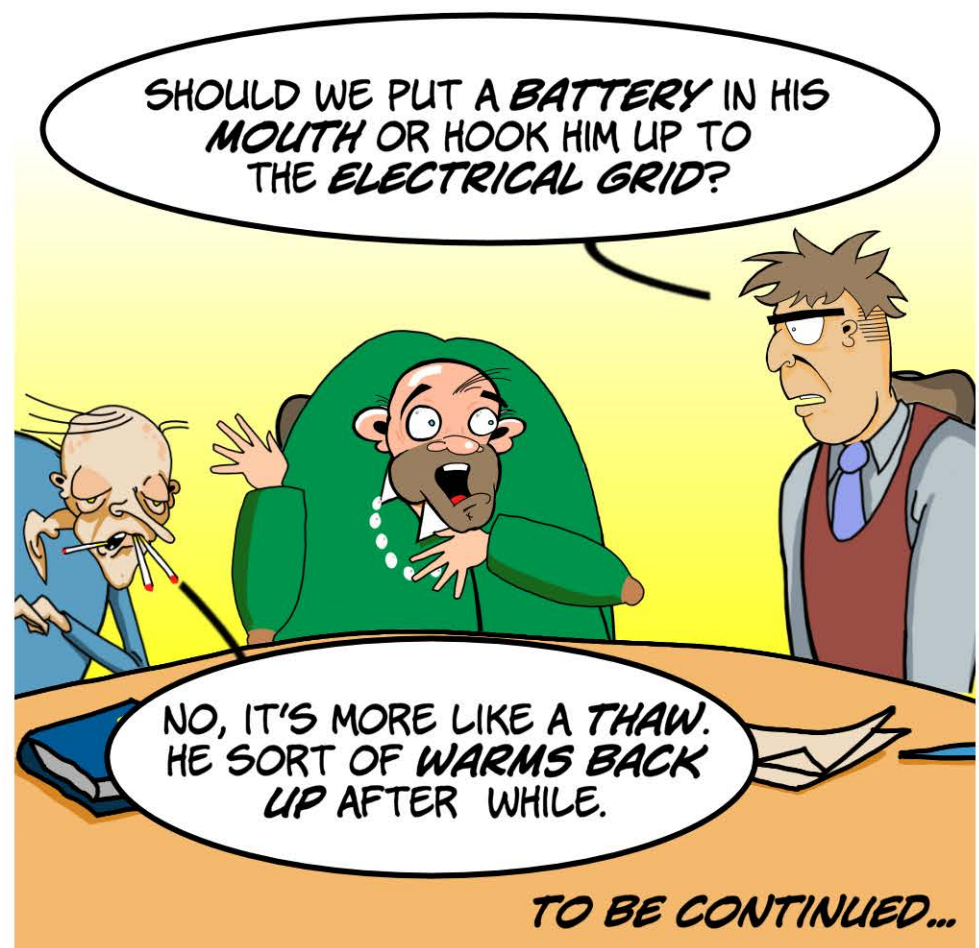
THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS



GOOD MORNING.

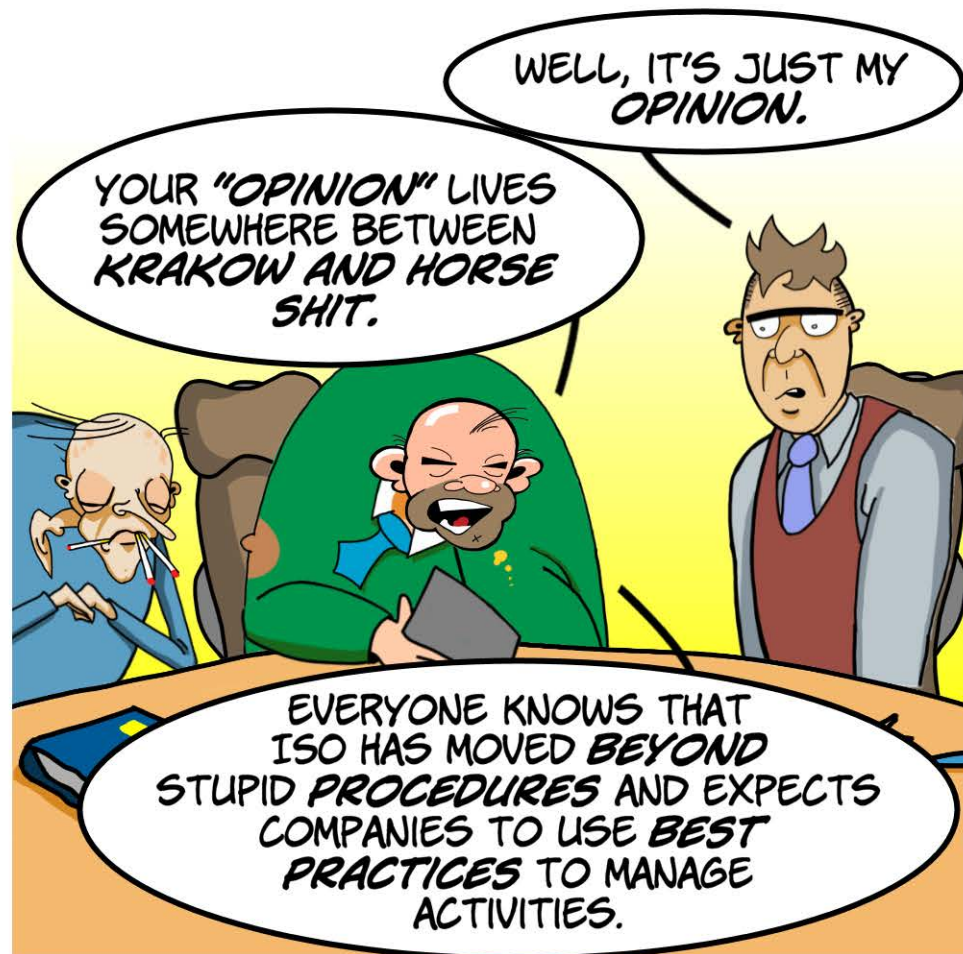
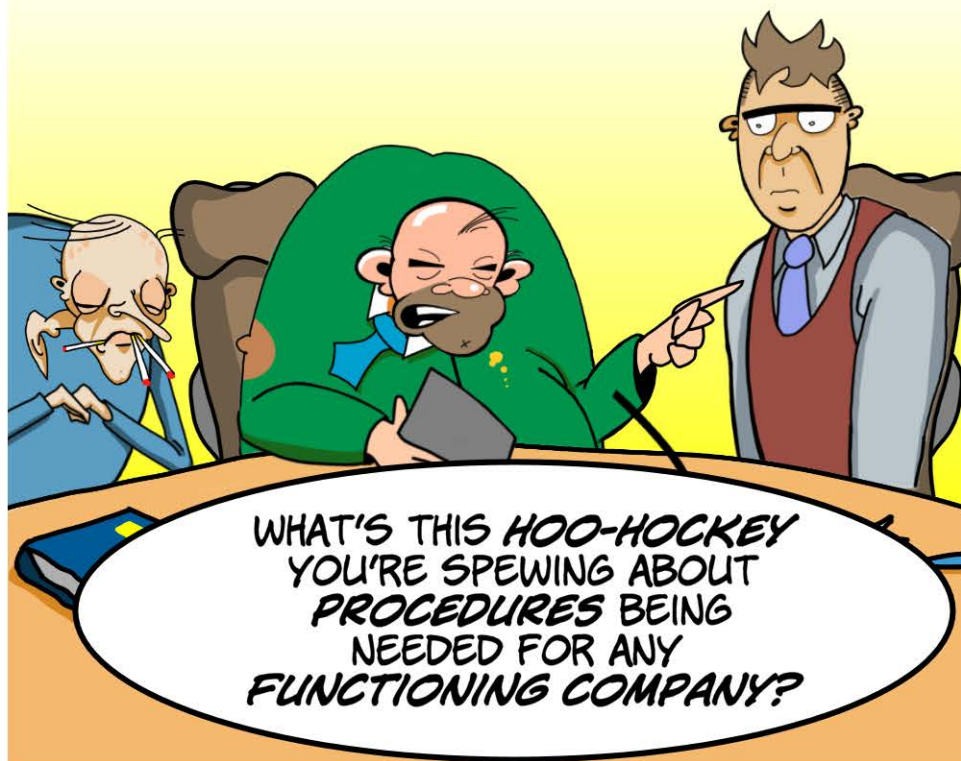
GOOD MORNING.



SHOULD WE PUT A BATTERY IN HIS MOUTH OR HOOK HIM UP TO THE ELECTRICAL GRID?

NO, IT'S MORE LIKE A THAW. HE SORT OF WARMS BACK UP AFTER WHILE.

TO BE CONTINUED...





YOU'RE THE **HUMAN RESOURCES BROAD**, RIGHT?

YOU'RE OFF TO A **GREAT START** ALREADY.

HOW DO YOU DEFINE THE **MINIMUM COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS** FOR EACH EMPLOYEE?

WE USE **OFFICIAL JOB DESCRIPTIONS**.

OK, THIS **JOB DESCRIPTION** IS FOR THE **QUALITY INTERN**. BUT I DON'T SEE ANY **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**.

WE DON'T **HAVE ANY** **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS** FOR AN **INTERN**.

YOU HAVE TO HAVE **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS** LISTED FOR **EVERYONE**. EVEN THE **DUMB MEXICAN GUY** YOU HAVE **PUSHING BROOMS** IN THE **SHOP**.

UMM, I'M JUST GOING TO **START TAKING SOME NOTES** OF OUR **CONVERSATION** TODAY.

SO WHY DIDN'T YOU
DEFINE EDUCATIONAL
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
INTERNS?

BECAUSE THEY'RE
INTERNS. WE GET THEM FROM
LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS TO
GIVE THEM REAL WORLD
WORK EXPERIENCE.

IT'S NOT ILLEGAL
CHILD LABOR!

SO YOU ADMIT TO USING
ILLEGAL CHILD
LABOR?

IT'S DONE FOR ADVANCED
PLACEMENT UNDER
OVERSIGHT BY THE SCHOOL!
THEY GET CREDITS TOWARDS
UNIVERSITY STUDY!

HEY, HEY, HEY, NOW!
I'M NOT JUDGING
YOU!

WE CERTIFY COMPANIES
ALL THE TIME THAT ARE
INVOLVED IN HUMAN
TRAFFICKING AND CHILD
ABUSE.

THE COMPANY TOP GLOVE
IN MALAYSIA AND THAILAND
HAS BEEN USING SLAVE LABOR
FOR OVER TEN YEARS, AND
THEY'VE HAD ISO CERTS
ALL ALONG! *

FRANKLY, CHILDREN ARE
A GREAT RESOURCE. THEIR LITTLE
HANDS CAN DO FINE ASSEMBLY
WORK, AND THEY EAT LESS.

* TRUE



SO I'VE SEEN ALL THE **COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS** FOR EVERYONE EXCEPT THE **OWNER**.

WE HAVEN'T DEFINED **COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS** FOR THE OWNER BECAUSE **SHE'S THE OWNER**.




YOU DON'T **TRAIN** SOMEONE TO **OWN A COMPANY**.

SO HOW DO YOU **TRAIN** A NEW OWNER IF YOU NEED ONE?*

THEY OWN IT BECAUSE THEY HAD THE **MONEY** TO BUY THE BUILDING AND HIRE EVERYONE **ELSE**.

* REALLY HAPPENED



WELL THIS IS AN **ISO 9001 AUDIT**, SO THAT MEANS YOU HAVE TO **PROVE** WHAT YOU SAY, OR I HAVE TO WRITE A **NONCONFORMITY**.

I'M GOING TO NEED TO SEE THE BOSS' **BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER**, HER **CREDIT CARD SECURITY CODE**, AND THE COMBINATION OF THE **SAFE**.



JUST GIVE ME A MINUTE WHILE I FILE THIS **FINANCIAL CRIMES COMPLAINT** WITH THE **F.B.I.**

IT WOULDN'T HURT IF YOU LET ME HAVE HER **NETFLIX PASSWORD**, TOO.

I NEED TO SEE
YOUR TRAINING
RECORDS NOW.

I ALWAYS LIKE TO ASK THE **HR
MANAGER** THAT, BECAUSE IT MAKES
THEM FEEL **UNCOMFORTABLE**,
AND THAT'S MY **JAM**.

OF COURSE, BUT FIRST
I'D LIKE TO ASK **YOU**
SOMETHING.

CAN I SEE **YOUR**
TRAINING RECORDS FOR
ISO 9001 AUDITING?

zzwippppp!

THEY ASKED TO SEE
YOUR **TRAINING RECORDS**,
RIGHT?

**NORTH POLE
ISO AUDITOR
CAMP**

The Auditor

by CHRIS PARIS

HELLO. THERE'S
SOME *GUY* IN THE
LOBBY SAYING HE'S
AN *ISO REGISTRAR*.

HUH? LET ME GO
CHECK HIM OUT.

WE'RE THE WORLD'S FASTEST-GROWING
INDEPENDENT *ISO REGISTRAR*. WE GET
YOU CERTIFIED IN *THIRTY SECONDS*,
GUARANTEED.

WHAT'S IN THE
DUFFLE BAG?

PORTABLE
PRINTER.

WHO THE FLIP
ARE YOU?

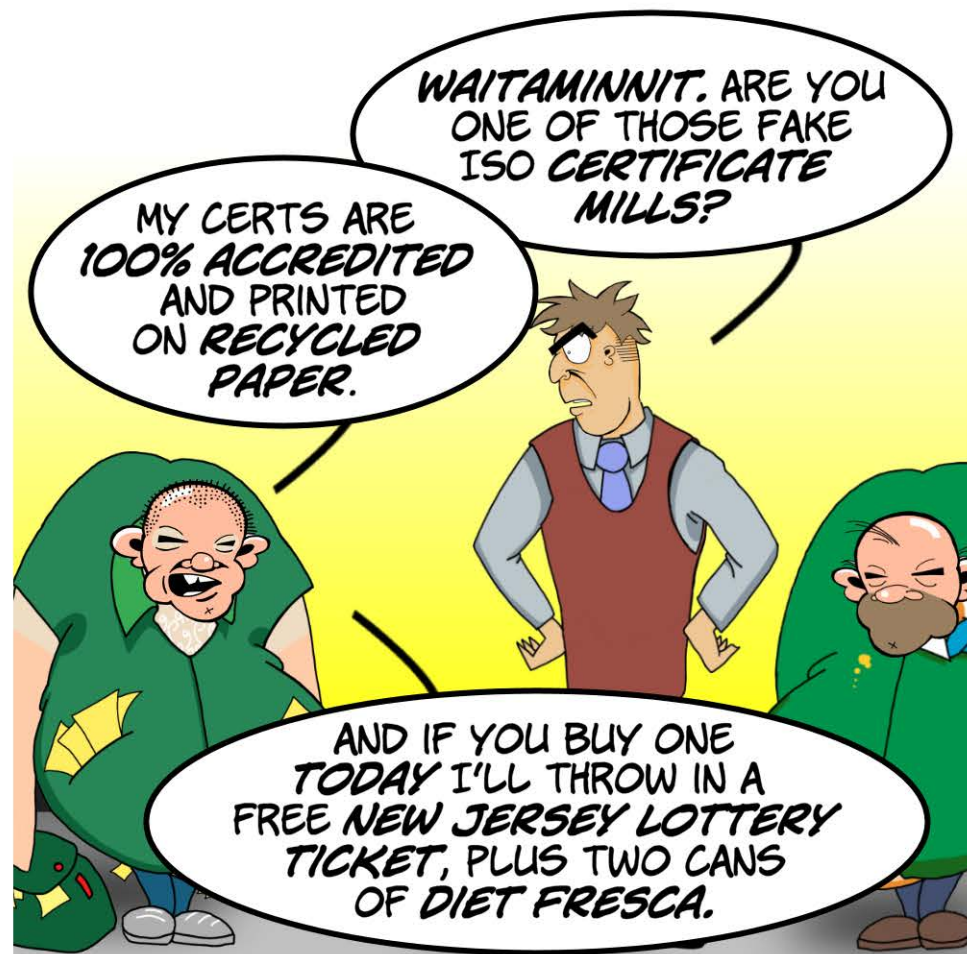
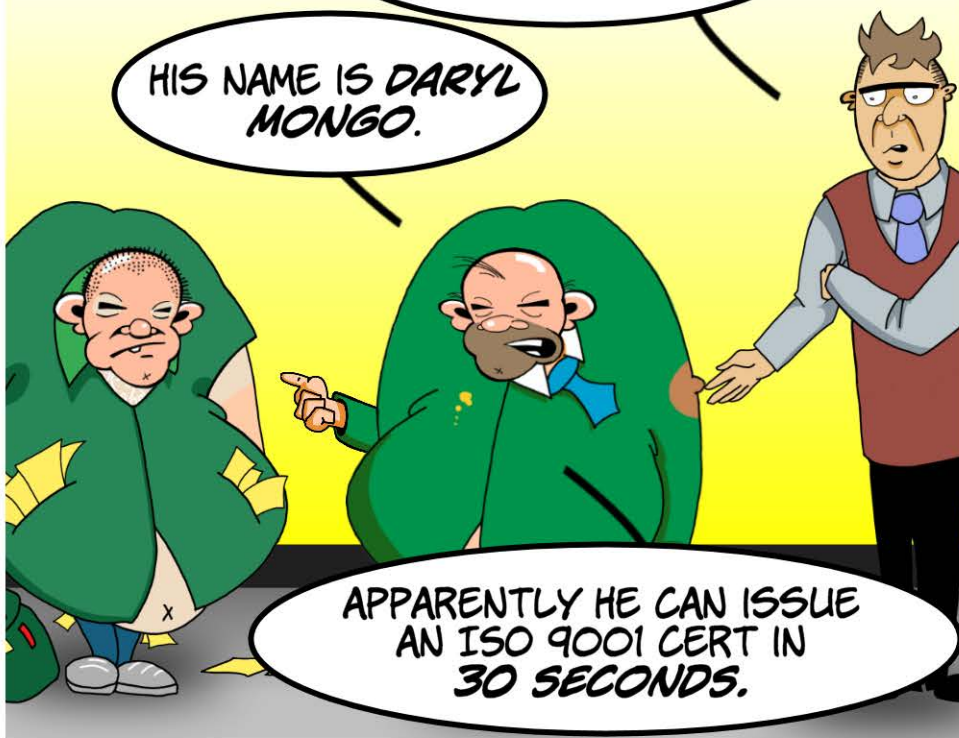
I'M *DARYL MONGO*,
OF *MONGO*
QUICKIE-CERT.

AT MONGO QUICKIE-CERT
WE CUT OUT ALL THE WASTEFUL
STEPS AND GET YOU ISO 9001
CERTIFIED IN MINUTES.

LIKE WHAT KIND
OF STEPS?

WELL, BASICALLY,
THE AUDIT.

I WAS GONNA ARGUE WITH
YOU, BUT SUDDENLY I REALIZED
THE *HYPOCRISY* MIGHT TRIGGER
A FULL-ON *EXISTENTIAL
CRISIS*.



I KNOW YOU THINK
THAT I MIGHT BE A **FAKE**
REGISTRAR. BUT DON'T
WORRY.

MONGO QUICKIE-CERT IS FULLY
ACCREDITED BY THE **ACCREDITED**
REGISTRARS CERTIFICATION
ACCREDITATION BOARD.

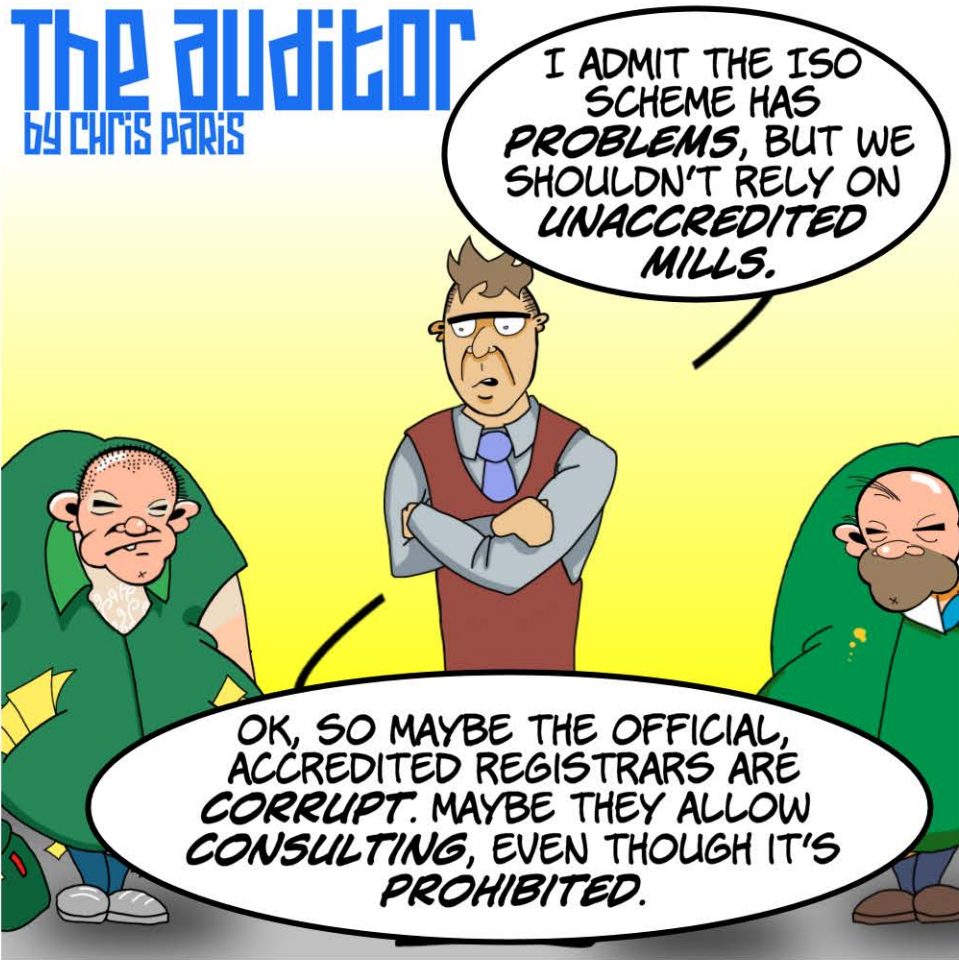
I REMEMBER **READING** ABOUT
THIS GUY. HE RUNS **FAKE PRESS**
RELEASES CLAIMING ALL SORTS
OF **BULLSHIT**.

HE ONCE CLAIMED HE WON
BEST REGISTRAR OF 2018,
AND THAT HE FOUND A
DIAMOND THE SIZE OF
A **DILDO**.

WELL I HEARD THIS GUY
DRINKS HIS OWN **PEE** AND
HAS SEX WITH **CHINESE**
COMMUNIST FERRETS.

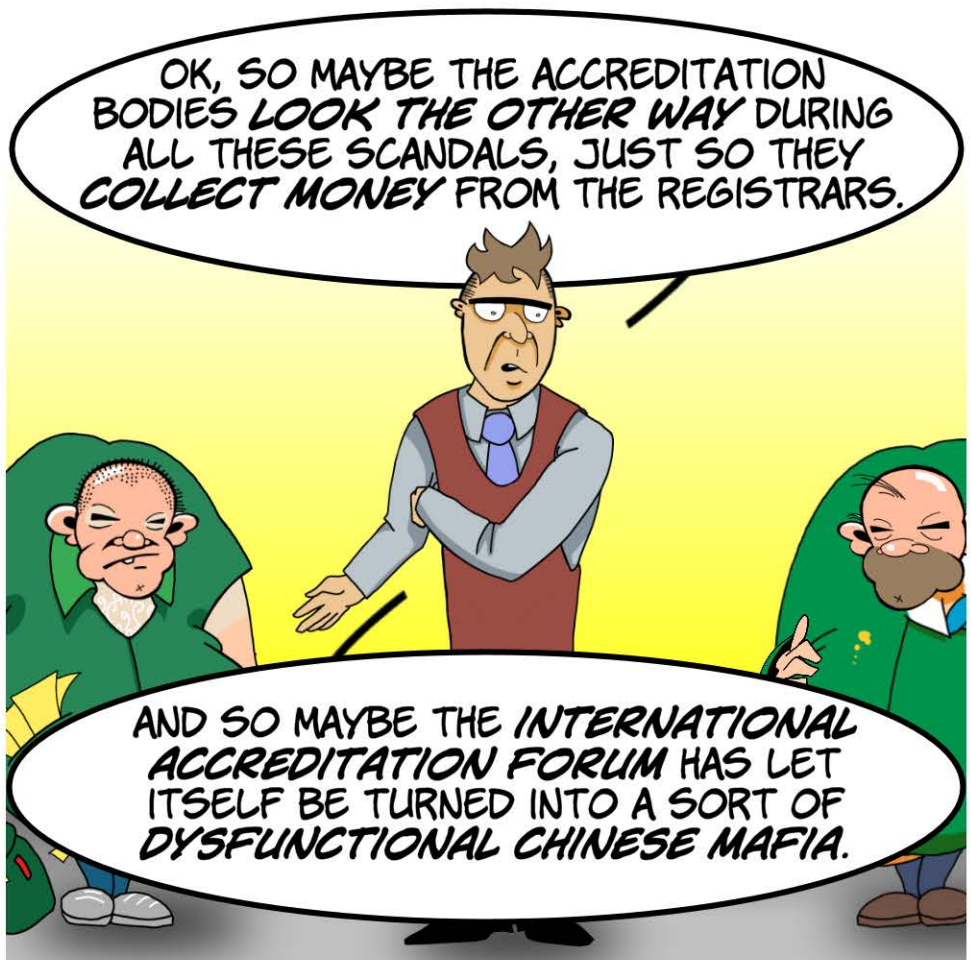
TECHNICALLY, IT WAS THE **FERRETS'**
PEE, AND THEY HAD LONG SINCE
DISAVOWED **MAOISM**.





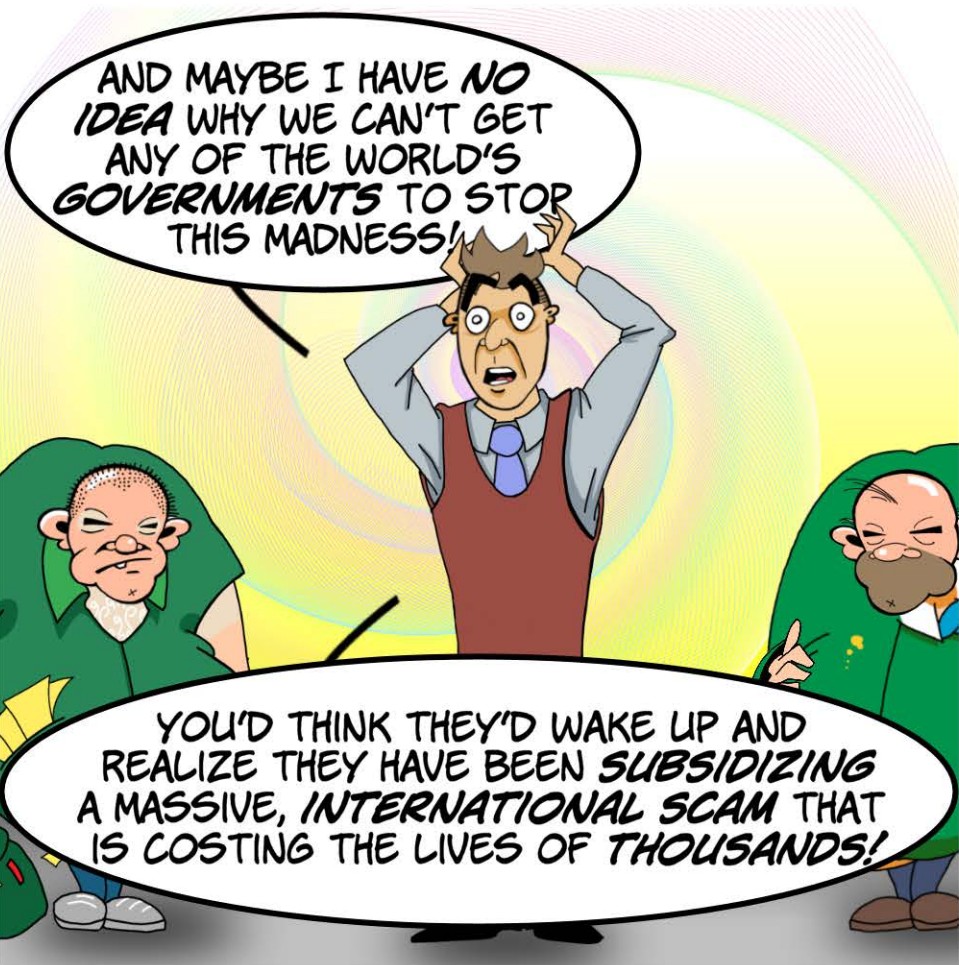
I ADMIT THE ISO SCHEME HAS **PROBLEMS**, BUT WE SHOULDN'T RELY ON **UNACCREDITED MILLS**.

OK, SO MAYBE THE OFFICIAL, ACCREDITED REGISTRARS ARE **CORRUPT**. MAYBE THEY ALLOW **CONSULTING**, EVEN THOUGH IT'S **PROHIBITED**.



OK, SO MAYBE THE ACCREDITATION BODIES **LOOK THE OTHER WAY** DURING ALL THESE SCANDALS, JUST SO THEY **COLLECT MONEY** FROM THE REGISTRARS.

AND SO MAYBE THE **INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION FORUM** HAS LET ITSELF BE TURNED INTO A SORT OF **DYSFUNCTIONAL CHINESE MAFIA**.



AND MAYBE I HAVE **NO IDEA** WHY WE CAN'T GET ANY OF THE WORLD'S **GOVERNMENTS** TO STOP THIS MADNESS!

YOU'D THINK THEY'D WAKE UP AND REALIZE THEY HAVE BEEN **SUBSIDIZING** A MASSIVE, **INTERNATIONAL SCAM** THAT IS COSTING THE LIVES OF **THOUSANDS**!



I'M WAITING FOR THE PART WHERE YOU START TO GET **HELPFUL**.

ALRIGHT, SO
MAYBE I *DON'T* HAVE
ALL THE *ANSWERS* FOR
THE PROBLEMS IN THE
ISO 9001 SCHEME.

BUT I KNOW OUR *CUSTOMERS*
EXPECT TO SEE A *PROPERLY*
ACCREDITED ISO 9001 CERTIFICATE,
SO THAT'S WHAT WE ARE
GOING TO HAVE.

BUT, *LOOK!* THE
CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY
MONGO QUICKIE-CERT ARE
FULLY ACCREDITED!

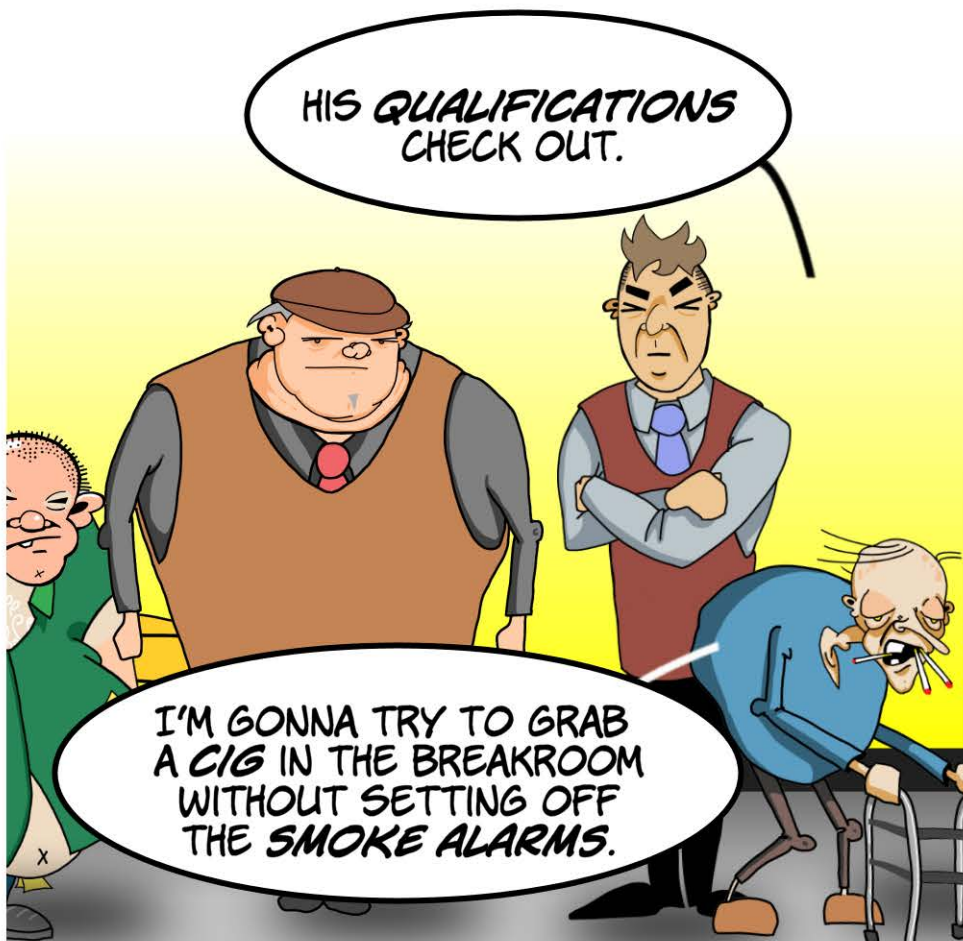
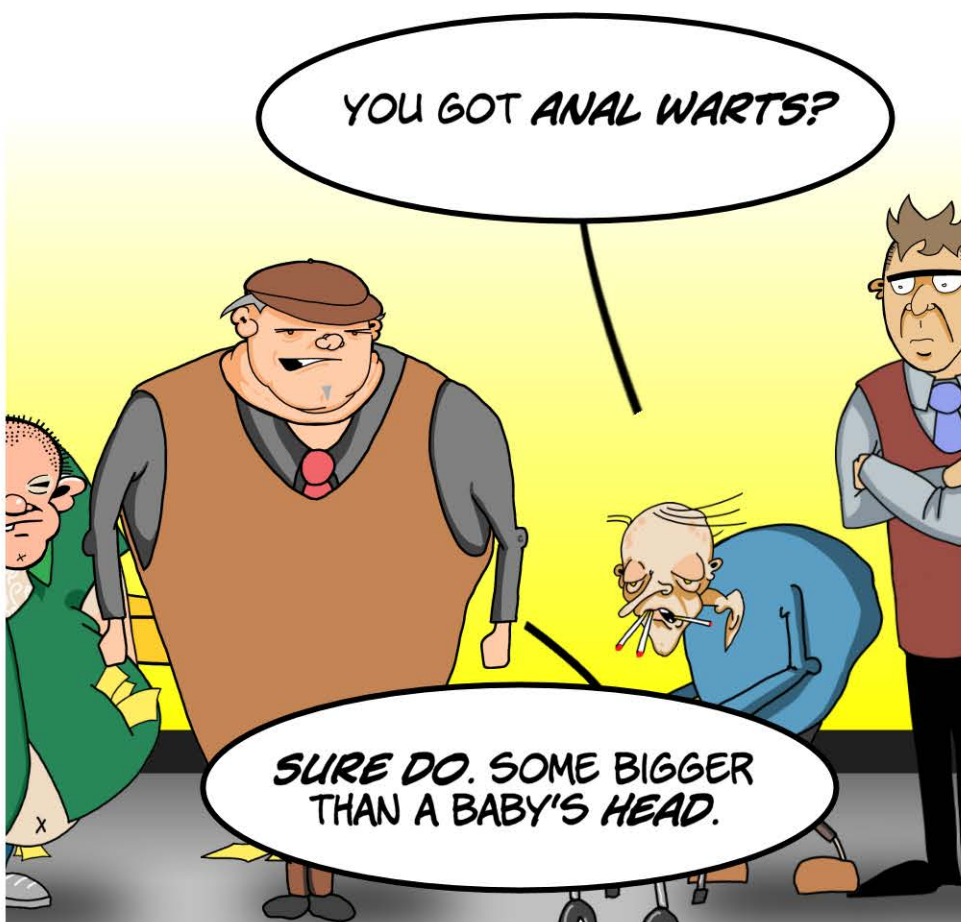
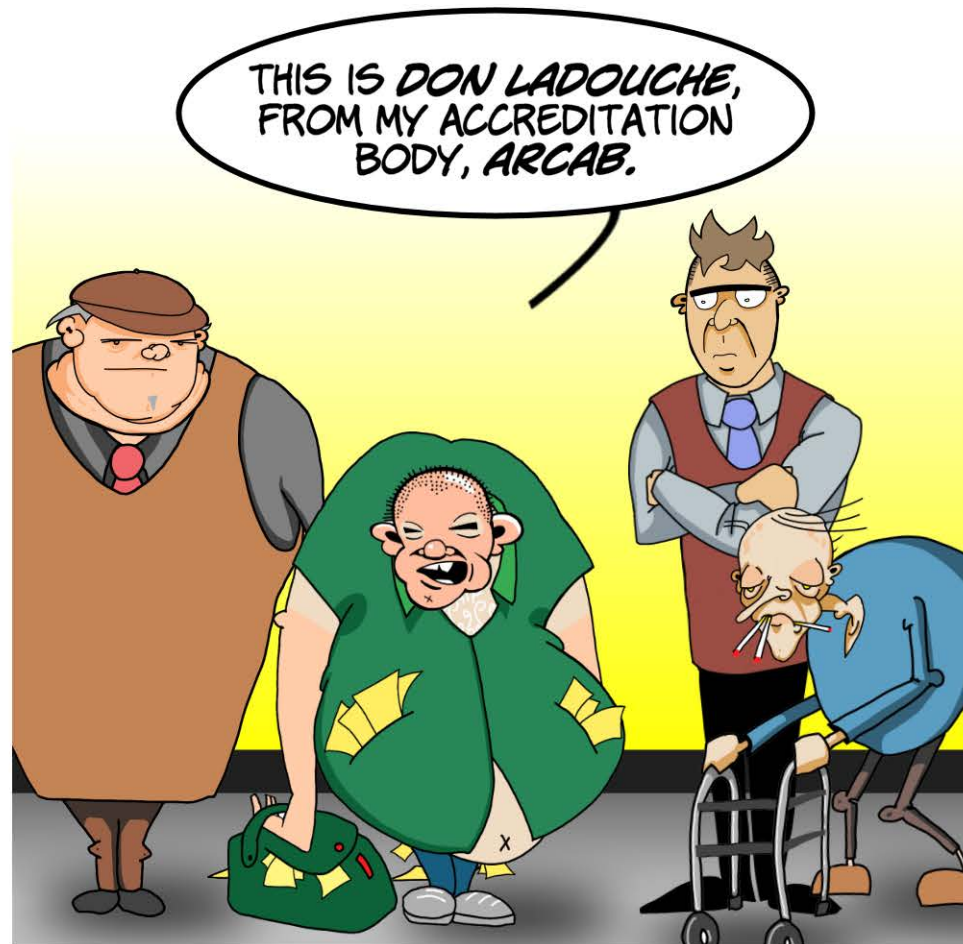
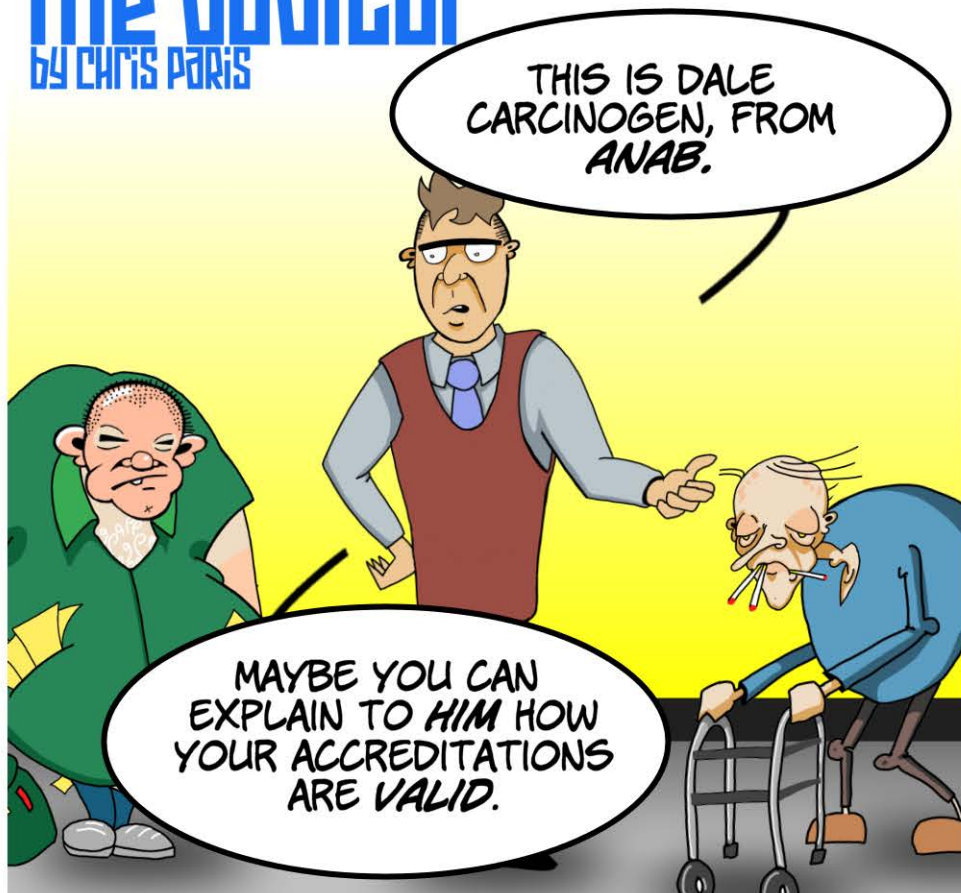
IN FACT, OUR CERTS
HAVE OVER *SIXTEEN*
DIFFERENT LOGOS!

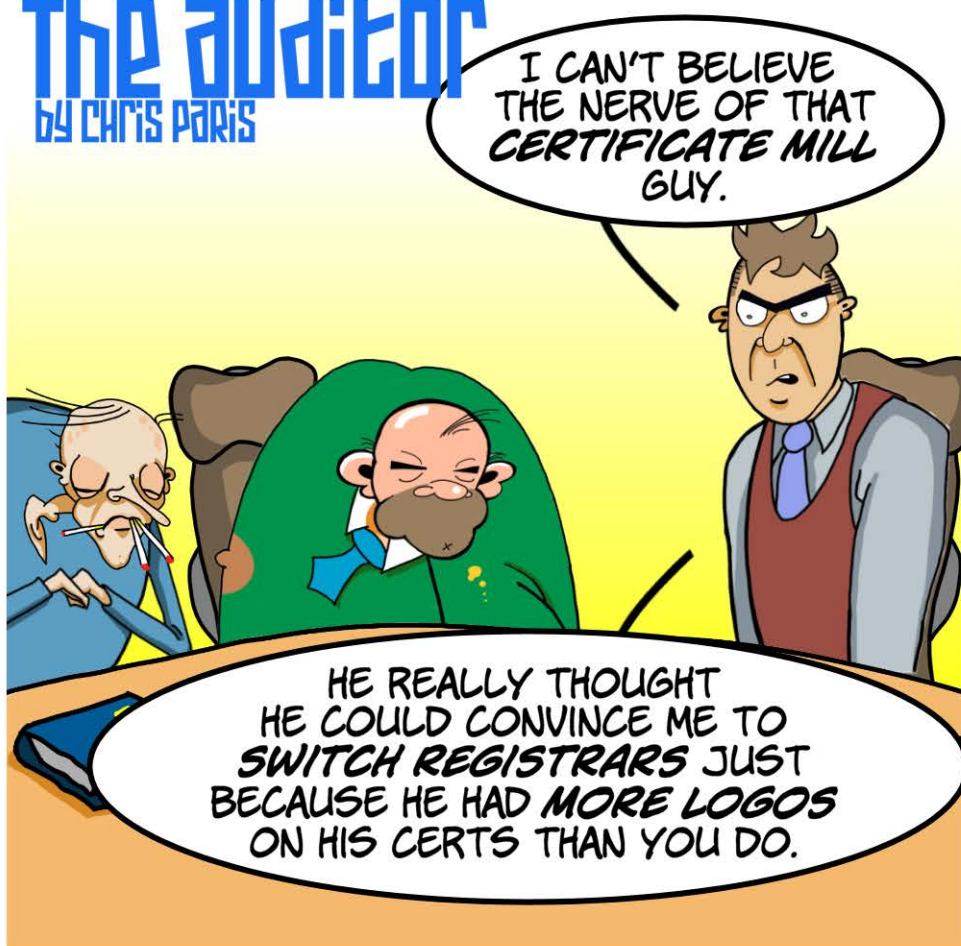
ONE OF THE LOGOS IS FROM
THE *X-MEN MOVIES*. YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER
THAT WAS DRAWN IN WHAT LOOKS LIKE
CRAYON, AND THERE'S A PICTURE OF
A *STRIPPER* WITH A *CRACK PIPE*.

ONE OF YOUR ACCREDITATION
BODIES IS LITERALLY CALLED
"*INSERT NAME HERE*" AND ANOTHER
ONE IS A *SOVIET FARMING*
COLLECTIVE.

WE USE *NON-TRADITIONAL*
ACCREDITATION SOURCES.
BUT AT LEAST WE DON'T
PAY FEES TO THE *IAF*
TO HELP SUPPORT
CHINA.

THIS GUY MAY SMELL
LIKE *LAST WEEK'S TUNA*,
BUT HE'S *NOT WRONG*
ON THAT ONE.





SO, YOU'RE ONE OF
THE COMPANY'S
TRAINERS, RIGHT?

I LITERALLY GAVE YOU
TRAINING TWO DAYS AGO.

YEAH, *MAYBE*, I FRANKLY CAN'T
TELL YOU PEOPLE *APART*.

ANYWAY, TELL ME HOW
YOU HANDLE "OJT."

YOU MEAN "ON
THE JOB TRAINING"?

OH, IS *THAT* WHAT THAT
STANDS FOR? I THOUGHT IT
MEANT "OBESE JAPANESE
TRANSVESTITES."

I'M SURPRISED YOU CAN
WAKE UP IN THE MORNING
WITHOUT *CHOKING* ON
YOUR OWN TONGUE.

I'LL BE RIGHT *BACK*.
I HAVE TO GO RE-WRITE
MY AUDIT QUESTIONS.

ASKING YOU *DIET TIPS*
TO HELP FIT INTO A
SEE-THROUGH KIMONO
ISN'T GONNA MAKE
SENSE NOW.

WHAT KIND OF **ON-THE-JOB** TRAINING HAVE YOU HAD?

I'M A **WELDER**, SO I HAVE TO PERIODICALLY GET RE-TRAINED ON **WELDING TECHNIQUES**.


INTERESTING. WHAT KIND OF WELDING DO YOU DO?

I CAN DO TRADITIONAL **TIG** AND **MIG** WELDING, BUT THEY HIRED ME MOSTLY TO DO **SPECIALTY ALUMINUM** AND **ALLOY** WELDS.

SNORT
DID YOU EVER DO "**JIG**" WELDING?

WILL THIS BE A **RACIST** JOKE, OR A **SEXIST** ONE?

WELL, IT WAS GONNA BE **BOTH**, BUT IF YOU WANT TO SKIP THE **FOREPLAY**, MEET ME IN THE BACK OF THE **PARKING LOT** IN TEN MINUTES, **SUGARTITS**.



YOU DON'T SEEM TO HAVE MUCH OF A FORMAL, PLANNED PROGRAM FOR AD HOC TRAINING.



UMMM... AD HOC TRAINING *ISN'T* PLANNED. "AD HOC" MEANS IT IS DONE WHEN IT'S *NEEDED*.

NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT IT MEANS. "AD HOC" REFERS TO A PIG KNUCKLE.



I'M PRETTY SURE WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IS A HAM HOCK.

NO, A "HAM HOCK" IS A BED FORMED BY TYING A CANVAS BETWEEN TWO TREES WITH ROPE.



NO, THAT'S A HAMMOCK!

NO, THAT'S THE POISON THAT SOCRATES USED TO KILL HIMSELF.

ANYWAY, I'M WRITING A NONCONFORMITY BECAUSE I DIDN'T SEE ANY BEDS HANGING BETWEEN TREES, AND I NEED A NAP.



SO, I GOTTA ASK...

WHY DID YOU GET **UPSET** WHEN I ASKED TO SEE YOUR **TRAINING MATRIX**?

WELL, FIRST, THEY ARE **NOT REQUIRED** BY THE ISO 9001 STANDARD.

NEXT, THEY'RE **STUPID** AND REQUIRE **TREMENDOUS EFFORT** TO **KEEP UP TO DATE**.

THEY JUST CREATE A TON OF **MINOR NONCONFORMITIES** THAT AUDITORS USE TO **JUSTIFY THEIR AUDIT DAYS**.

OH, WAIT... **THAT'S** WHY YOU GUYS LOVE ASKING ABOUT THEM!

KID'S A **GENIUS**.

CLEARLY THE **BRIGHTEST STAR** IN THE HEAVENS.

ISO 9001 REQUIRES YOU TO
VERIFY THE EFFECTIVENESS
OF TRAINING.

MANY COMPANIES HAVE THE
EMPLOYEES FILL OUT A
SURVEY AFTER TRAINING.
DO YOU DO THAT?

NO, BECAUSE THAT'S DUMB.
IT JUST RATES THE
TEACHER, NOT WHETHER THE
PERSON **LEARNED**
ANYTHING.

THEN STUDENTS JUST GIVE THEIR
INSTRUCTOR A **FAKE** HIGH SCORE,
TO **SUCK UP** TO THEM SO THEY
GET A **BETTER** SCORE THE
NEXT TIME.

HEY, RAY, DIDN'T YOU
SCORE ME 10 OUT OF 10
DURING OUR LAST
ANAB TRAINING
CONFERENCE?

I'M GOING TO **FOLLOW YOU**
HOME, AND **BURN** EVERYTHING
YOU LOVE.

I'M GONNA WRITE A
NONCONFORMITY FOR NOT
HAVING A **TRAINING
MATRIX**.

BUT I **TOLD** YOU!
IT'S **NOT REQUIRED**
BY THE ISO 9001
STANDARD!!

WHATEVER, DORIS.
I'M ALSO WRITING UP **ANOTHER**
NONCONFORMITY FOR NOT
HAVING A **HAM HOCK**.

I NEEDED TO TAKE A **NAP**
TODAY, AND REALLY WANTED
TO SLEEP **OUTSIDE**.

THAT'S A
HAMMOCK,
YOU **IMBECILE!!**

I THINK YOU MEAN
HUMMUS.

THAT **REMINDS** ME, BEFORE
WE GO BACK TO THE **HOTEL**
I WANT TO BUY SOME
CHIPS AND **PUBIS**.

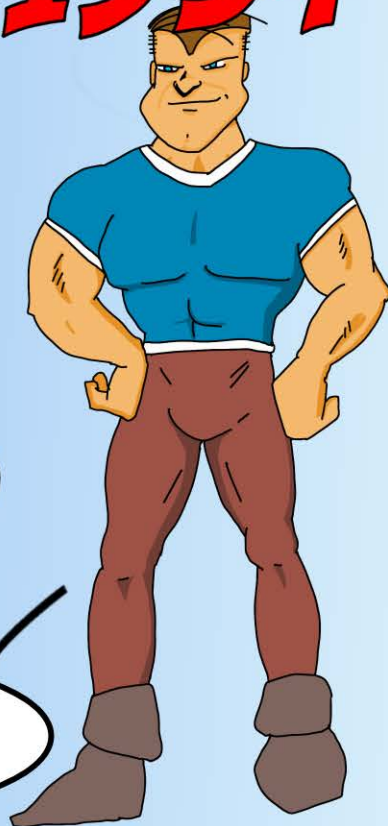
NO, THAT'S THE **BONE** THAT
RUNS FROM THE **SHOULDER**
TO THE **ELBOW**.

1954

YOU'RE FRESH OUT OF THE **MILITARY**, WE'D LIKE TO **HIRE** YOU AS OUR **QC INSPECTOR**.

YOU'LL HAVE A LOT OF **RESPONSIBILITY** AND PEOPLE WILL **RESPECT** YOU.

I'LL TAKE IT!



1969

QUALITY HASN'T IMPROVED UNDER YOUR WATCH. WE'RE **DEMOTING** YOU TO SUPPLY CHAIN AUDITOR.

YOU'LL HAVE LESS **RESPONSIBILITY** BUT SOME PEOPLE WILL STILL **RESPECT** YOU.

HMMPH, I'LL TAKE IT...



1990

SUPPLY CHAIN QUALITY IS GETTING WORSE. WE'RE **DEMOTING** YOU TO RECEIVING CLERK.

YOU'LL HAVE NO **RESPONSIBILITY** AND NO ONE WILL **RESPECT** YOU.

(SIGH) ... I'LL TAKE IT...

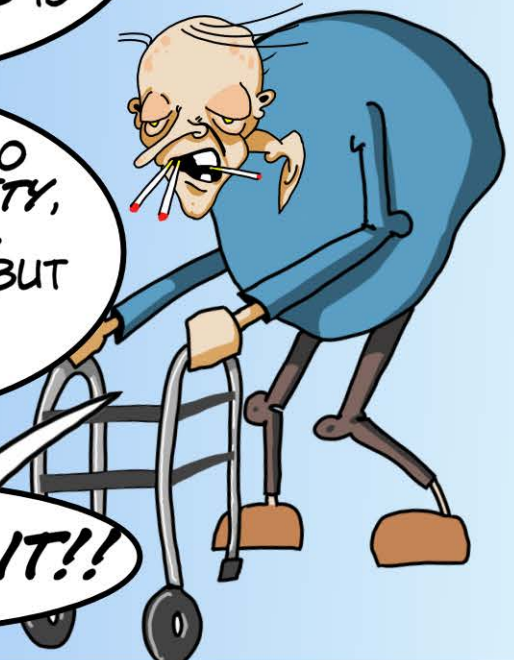


2015

QUALITY IS STILL **TERRIBLE** AND WE **BLAME** YOU **PERSONALLY**. WE HAVE TO **FIRE** YOU, BUT I HEAR **ANAB** IS **HIRING**.

YOU'LL HAVE NO **RESPONSIBILITY**, NO ONE WILL **RESPECT** YOU, BUT YOU'LL BE **FEARED**.

I'LL TAKE IT!!

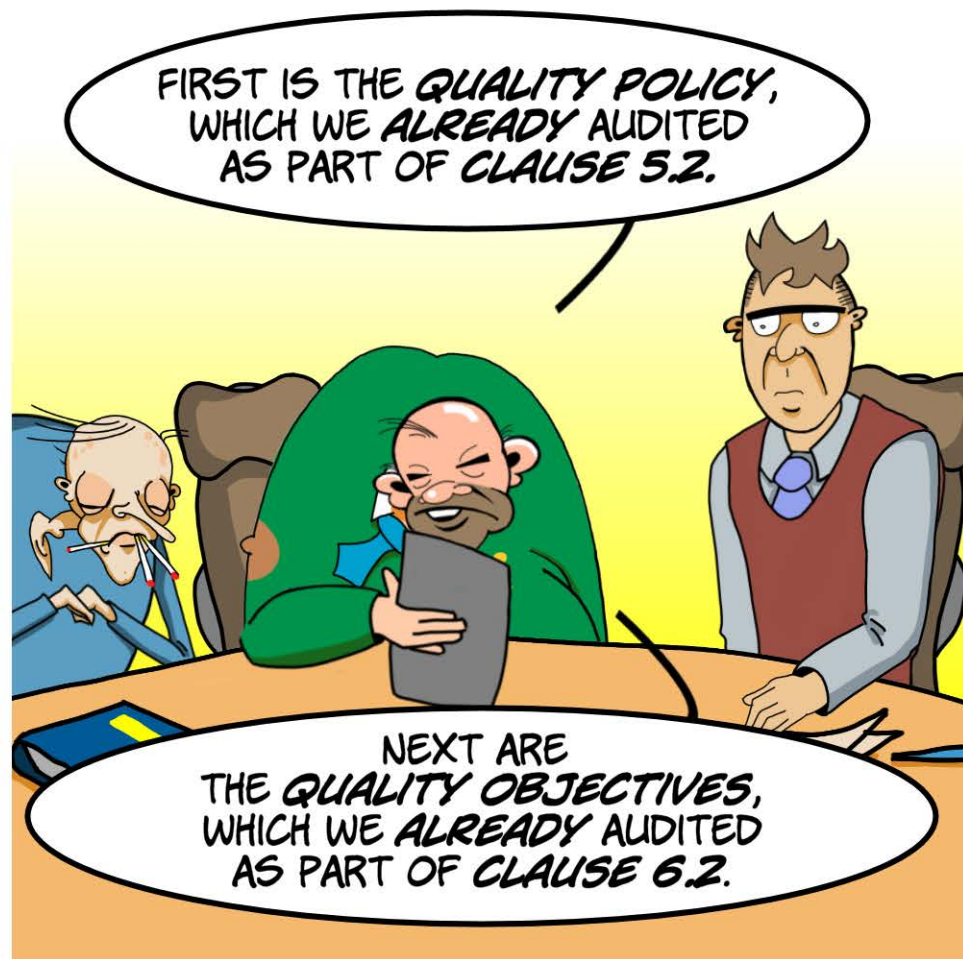


MOVING ON TO CLAUSE 7.3, THIS ONE IS CALLED "AWARENESS."

I THINK DALE HERE CAN EXPLAIN THIS ONE BETTER THAN I CAN.

HOW LONG AGO DID HE LEAVE THE ROOM?

AT LEAST TWO HOURS AGO. BUT, PLEASE CONTINUE EXPLAINING "AWARENESS" TO ME.



I'M GETTING HUNGRY, SO I'M JUST GONNA READ THIS NEXT QUESTION OUT LOUD.

ARE YOUR EMPLOYEES AWARE OF "THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE QUALITY SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE BENEFITS OF IMPROVED PERFORMANCE?"

AND BEFORE YOU ANSWER, KEEP IN MIND THAT THERE'S NO REAL WAY I CAN VERIFY WHATEVER YOU'RE GONNA SAY, ...

... AND ALSO REMEMBER THAT I SAID I WAS GETTING HUNGRY.

OKAY, AND... SHOOT!

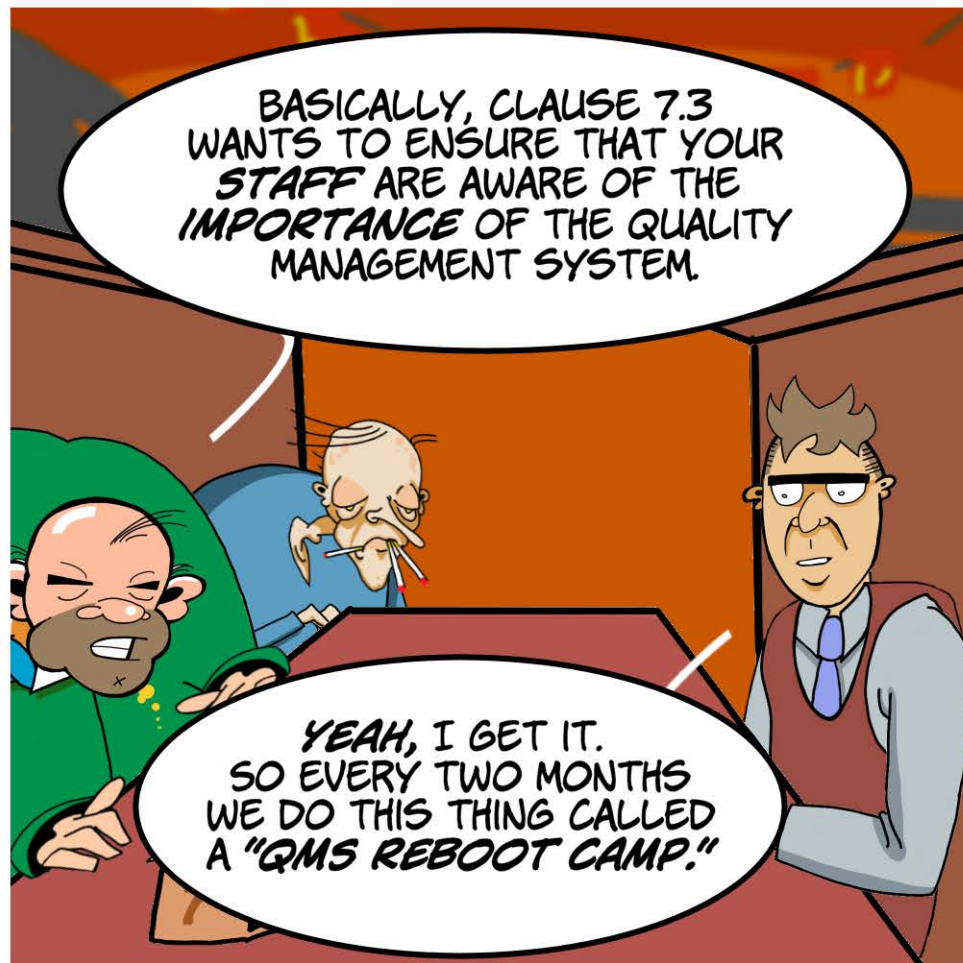
"YES."

OKAY, GREAT STUFF, NOW LET'S GO GET SOME CHILI-RUBBED RIBS.



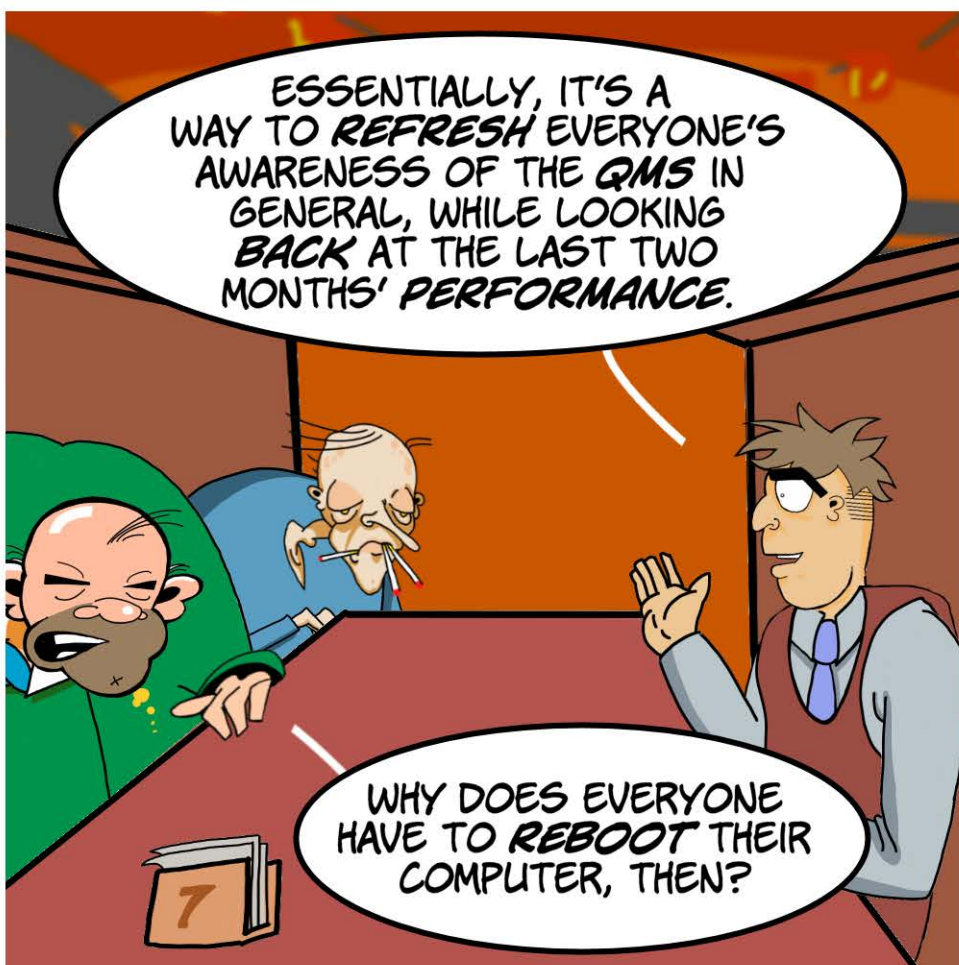
I WANNA KEEP **AUDITING** WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR THOSE **RIBS**.

UHM,... OKAY.



BASICALLY, CLAUSE 7.3 WANTS TO ENSURE THAT YOUR **STAFF** ARE AWARE OF THE **IMPORTANCE** OF THE **QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**.

YEAH, I GET IT. SO EVERY TWO MONTHS WE DO THIS THING CALLED A "QMS REBOOT CAMP."



ESSENTIALLY, IT'S A WAY TO **REFRESH** EVERYONE'S AWARENESS OF THE **QMS** IN GENERAL, WHILE LOOKING **BACK** AT THE LAST TWO MONTHS' **PERFORMANCE**.

WHY DOES EVERYONE HAVE TO **REBOOT** THEIR COMPUTER, THEN?

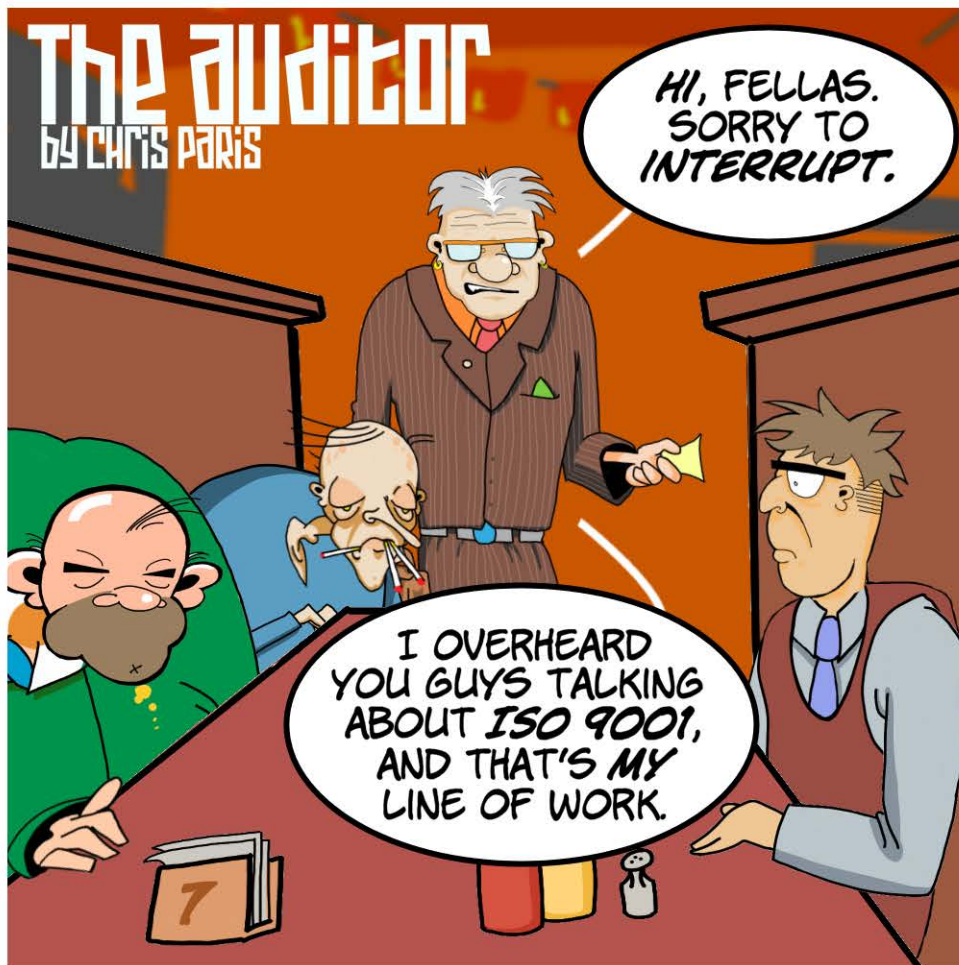


NO... NO, THAT'S JUST A **PLAY ON WORDS**. LIKE A **MILITARY BOOT CAMP**, BUT FOR **REFRESHING** EVERYONE ON THE **QMS**.

I'M WRITING AN **OFI** FOR **POOR MAINTENANCE** OF YOUR COMPUTERS.

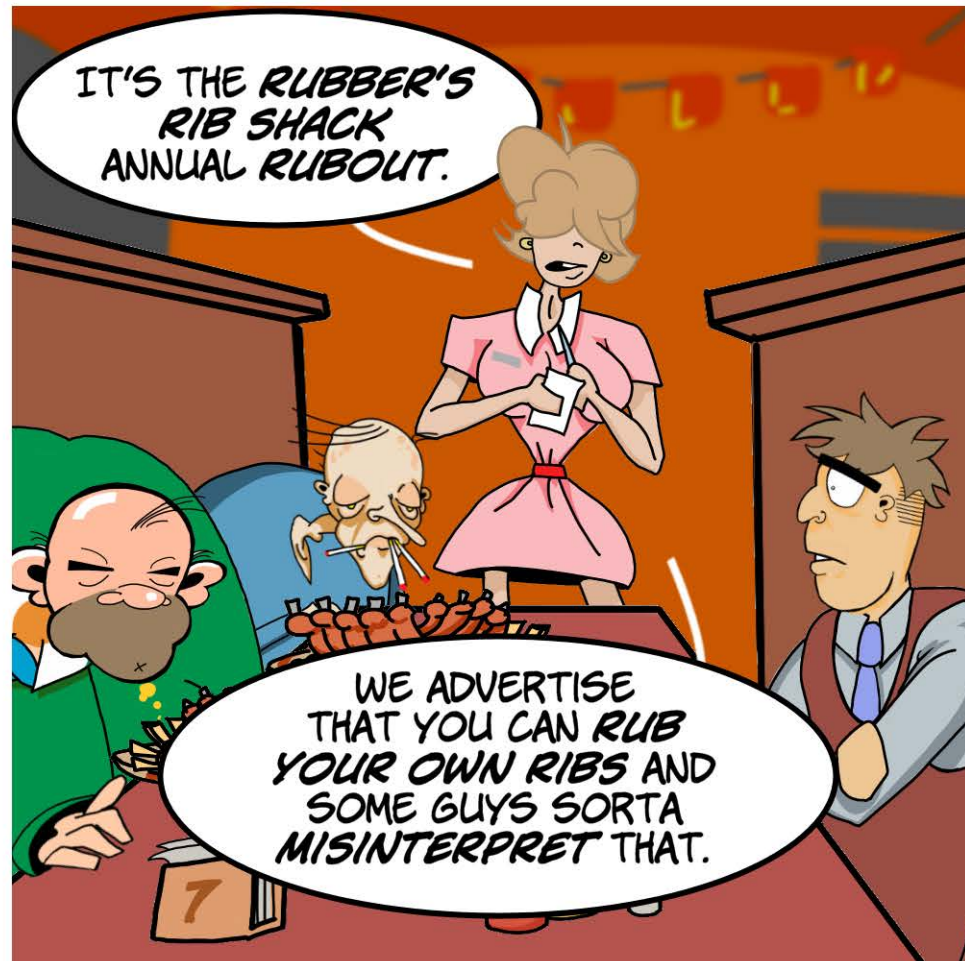
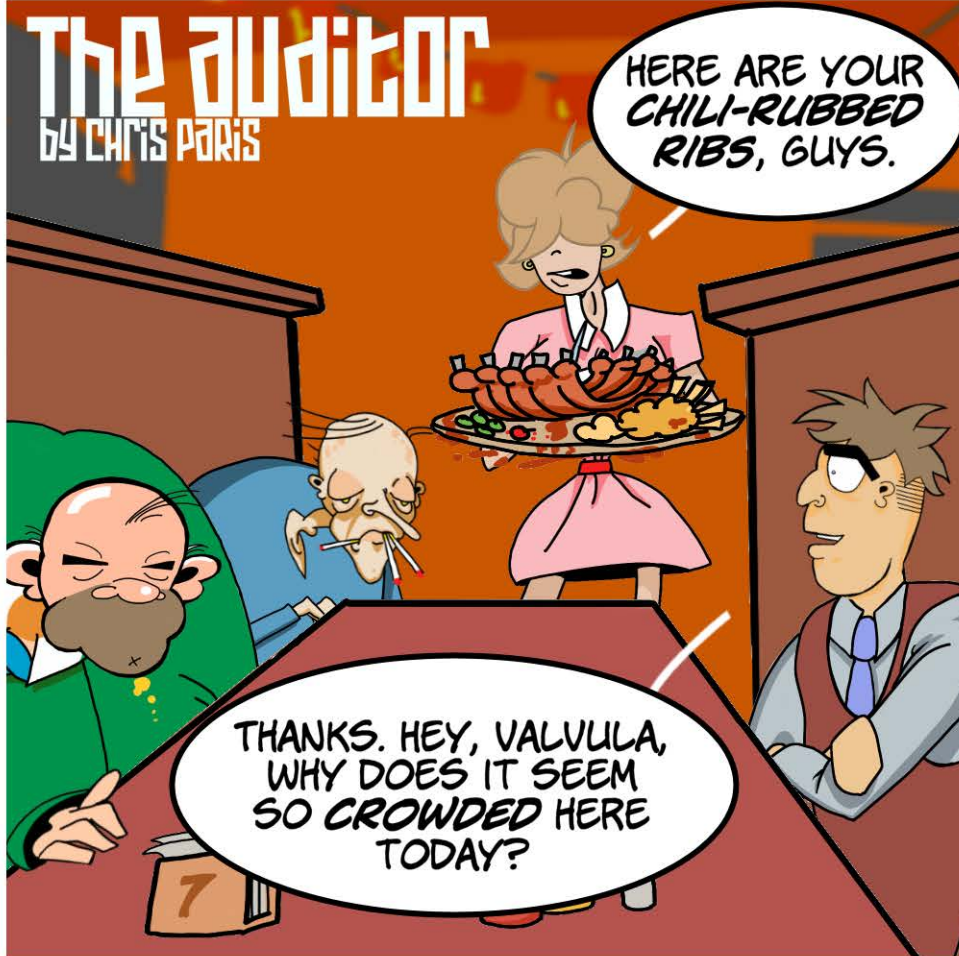
THE AUDITOR

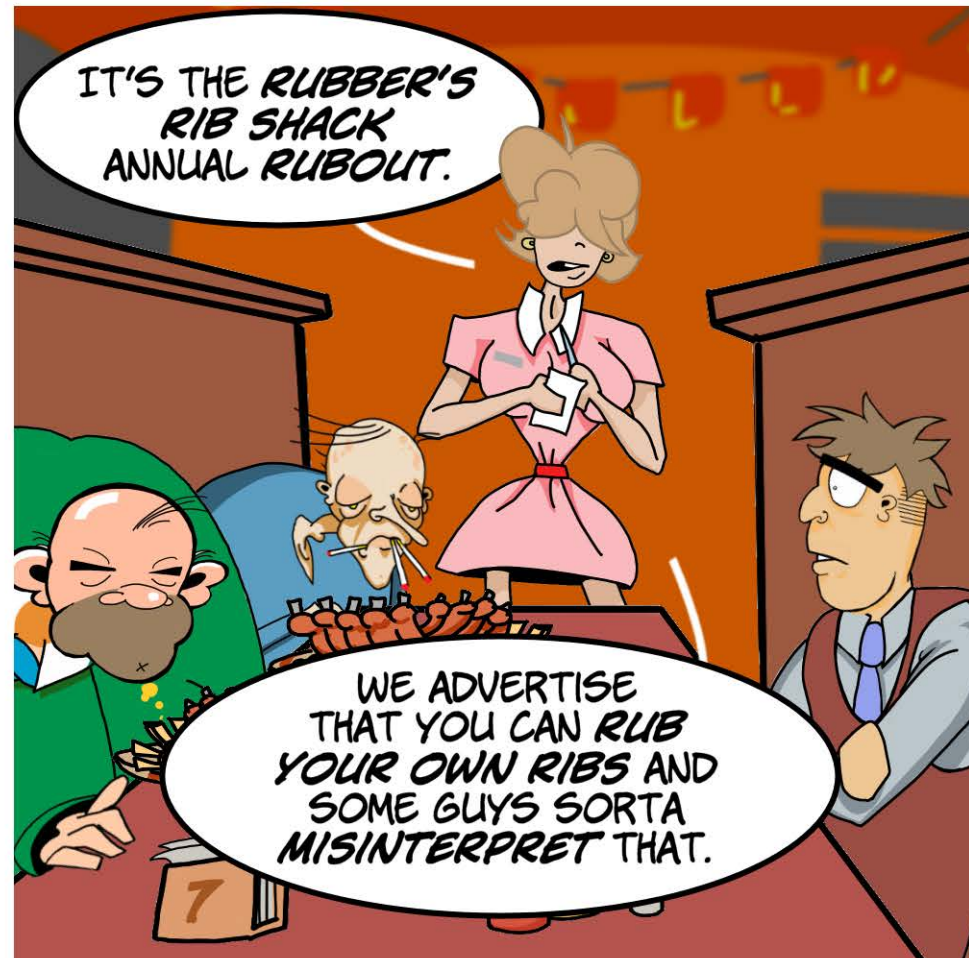
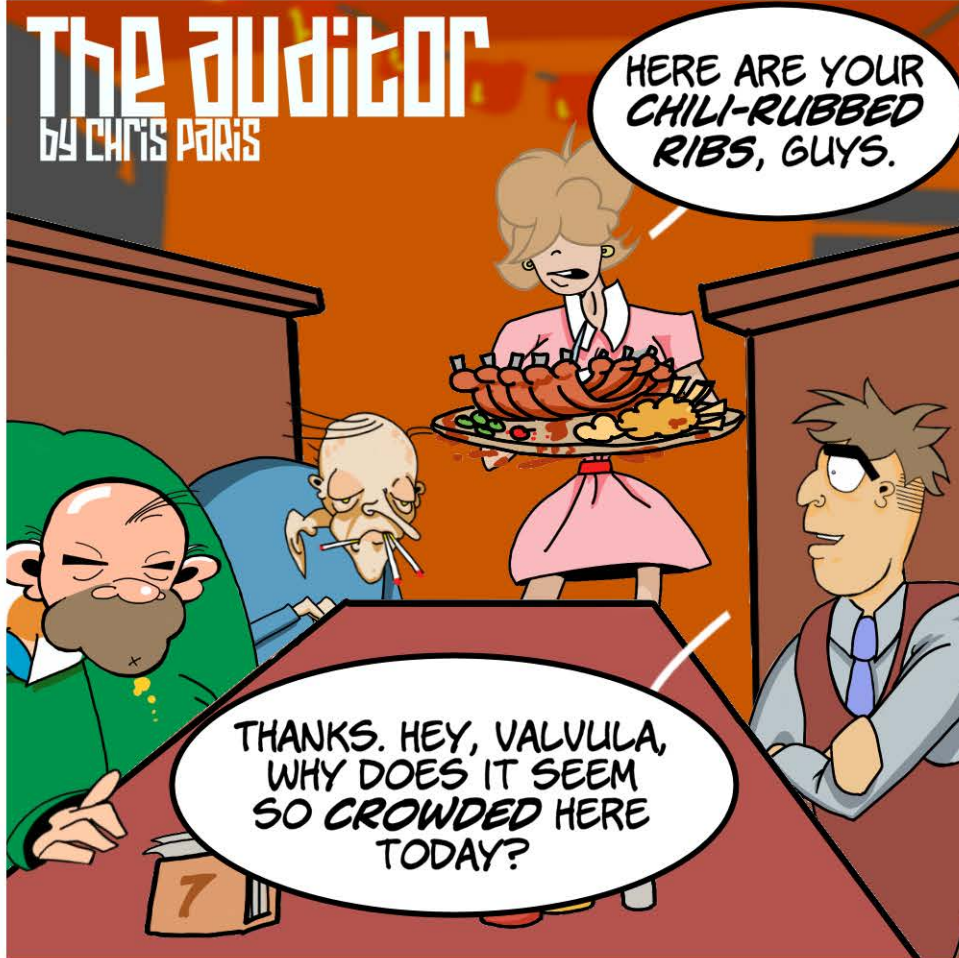
by CHRIS PARIS



THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS





ENOUGH **BLADDER** **SNATCHING**, LET'S GET BACK TO **AUDITING** **ALREADY**.

THE **ISO 9001** **STANDARD** WANTS TO KNOW HOW YOU TELL YOUR **STAFF** THE **IMPLICATIONS** OF NOT FOLLOWING THE **QMS**.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "**IMPLICATIONS?**" THAT SOUNDS... **MENACING**.

WELL, YOU KNOW... **PUNISHMENTS**. **BALL GAGS**, **IRON MAIDENS**, **PUBLIC CANINGS**, "**NIGHT IN THE BOX**", THAT SORT OF THING.

WE DON'T DO **ANY** OF THOSE THINGS! THIS ISN'T THE **MIDDLE AGES**!

SAY WHAT YOU WANT ABOUT **SVIATOPOLK THE ACCURSED**, BUT HE GOT THE **TRAINS** TO RUN ON **TIME**.

THEY DIDN'T **HAVE** **TRAINS** IN THE **MIDDLE AGES**!

I'M WRITING AN **OFI** FOR **RISK TO ON-TIME DELIVERY** DUE TO **POOR TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULING**.

SO IF I GO WALK AROUND AND ASK PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR **QMS AWARENESS**, WHAT ARE THEY GONNA SAY?

I THINK YOU'LL BE HAPPILY **SURPRISED**. THEY WILL EXPLAIN THEIR VARIOUS **PROCESS OBJECTIVES**, AND HOW THEY **TIE INTO** THE OVERALL **QMS EFFECTIVENESS**.

YOU'RE **NOT** ACTUALLY GOING TO WALK AROUND AND ASK ANYONE ANYTHING, ARE YOU?

WHY **BOTHER**? YOU JUST ANSWERED THE QUESTION, AND I'M GONNA BE IN THE **BATHROOM** FOR 40 MINUTES WHEN WE GET BACK.

AS I SETTLE IN
HERE, WE MAY AS
WELL KEEP
AUDITING.

UMM, ... OKAY.



CLAUSE 7.4 IS ABOUT
COMMUNICATION.

IT'S ALSO
ONE OF THOSE
CLAUSES THAT **DOESN'T**
ACTUALLY HAVE ANY
REQUIREMENTS IN IT.



THE STANDARD
LITERALLY SAYS, "THE
ORGANIZATION WILL
DETERMINE **WHAT** IT
WILL COMMUNICATE."

SO IF YOU TELL ME
YOU COMMUNICATE
"NOTHING," WE CAN
ALL MOVE ON A
LOT **FASTER.**

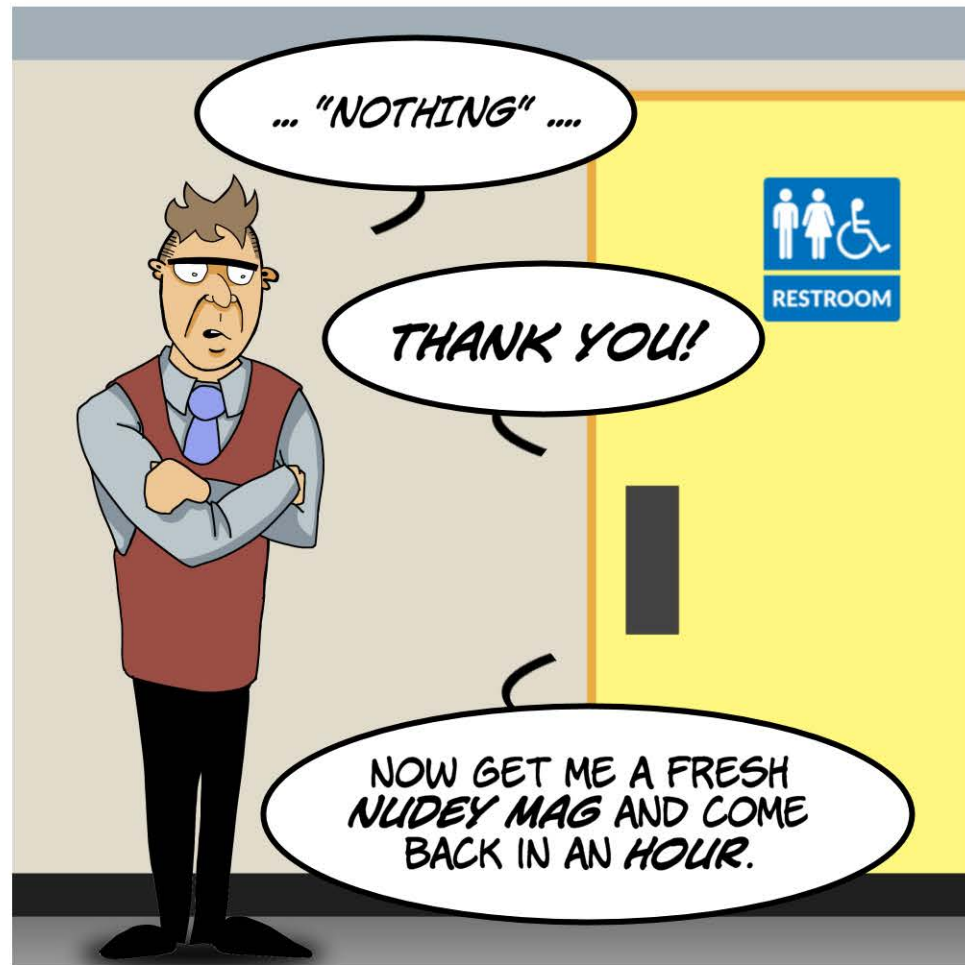


WELL,
WE COMMUNICATE
A LOT OF THINGS,
ACTUALLY. FOR
EXAMPLE

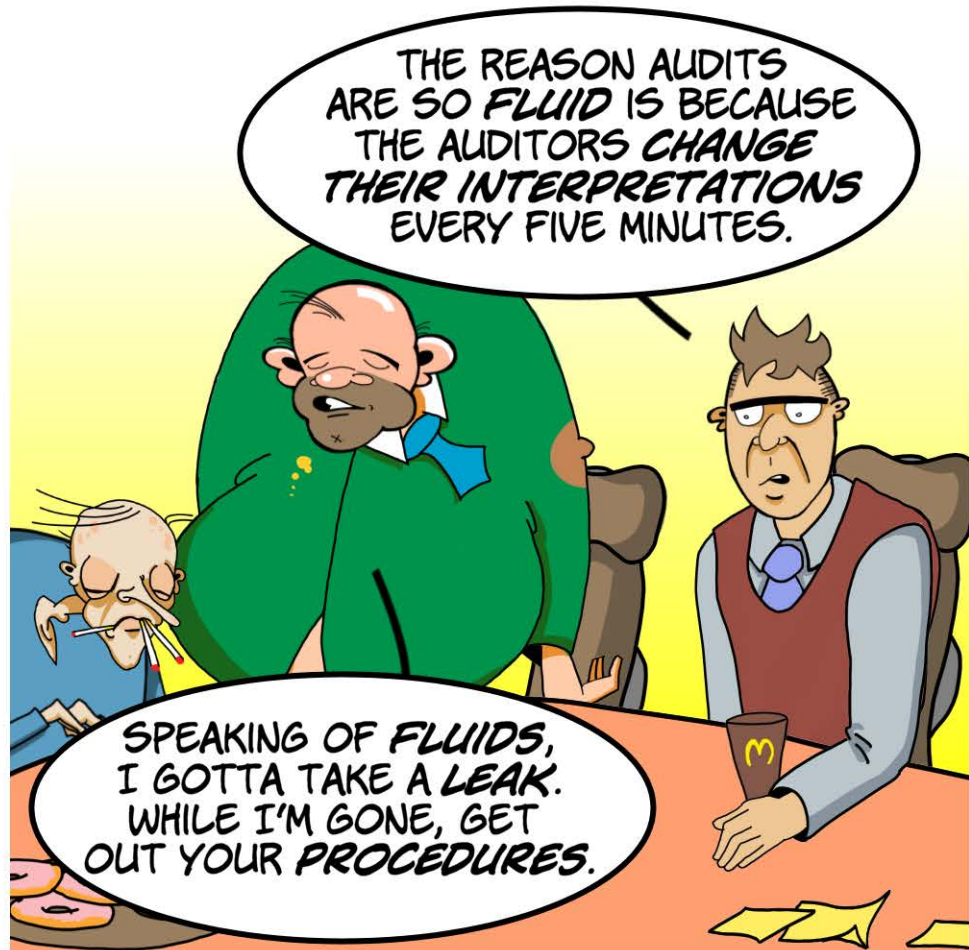
GODDAMMIT!!

LEARN TO TAKE **HINT,**
SON! I WAS LOOKING FORWARD
TO A RELAXING HOUR ON THE
CAN, THAT WAS YOUR **CUE**
TO **SHUT UP** ALREADY!









AHHH...
DOCUMENTATION. THE LOOK
OF IT. THE SMELL OF IT.
IT STIRS ONE'S LOINS.

MMM... THE FEELING OF INK ON
PAPER, THE HEADY SCENT OF POWER
AND COMPLETE AUTHORITY!

IT IS THROUGH THE WRITTEN WORD
THAT THE INTELLECTUALLY STARVED
MAY TOUCH THE HAND OF GOD
THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF
UNCHALLENGED DIKTAT.

FOR ONLY THROUGH THE
PUBLICATION OF "PROCEDURES"
MAY THE FALLEN RECLAIM
GODLINESS.

ONCE A THING IS WRITTEN,
SO MUST IT BE OBEYED. THIS
KNEW RAMESES, AND UR-NAMMU
BEFORE HIM. WHERE WHIPS AND
YOKES FAIL, THE BUREAUCRAT
PREVAILS WITH PAPER.

YOU WANT US TO LEAVE,
SO YOU CAN BE ALONE
WITH THESE BINDERS
FOR A WHILE?

GOOD IDEA, BUT
LEAVE ME A BOX
OF KLEENEX.

THE **FIRST PART** OF THIS CLAUSE REQUIRES YOU TO DEVELOP THE **LEVEL OF DOCUMENTATION APPROPRIATE** TO YOUR COMPANY.

I REALLY FEEL LIKE YOU DON'T HAVE **ENOUGH** DOCUMENTS.

BUT YOU JUST SAID IT'S UP TO THE **ORGANIZATION** TO DECIDE THAT.

NOW HOLD ON, HEAR ME OUT. IT'S **ULTIMATELY** UP TO YOU, YES, BUT I'M JUST SAYING I THINK YOU'VE GOT **TOO MUCH** DOCUMENTATION.

OKAY, SO LET'S SPLIT THE **DIFFERENCE**, AND SAY YOU HAVE **JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT** OF DOCUMENTATION.

WAITAMINNIT. YOU JUST SAID YOU THOUGHT WE DIDN'T HAVE **ENOUGH** DOCUMENTATION!

I'M STARTING TO THINK YOU HAVE JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF **BRAIN ANEURYSM**.

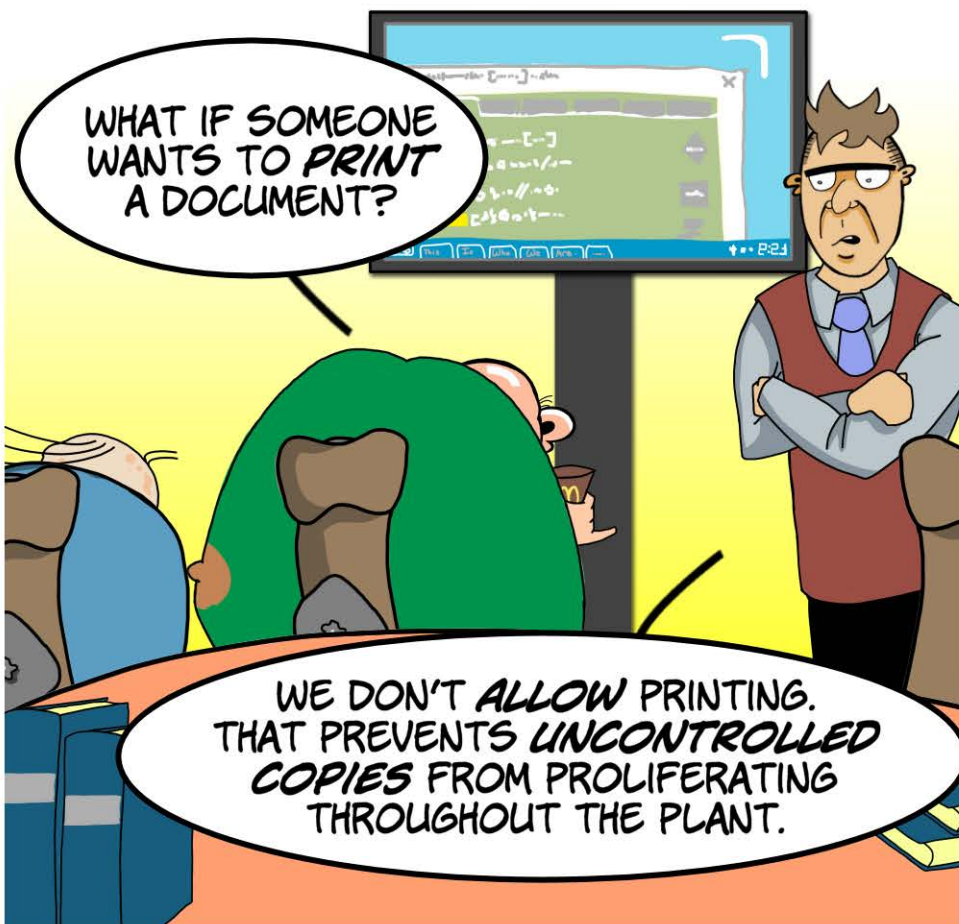
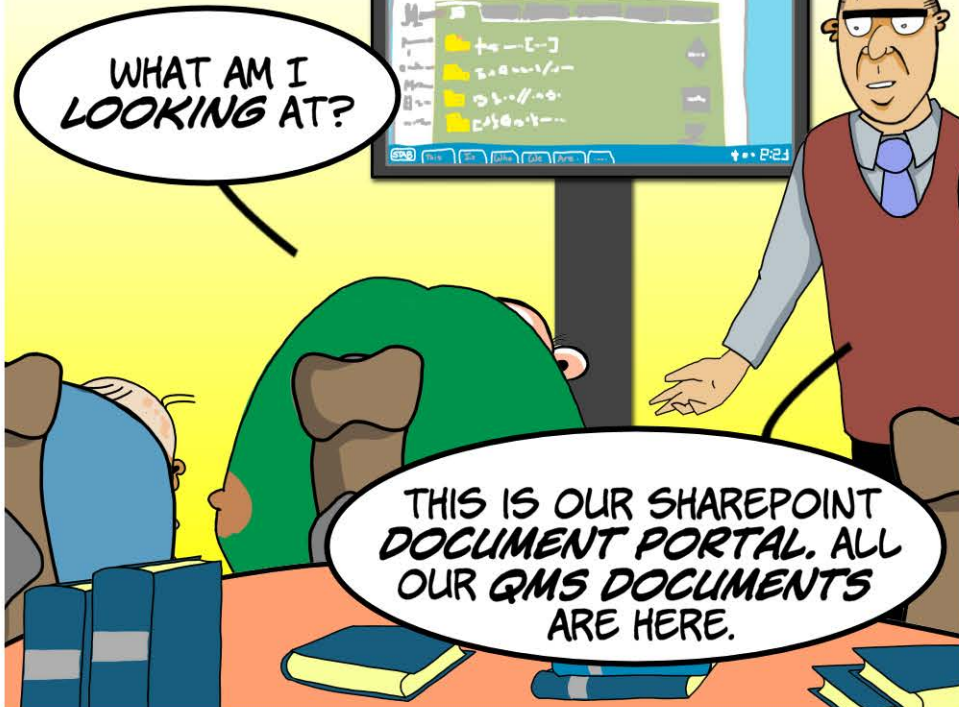
SO, TELL ME:
HOW ARE QUALITY SYSTEM
DOCUMENTS CREATED?

SO WHEN A POLICY AND
A PROCEDURE LOVE EACH
OTHER VERY MUCH, SOMETIMES
THEY LIE CLOSE TOGETHER
AND TRY TO MAKE A
DOCUMENT.

YOU SHOULD PROBABLY
ANSWER THE QUESTION
PROPERLY. RAY HAS NO IDEA
YOU'RE MAKING A JOKE
ABOUT HOW BABIES
ARE MADE.

WAIT, ... WHAT?
I THOUGHT BABIES CAME
FROM SANTA CLAUS AND
HIS STORK FACTORY
IN PRAGUE.

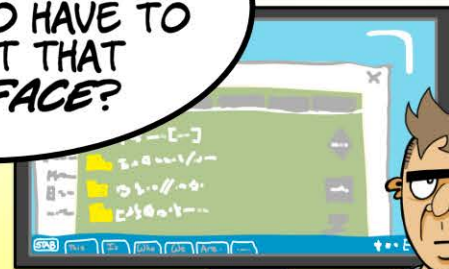
RAY THINKS PORNO MOVIES
ARE ACTUALLY AMATEUR
WRESTLING DOCUMENTARIES.





WITH **SHAREPOINT**,
WE CONTROL THE
VERSIONS OF
DOCUMENTS
THAT PEOPLE CAN
ACCESS.

HOW DO YOU CONTROL
THE **VOMITING** OF
PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO
LOOK AT THAT
INTERFACE?



ANYWAY, HOW ARE
THE DOCUMENTS
APPROVED BEFORE
RELEASE?

WE USE THE BUILT-IN
DOCUMENT APPROVAL
WORKFLOW, SO A
PROCEDURE ISN'T
RELEASED UNTIL
IT'S **APPROVED**.



SO IF THE APPROVER
SIGNS THE DOCUMENT
WHILE IT'S ON THE
COMPUTER...

HOW DO YOU **CLEAN**
HIS MONITOR AFTERWARD,
TO REMOVE ALL
THE **INK?**



I GOTTA ADMIT, THIS SHAREPOINT THING SCARES THE STOOLS OUTTA ME.

UHM... OKAY.

IN MY DAY, WE HAD QMS PROCEDURES PRINTED ON GOAT SKIN, WITH GOAT SEMEN INK AND THEN READ TO US BY LOCAL GOATHERDERS.

LOTTA GOATS IN THIS STORY.

WHEN SOMEONE ASKED US TO USE A COMPUTER, WE GOT OUT SOME STICKS AND GOAT TESTICLES, AND STARTED COUNTING.

IT'S VERY GOAT-CENTRIC.

I'M WRITING A NONCONFORMITY BECAUSE I FEEL OLD AND OUT-OF-TOUCH, AND THE ONLY WAY TO RESTORE MY SENSE OF SELF-WORTH IS TO DIMINISH YOURS.

YIGHK

NOTE TO SELF: NEXT TIME BRING GOAT TESTICLES.

I HEAR YOU CAN ACCESS YOUR QMS PROCEDURES FROM THAT SCREEN ON THE WALL.

THE ONE WITH THE INTERFACE THAT LOOKS LIKE MONKEY-POO.

WELL, YES. THIS IS A TOUCHSCREEN, SO I JUST TAP A DOCUMENT AND IT OPENS.

IT ONLY LINKS TO THE LATEST DOCUMENTS, SO WE CAN'T GET OBSOLETE ONES.

SO WHAT IF YOU TOUCH THE **WRONG THING**. CAN YOU TOUCH WITHOUT **PERMISSION**?

IF I DON'T HAVE **PERMISSION**, I JUST TOUCH SOMETHING ELSE.... OH... WAIT...

I'M WRITING A NONCONFORMITY FOR **INAPPROPRIATE TOUCHING**.

AND THEN I'M GONNA CALL THE **COPS** SINCE YOU **ADMITTED** YOU DID IT WITHOUT **PERMISSION**.

WITH THE 2015 VERSION, ISO 9001 INTRODUCED THE CONCEPT OF "DOCUMENTED INFORMATION."

INSTEAD OF CLEARLY REQUIRING A "PROCEDURE" OR A "RECORD", ISO 9001 REQUIRES "DOCUMENTED INFORMATION" AND YOU GET TO DECIDE WHAT IT MEANS.

THAT SOUNDS MORE CONFUSING, NOT LESS.

DON'T QUESTION THE **JUDGMENT** OF ISO'S QUALITY MANAGEMENT **EXPERTS**. THEY'VE BEEN AT THIS A **LONG TIME**, AND KNOW **WAY MORE** THAN YOU DO.

HEY, CHARLES, HAND ME THAT **HAMMER**.

YOU MEAN THE **PEANUT BUTTER**?

I DON'T KNOW. THE THING YOU USE TO **TOAST BREAD**. I HAVE TO CHANGE THE **TIRES** ON MY **KIDNEY** LATER AND WILL NEED EXTRA **VASELINE** FOR THE **WATERMELONS**.

THE CONCEPT OF
"DOCUMENTED
INFORMATION" REPRESENTS
A QUANTUM LEAP IN
STANDARDS
DEVELOPMENT.

WHY'S THAT?

I MEAN
LITERALLY.

"DOCUMENTED INFORMATION"
FOLLOWS THE PRINCIPLE OF
QUANTUM SUPERPOSITION.

INFORMATION CAN EXIST
AS A DOCUMENTED PROCEDURE,
OR AS A RECORD.

SOMETIMES IT CAN EXIST
AS BOTH SIMULTANEOUSLY,
WHILE OTHER TIMES IT CAN
EXIST AS NEITHER.

SO, BASICALLY
SCHRODINGER'S CAT
FOR MORONS.

CRACK WISE ALL YOU
WANT, BUT THE GUYS WHO
DREAMT UP THIS GARBAGE
ARE MAKING MORE MONEY
THAN STEPHEN HAWKING
EVER DID.

I'M LOOKING AT THESE TWO **PROCEDURES** HERE. ONE SAYS IT IS **REVISION A**, THE OTHER SAYS IT IS **REVISION B**.

IN **SITUATIONS** LIKE THESE, THE **AUDITING RULES** REQUIRE ME TO CALL IN A **TECHNICAL EXPERT**.

ISN'T THAT **RIGHT**, DALE?

YES, **ISO 17021-1** ALLOWS FOR THE USE OF **TECHNICAL EXPERTS** WHEN THE AUDITOR'S **SKILL** IS **EXCEEDED**.

THIS IS MY **TECHNICAL EXPERT**, **BILLY CHIMKINS**.

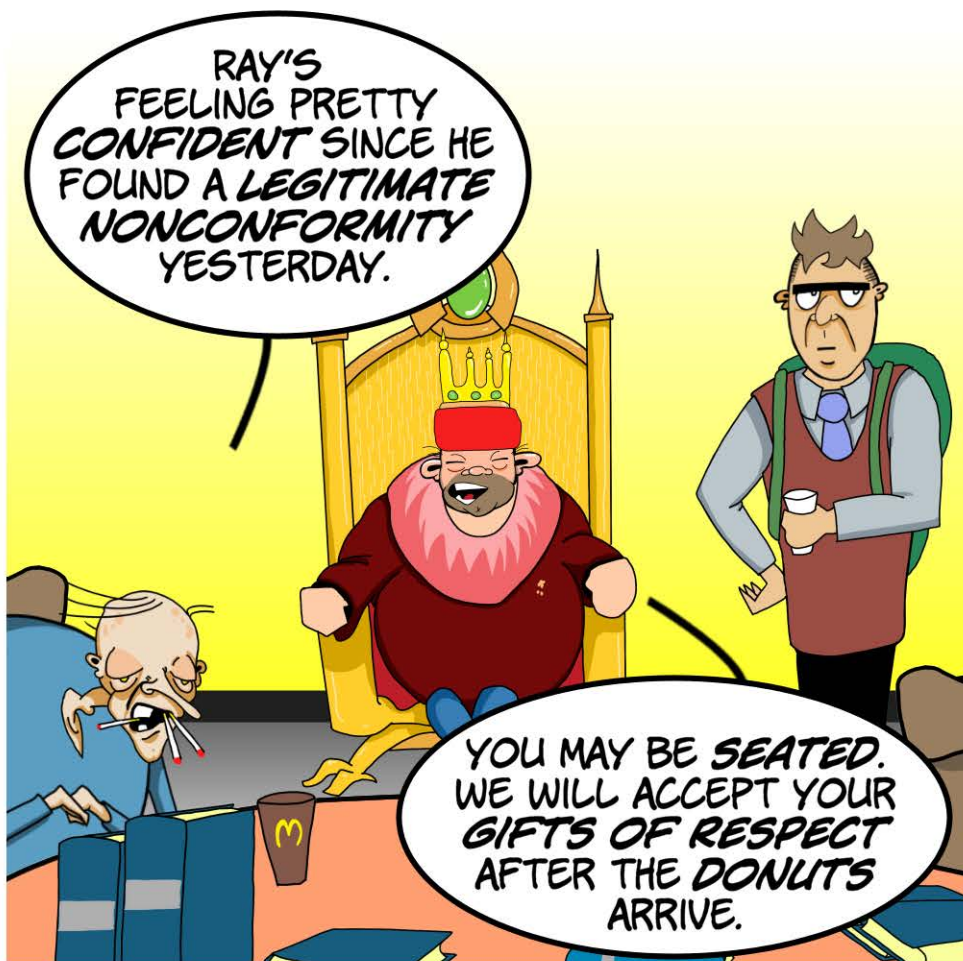
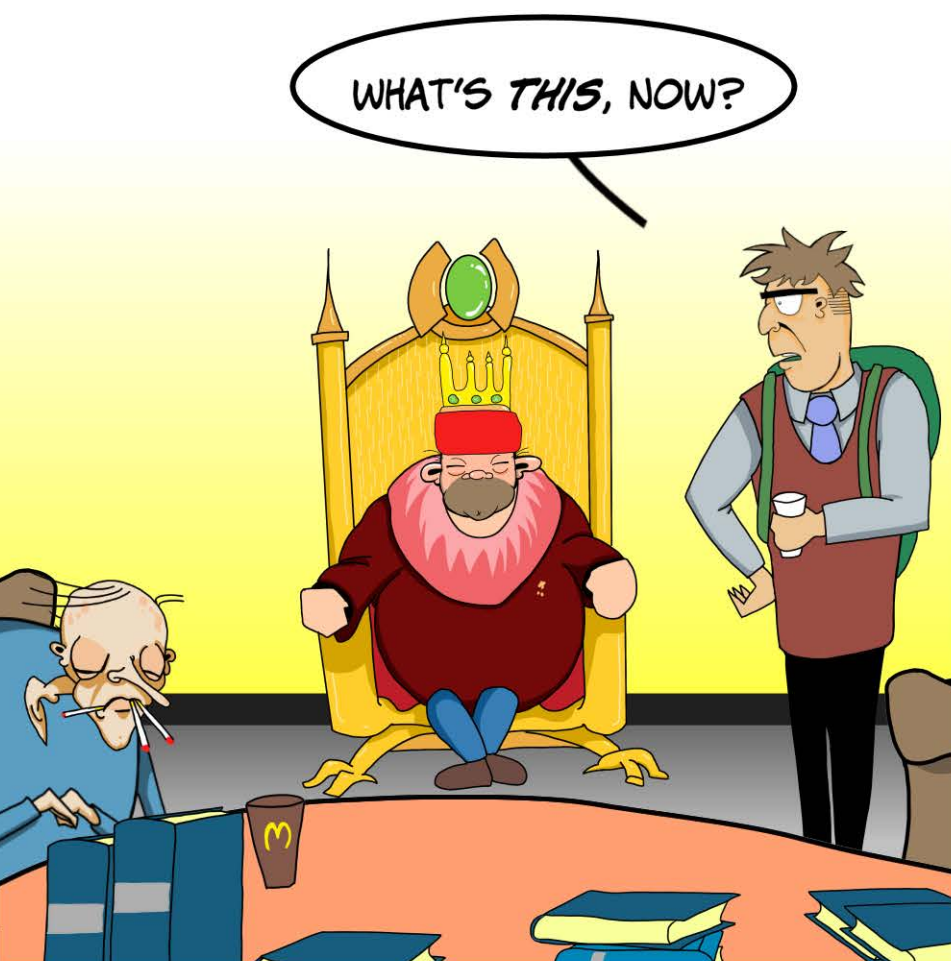
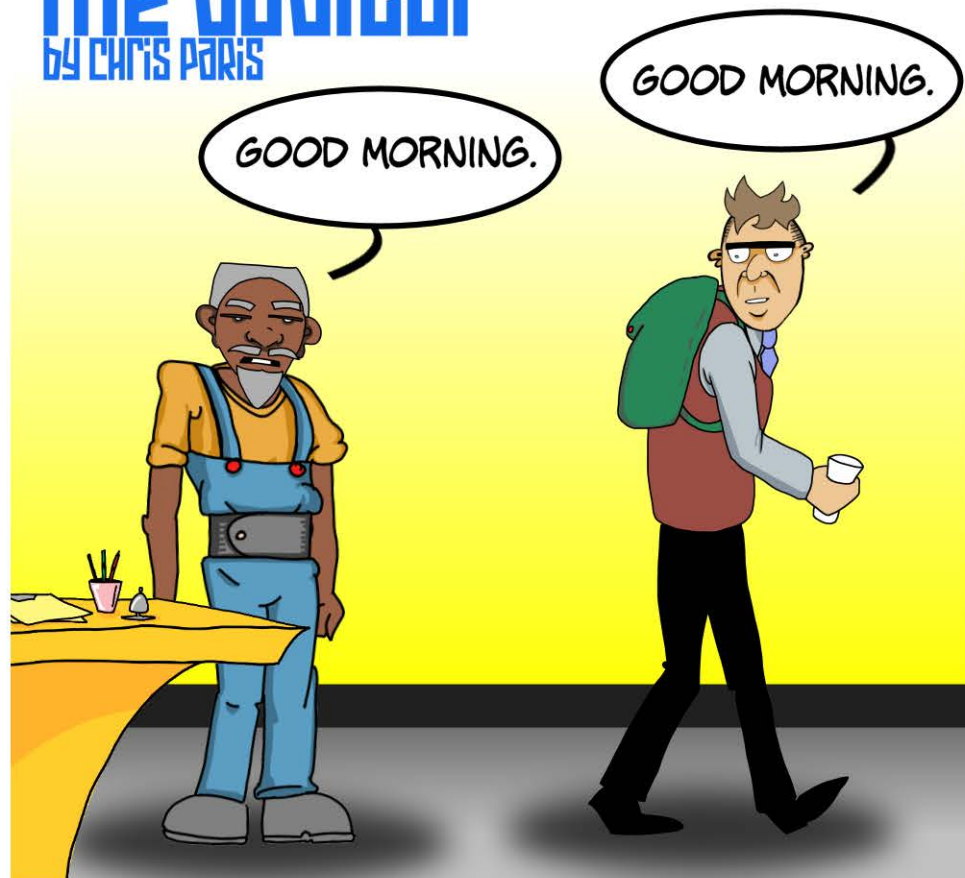
HE SAID BECAUSE I'M **TEN YEARS OLD**, MY **EXPERIENCE** WITH THE **ALPHABET** IS MORE **RECENT** THAN HIS.

I'M SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU THAT "**A**" AND "**B**" ARE **DIFFERENT LETTERS**.

AH-HAH!!

I FINALLY GOT YOU, YOU **SMUG BASTARD!!** A **REAL, GENUINE NONCONFORMITY!**

HE SAID YOU'D GIVE ME A **DOLLAR** FOR **BUS FARE** HOME.



The Auditor

In eons past, in
ages dark with
plague and famine,
arose a great
leader.

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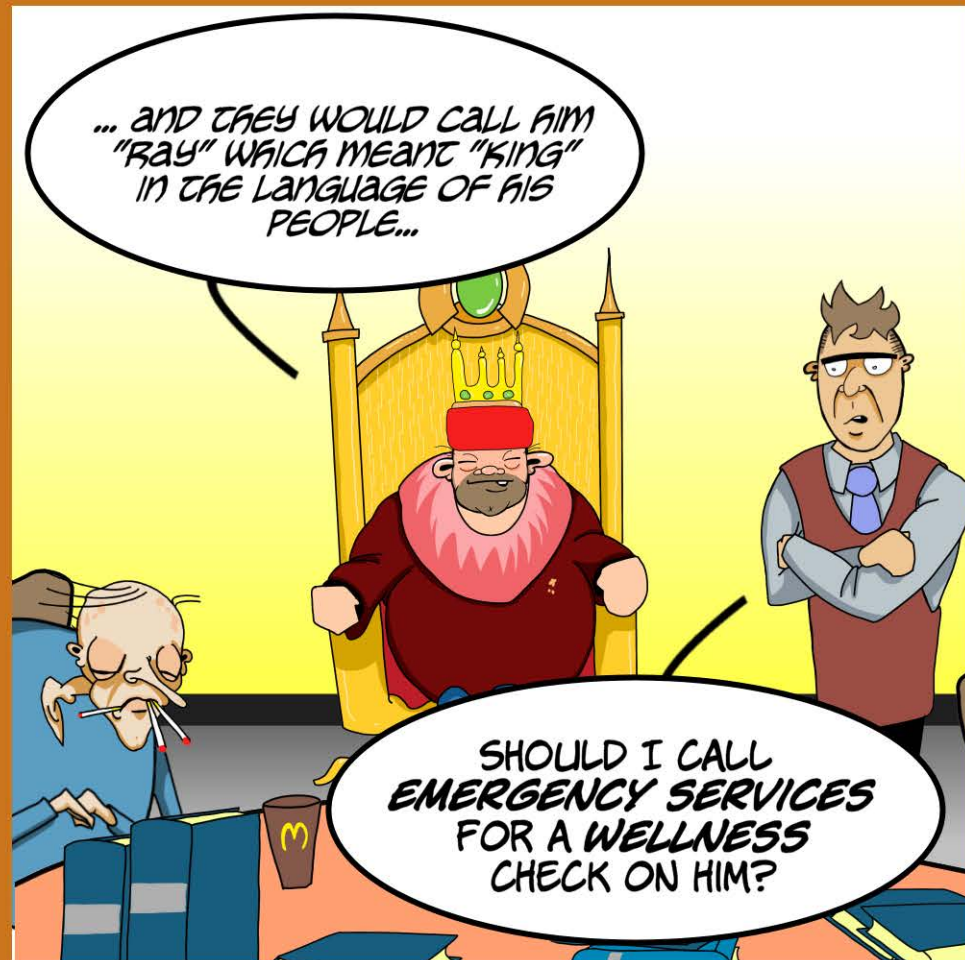
This leader was so
wise that he was able
to ascertain a person's
troubles with utter
clarity in scant
minutes.

Soon, his abilities
grew in power, and he
gained the skills to
assess the difficulties
facing entire villages.

The leader's advice
was treated as
sacred, and his great
wisdom was
recognized
throughout the land.

As people took on
his advice, they
prospered greatly,
and the entire world
flourished.

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SO, I GOTTA **ADMIT**, I'M
FEELING PRETTY **GOOD**.

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THAT
I FIND A **LEGIT**
NONCONFORMITY.

BUT ISN'T IT **LITERALLY**
EVERY DAY THAT YOU WRITE UP
NONCONFORMITIES?

I MEAN, THAT'S LIKE
PART OF YOUR **JOB**.

SURE, I WRITE NONCONFORMITIES
ALL DAY LONG. BUT THOSE ARE USUALLY
BULLSHIT TO **JUSTIFY MY EMPLOYMENT**
BACK AT THE NQF HEADQUARTERS.

TO FIND A **REAL** ONE, THOUGH...
THAT'S EVERY AUDITOR'S
DREAM.

YOU REALIZE
THE NONCONFORMITY YOU
FOUND WAS AGAINST **DOCUMENT CONTROL**,
THE **LAMEST** AND **WORST** POSSIBLE
FINDING AN AUDITOR CAN **EVER**
WRITE UP?

WHATEVER, CHELSEA.
YOU'RE NOT GONNA **RUIN** MY
MOOD. I'M ON **TOP** OF THE
WORLD AND **PISSING** ON
SKYSCRAPERS.

HOLD ON, I GOTTA MAKE
A FEW **AMAZON**
PURCHASES.

WHY ARE YOU DOING
THAT **NOW**?

HEH, THAT **NONCONFORMITY**
I JUST WROTE UP **EARNED**
ME A FEW EXTRA **BUCKS**, AND
THEY'RE BURNING A **HOLE**
IN MY **CORDUROY**S.

WAIT A MINUTE!!
YOU GET **PAID EXTRA**
FOR **NONCONFORMITIES**?
THAT'S **TOTALLY**
UNETHICAL!

HEY AT LEAST MY COMPANY
DOESN'T MEASURE ITS **PROCESS**
PERFORMANCE ON HOW **MANY**
NONCONFORMITIES IT **ISSUES**,
LIKE **BSI** DOES.*

WAIT, **WHAT??**
DALE, YOU'RE WITH **ANAB**,
ISN'T THAT AGAINST THE
CONCEPTS OF **OBJECTIVITY**
AND **IMPARTIALITY**?

I **STOPPED CARING** ABOUT
ANYTHING ABOUT **FOUR**
LUNG TRANSPLANTS AGO.

OH, **LOOK!** 15% OFF ON
THIS **MOUSEPAD** THAT
LOOKS LIKE **ANIME**
BOOBIES!

* **REALLY HAPPENED**

HEY, DARWIMPLE, IT'S **RAY BATTLESBEE**. YOU'RE NOT GONNA **BELIEVE** THIS, BUT I FOUND A **REAL NONCONFORMITY!**

YEAH, TYPICAL **DOC CONTROL** SCREWUP. THEY HAD **TWO VERSIONS** OF THE SAME DOCUMENT AVAILABLE FOR USE. A **TIMELESS CLASSIC!**

HOW DO I **FEEL?** OH, MAN, IT'S **EUPHORIA!** YOU MUST **REMEMBER** THE SENSATION, RIGHT? YOU HAD THAT **CALIBRATION LABEL NONCONFORMITY** BACK IN '06!

HEY, REMEMBER THAT TIME WE AUDITED THE **TAKATA AIRBAG FACTORY** AND FOUND THAT WORK INSTRUCTION THAT SPELLED "**THE**" AS "**TEH**"?

I MEAN, THIS IS WHY WE **DO** THIS JOB, RIGHT? TO **HELP COMPANIES IMPROVE!**

IT'S ALL ABOUT MAKING THE WORLD A **BETTER PLACE**, AND **SERVING THE CUSTOMER** THE BEST WAY WE KNOW HOW, **RIGHT?**

ANYWAY, I GOTTA **GO**. THIS **SHITHEAD CLIENT** IS GIVING ME THE **HAIRY EYEBALL**, SO I'D BETTER GIVE THE **LITTLE PRINCESS** SOME **ATTENTION**.

SO, IN RESPONSE TO THIS **NONCONFORMITY**, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO PROVIDE A THOROUGH **ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS**.

UHM... OKAY.

ANAB REQUIRES YOU TO CONDUCT A FULL **THREE-LEGGED FIVE-WHY ANALYSIS** SUPPORTED BY A **FISHBONE DIAGRAM** AND A **PEARL NECKLACE CONCLUSION**.

YEAH, I'M **NOT** GONNA DO THAT.

ANY ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS EFFORT IS SUPPOSED TO BE **PROPORTIONAL** TO THE **SEVERITY** OF THE PROBLEM.

SO LONG AS YOU UNDERSTAND THAT "**PROPORTIONAL**" MEANS IT HAS TO BE **OVERLY COMPLICATED, EXPENSIVE** AND **DETAILED** BEYOND ALL REASON.

THAT ENSURES THAT ANY EVENTUAL **LEGAL LIABILITY** FALLS SQUARELY IN **YOUR LAP**, AND CAN NEVER BE USED IN **COURT** AS EVIDENCE OF ANAB'S **INCOMPETENCE**.

HE'S **RIGHT**. AT MY AGE, **DEPOSITIONS** ARE BAD FOR MY **DIABETES**.

The Auditor

by CHRIS PARIS

HI, I'M ALEX MENDES.

AND I'M RAY BATTLESBEE, THE AUDITOR.

A LOT OF PEOPLE READING THIS COMIC STRIP PROBABLY *WONDER* WHY WE'RE SO *MEAN* TO ISO AUDITORS, STANDARDS DEVELOPERS AND BODIES LIKE ANAB OR UKAS.

I'M A *BASTARD*, SO I DON'T REALLY CARE, BUT ALEX HERE WANTED TO *CLEAR THE AIR*.

THAT'S RIGHT. YOU SEE, GETTING ISO 9001 RIGHT *MATTERS*. WE THINK THAT IF WE POINT OUT THE *PROBLEMS*, MAYBE WE CAN FINALLY *BREAK THROUGH* TO SOME PEOPLE AND *AFFECT CHANGE*.

ISO 9001 CAN *EASE TRADE*, *DRIVE IMPROVEMENT* AND EVEN *CREATE JOBS*. BUT ONLY IF WE FIX THE *CORRUPTION* THAT *PLAGUES* THE CERTIFICATION SCHEME TODAY.

SO, HOPEFULLY SOME OF YOU *READING THIS* WILL TAKE OUR MESSAGE TO *HEART*, AND STEP UP TO *CHANGE COURSE*, BECAUSE WHAT IS GOING ON NOW *ISN'T WORKING*.

IF YOU *SEE YOURSELF* IN THIS STRIP, THAT PROBABLY MEANS YOU.

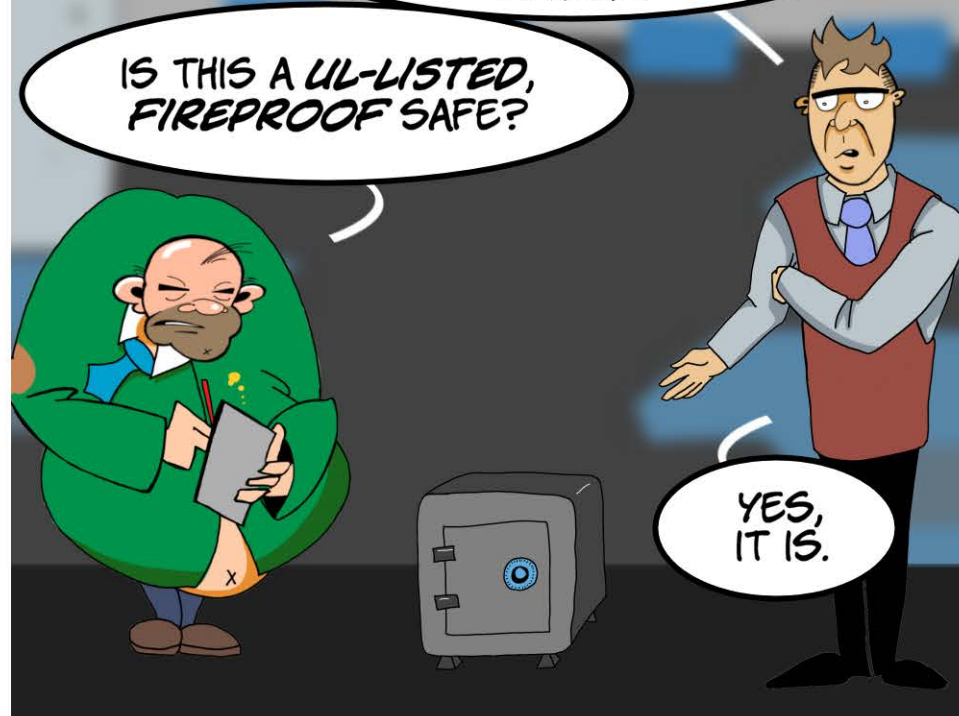
AND *HURRY UP*, BECAUSE I REALLY NEED TO *QUIT* THIS GIG AND GET A *REAL JOB*.

I NEED TO SEE WHERE YOU STORE THE **TAPE BACKUPS** FOR YOUR SERVER.



WELL, WE BACKUP MOST EVERYTHING TO A **REMOTE SERVER** IN CANADA, BUT WE HAVE A FEW **USB DRIVES** IN HERE.

IS THIS A **UL-LISTED, FIREPROOF** SAFE?



YES, IT IS.

HERE, TAKE THIS **NONCONFORMITY**. I HAVE A **STACK** OF THESE IN THE CAR, ALREADY WRITTEN UP, SINCE I GET **EVERYONE** ON THIS ONE.

WAIT... WHY?



IMPROPER PROTECTION OF QUALITY RECORDS.

UL-LISTED SAFES ARE ONLY ENSURED TO WITHSTAND A **HALF-HOUR FIRE**, AND MOST FIRES LAST **OVER 4 HOURS**.



THIS RECORD HERE HAS A **CORRECTION MADE BY HAND.**

SO?

THE CORRECTION WAS DONE **IMPROPERLY**. IT HAS TO BE **CROSSED-OUT WITH ONE LINE**, AND THEN **DATED AND INITIALED**.

WHERE DOES IT SAY THAT IN THE **ISO 9001** STANDARD?

SAYS SO RIGHT HERE. HERE'S MY COPY OF **ISO 9001**.

WAIT A MINUTE!

YOU MADE THAT CHANGE **YOURSELF**, BY WRITING IN THE **MARGINS** OF THE STANDARD!

YEAH, BUT I **CROSSED-OUT** THE ORIGINAL PARAGRAPH WITH A **DOUBLE LINE**, AND THEN **DATED AND INITIALED** IT.

DON'T WORRY, I DO THIS **ALL THE TIME** ON MY **EXPENSE REPORTS, TAX FILINGS AND NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS**.

MEANWHILE, AT TC 176 HQ...



OK, I'VE CALLED
YOU ALL HERE BECAUSE
TODAY IS A **VERY
SPECIAL DAY** IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE
**NEXT VERSION OF
ISO 9001.**

WOW! WHAT
IS IT?



AS YOU ALL KNOW, ISO LIKES TO
TELL PEOPLE THAT OUR COMMITTEE
WRITES ISO 9001, BUT IN **REALITY**
IT'S DONE BY THE ISO
**TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT
BOARD.**

YEAH, **DICK HORTENSILUS**
PRETTY MUCH DOES ALL
THE **WORK** NOW, BUT AT
LEAST WE STILL GET TO
TAKE CREDIT!



THAT'S **RIGHT**, BUT
"TAKING CREDIT" IS HOW WE
CONVERT ALL THIS **BULLSHIT**
VOLUNTEERING INTO **LUCRATIVE**
CONSULTING CONTRACTS!

BUT TODAY THE TEXT
OF "**ANNEX SL**" ARRIVES.
WE WILL FINALLY GET TO
SEE THE DOCUMENT THAT
WE WILL LATER TELL
PEOPLE **WE WROTE!**



WOW! THIS IS **EXCITING!**
I FEEL LIKE A KID AT
CHRISTMAS!

ME, TOO!
I'M SHAKING LIKE A **VIRGIN**
NEAR A **VOLCANO!** I CAN'T
WAIT TO SEE IT!

LOWER THE **MOAT BRIDGE** AND
TELL THE ARCHERS TO **STAND
DOWN**, WE DON'T WANT TO
ACCIDENTALLY **KILL** THE
COURIER!

MEANWHILE, AT TC 176 HQ...

THE **SWISS ROYAL GUARDS** ARE HERE WITH THE **DRAFT TEXT** OF THE REVISED **ANNEX SL** DOCUMENT.

HAVE THEM PUT IT IN THE **MAIN HALL**. AND TELL THEM TO WIPE THEIR **BOOTS**, WE JUST RESURFACED THE **MARBLE**.

MY GOD, LOOK AT THAT **ORNATE CRATE!** IT MUST BE **SOLID GOLD**, AND ENCRUSTED WITH **GEMS!** AND THOSE TWO **WINGED FIGURES** ARE GORGEOUS!

ANNEX SL IS **HOLY SCRIPTURE** FOR US AT TC 176, FELLAS. REMEMBER, WE ARE UNDER **MANDATE** TO INCORPORATE THIS INTO THE **NEXT VERSION** OF **ISO 9001!**

I'M GONNA **OPEN IT!**

NO, PAUL, DON'T!

OUR **MORTAL EYES** WERE NOT MEANT TO **LOOK AT IT!** NO ONE KNOWS WHAT MIGHT **HAPPEN** IF YOU GAZE AT A **DRAFT OF ANNEX SL!**

TOO LATE, IT'S OPEN!

AAAAHHH!!! MY EYES!!! THAT LIGHT!!!

AAAAHHGGGGHHHH!!!

OH DEAR GOD! HIS FACE IS MELTING!

DON'T LOOK, MARION! KEEP YOUR EYES SHUT!!



PAUL, YOU FOOL!
YOU DARED TO LOOK AT
THE DRAFT OF ANNEX SL,
ANGERING GOD HIMSELF!

ONLY THE DUTCH CAN
VIEW SUCH HOLY
WRITINGS, AND EVEN
THEY BECOME HIDEOUSLY
DEFORMED IN THE
PROCESS!



WHAT HAPPENS NOW?
FOR CERTAIN, GENEVA
WILL FIND OUT
ABOUT THIS
DISASTER!

MAYBE IT WON'T
MATTER! I MEAN, ISO
KNOWS WE'D NEVER DO
ANYTHING TO STOP ANNEX SL
FROM GETTING SHOVED
INTO ISO 9001!

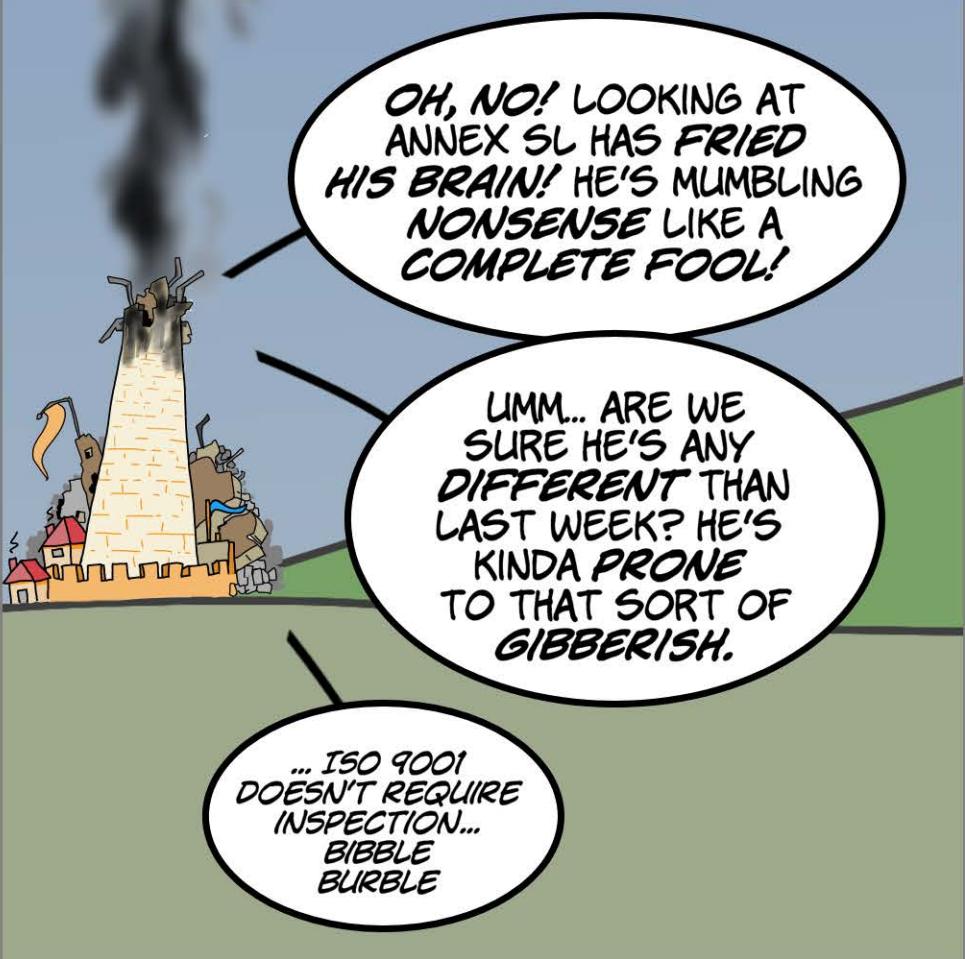
THEY KNOW WE'RE
LOYAL! REMEMBER
THAT TIME WE RENTED
NIGEL CROFT TO THOSE
PIRATE SLAVERS FROM
CAMBODIA?



WE CAN FIX THIS!
WE CAN REBUILD THE
TOWER AND THEY'LL
NEVER KNOW!

AND PAUL, JUST
FORGET EVERYTHING
YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN
IN THE ANNEX SL
TEXT! WIPE IT FROM
YOUR MEMORY!

...MIMBLE
MUMBLE
GRIBBLE
BIBBLE...



OH, NO! LOOKING AT
ANNEX SL HAS FRIED
HIS BRAIN! HE'S MUMBLING
NONSENSE LIKE A
COMPLETE FOOL!

UMM... ARE WE
SURE HE'S ANY
DIFFERENT THAN
LAST WEEK? HE'S
KINDA PRONE
TO THAT SORT OF
GIBBERISH.

... ISO 9001
DOESN'T REQUIRE
INSPECTION...
BIBBLE
BURBLE

The Auditor

by Chris Paris

I GOT AN EMAIL LAST NIGHT THAT SAID NQF WANTS TO SEND AN AUDITOR TRAINEE TODAY.

UMM.... OKAY.

DON'T WORRY, TRAINEES ALWAYS WORK UNDER AN EXPERIENCED LEAD AUDITOR LIKE ME.

AND I'LL BE WITNESSING ON BEHALF OF ANAB, TO MAKE SURE THIS ALL GOES SMOOTHLY.


OH, HE'S PROBABLY IN THE LOBBY NOW, SO LET'S GO GET HIM.

AND SERIOUSLY, DON'T WORRY. I'LL KEEP HIM ON A TIGHT LEASH.

THIS IS DEREK TONGUE, OUR LATEST AUDITOR.


AND I MEANT I'D KEEP HIM ON A "TIGHT LEASH" LITERALLY. IT'S A COURT ORDER.

HELLO, SCRUMPTIOUS.



I HAVE TO ADMIT, RAY,
I'M A LITTLE **ANXIOUS**
TO HAVE **DEREK** ON
YOUR AUDIT TEAM.

WHY'S THAT?



WELL, **OBVIOUSLY** HE'S
BEEN IN SOME KIND OF
LEGAL TROUBLE. I MEAN,
IS HE A **RISK** TO
ANY OF US?

AHH, YOU'RE
OVERREACTING.



TELL ALEX WHAT
YOU WERE **IN FOR**.

WELL, I BELIEVE
THERE ARE **THREE** SUBJECTS
THAT SHOULD **NEVER** BE
DISCUSSED DURING AUDITS:
RELIGION, SEX AND
COMPETITIVE SPORTS.



AND **TRUST ME**,
WHAT I DID INVOLVED
ALL THREE.

YOU **SEE?**
HE'S A **CONSUMMATE**
PROFESSIONAL.

The Auditor

by CHRIS PARIS



HEY, DEREK MAY BE
TIED TO A *HAND TRUCK*
AND HAVE HIS LIMBS
RESTRAINED WITH
70 DIFFERENT
LOCKS...

BUT HE'S STILL A
GOOD AUDITOR, AND
A *REGULAR JOE*.



THAT'S *RIGHT*, GUYS.
I WAKE UP EVERY MORNING
JUST LIKE *EVERYONE ELSE*,
& GRAB MY *COFFEE* AND
READ THE *NEWSPAPER*.

YOU SEE?
NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT.



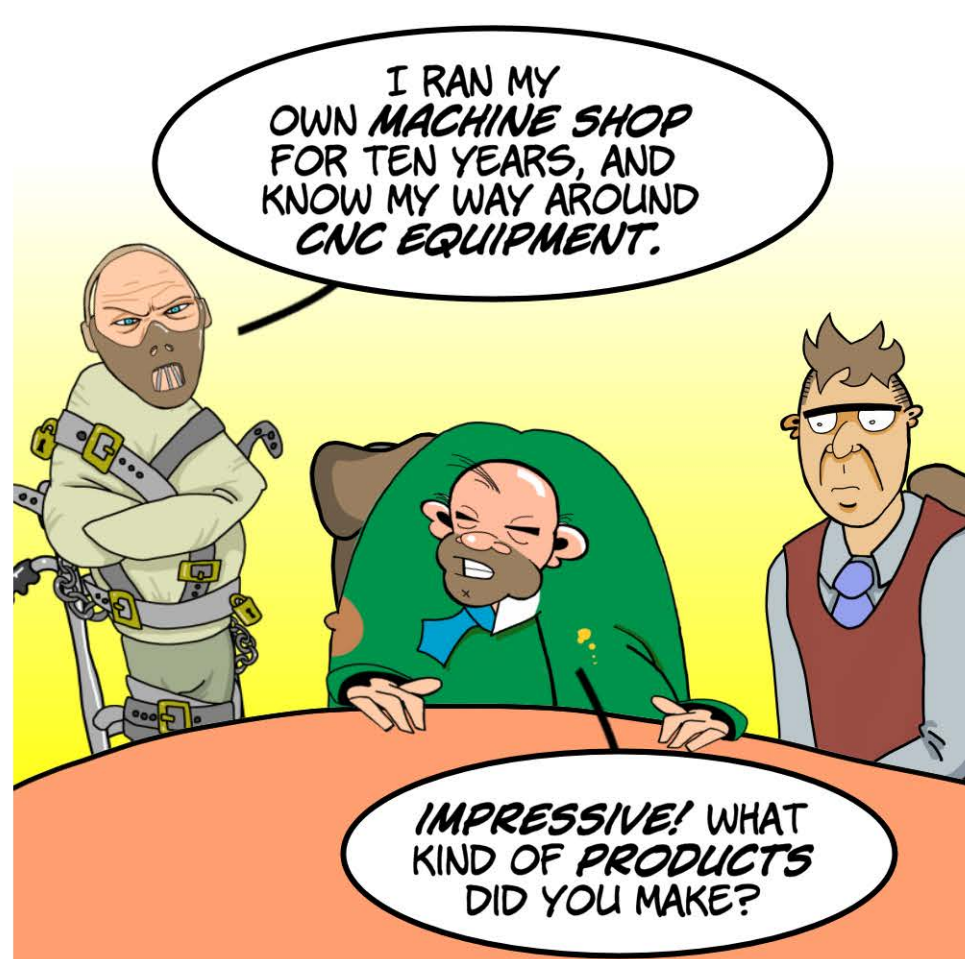
I *BURY SMALL KIDS* IN
MY YARD JUST LIKE YOU
PUT YOUR *PANTS ON...*

OH, NO....

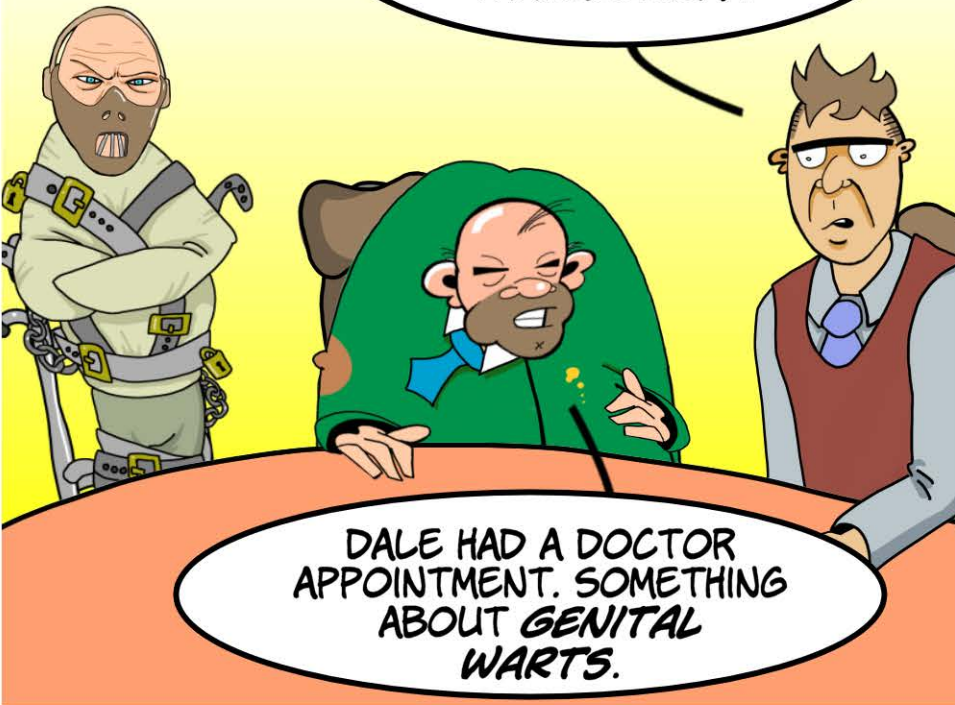


... ONE *LEG* AT A TIME...

HEY, IT WAS EITHER HIM
OR THE *RETIRED NUN*
WHO *STEALS FORKS*
FROM *DENNY'S!*

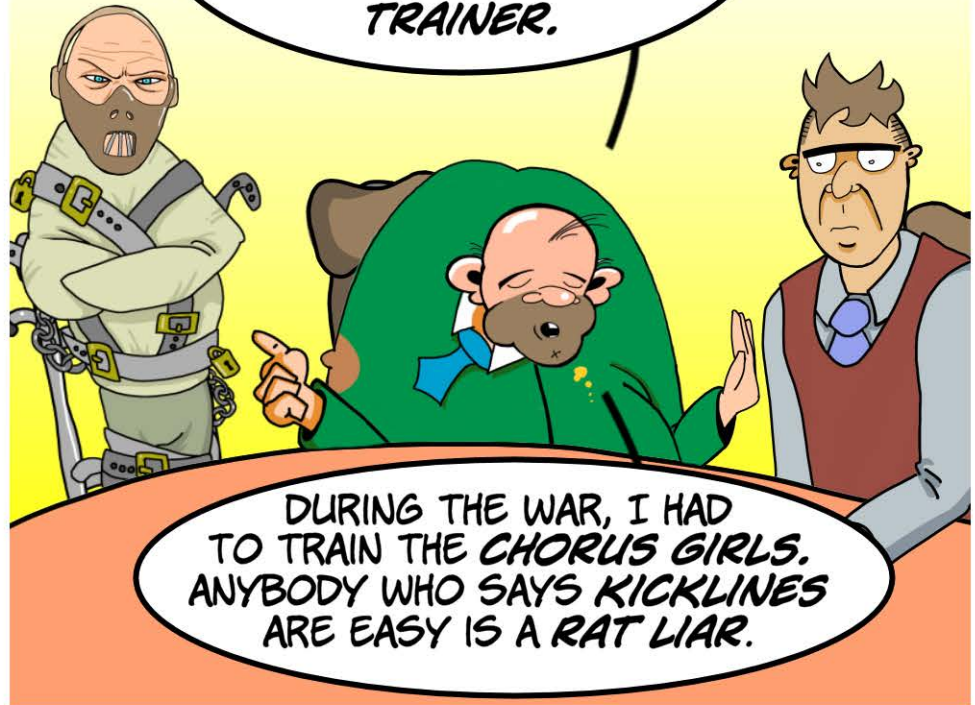


WHERE DID
DALE GO?
SHOULDN'T HE BE
OBSERVING HOW YOU
TRAIN **DEREK**?



DALE HAD A DOCTOR
APPOINTMENT. SOMETHING
ABOUT **GENITAL**
WARTS.

ANYWAY, I CAN
TRAIN **DEREK** HERE.
YOU FORGET THAT I HAVE
DECADES OF EXPERIENCE
AS A **PROFESSIONAL**
TRAINER.



DURING THE WAR, I HAD
TO TRAIN THE **CHORUS GIRLS**.
ANYBODY WHO SAYS **KICKLINES**
ARE EASY IS A **RAT LIAR**.

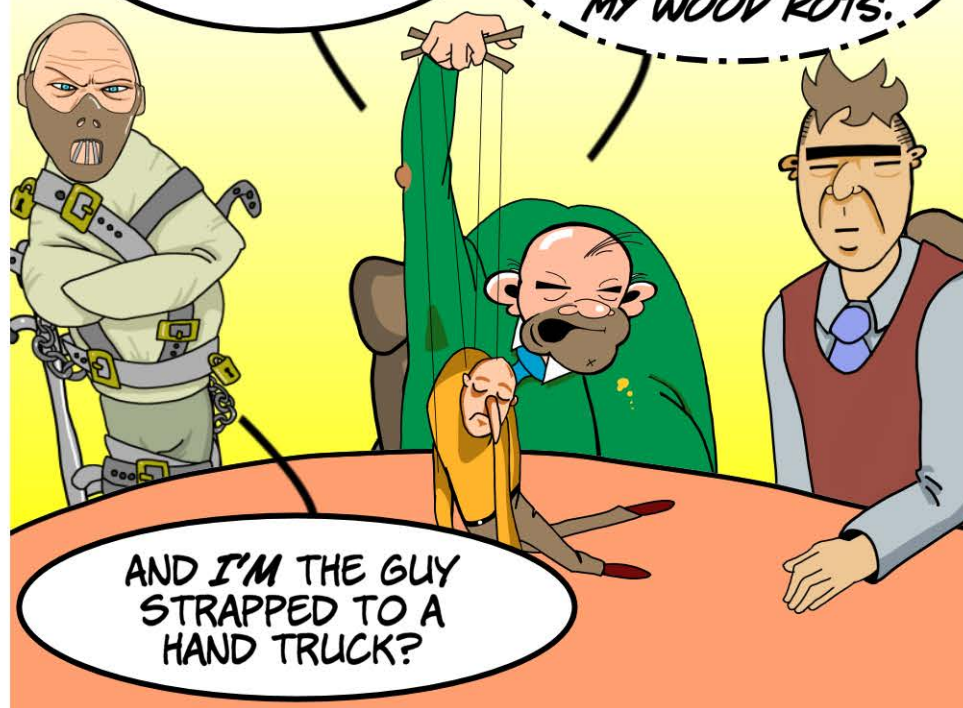
BESIDES, NQF HAS A
STRICT "**BUDDY SYSTEM**" POLICY.
WHenever WE TRAIN, WE HAVE
TO HAVE **TWO AUDITORS**
SUPERVISING THE
TRAINEE.



YEAH, BUT YOU SAID
DALE LEFT.

I GOT THAT
COVERED. YOU
REMEMBER **TIMMY**,
RIGHT?

HEY THERE,
DIMBULB, LETS GET
STARTED BEFORE
MY **WOOD ROTS**.



AND I'M THE GUY
STRAPPED TO A
HAND TRUCK?

ALRIGHT,
BUTTPLUG, I WANT
TO START AUDITING
CLAUSE 8. THIS IS
WHERE THINGS GET
SERIOUS.

THAT'S RIGHT,
LITTLE TIMMY.
CLAUSE 8 DEALS WITH
THE OPERATIONS OF
THE COMPANY.

OPERATIONS??
BUT OPERATIONS
SCARE ME, RAY!

THE LAST TIME WE HAD
AN OPERATION THE DOCTOR
HAD TO REMOVE YOUR
HAND FROM MY ASS.

I TOLD
YOU, I GOT
CONFUSED AND
THOUGHT YOU WERE
A VENTRILOQUIST'S
DUMMY!

ANYWAY, WHAT
ABOUT THAT TIME
YOU PUT METH IN
MY DONUTS?

I THOUGHT
IT WAS
POWDERED
SUGAR!

NOBODY
PUTS POWDERED
SUGAR ON
CRULLERS,
YOU SHIT!!!

IF YOU LINTIE ME AND GIVE ME THREE
PAPER CLIPS AND TEN MINUTES, I
CAN MAKE ALL THIS GO AWAY.

ISO 9001 CLAUSE 8
IS ALL ABOUT HOW
YOUR COMPANY
MAKES STUFF.

THAT'S RIGHT, LITTLE
TIMMY, AND 8.1 IS ABOUT
HOW YOU **PLANNED** YOUR
PROCESSES SO YOU
CAN MAKE STUFF.

SO, TELL US, MISTER
MENDES, HOW DO YOU PLAN
YOUR OPERATIONAL
PROCESSES?

WELL, WHEN WE FIRST
IMPLEMENTED ISO 9001 YEARS
AGO, WE MADE SURE ALL OUR
PROCESSES WERE **APPROPRIATE**
FOR THE TYPES OF **PRODUCTS**
WE MAKE AT **MUNDRUM**
MACHINING CORP.

WE ASSIGNED **OBJECTIVES**
SPECIFIC TO PRODUCTION
AND MANUFACTURING
TO ENSURE WE
MEASURE **RESULTS.**

AND THEN....
RAY, WHY IS THE
PUPPET **FLIPPING ME**
THE BIRD?


SORRY, I SUFFER
FROM **MARIONETTE TOURETTE'S**
SYNDROME, AND UNCONTROLLABLY
MAKE **PUPPET PROFANITY.**

IT'S A SERIOUS
CONDITION, AND IF YOU
TRY TO STOP ME, I'LL **SUE**
YOU UNDER THE **AMERICANS**
WITH DISABILITIES ACT.




I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT **CLAUSE 8.1** OF ISO 9001:2015.

WELL, I'M YOUR MAN. I'M PROBABLY THE MOST **WELL-VERSED EXPERT** ON ISO 9001 CURRENTLY ALIVE.



THE CLAUSE DOESN'T SEEM TO MAKE MUCH **SENSE**. IT PRESUPPOSES THAT A COMPANY IS DESIGNING THEIR MANUFACTURING PROCESSES USING ISO 9001 AS A **BLUEPRINT**.

IN REALITY, COMPANIES ARE USUALLY ALREADY OPERATING FOR **YEARS** BEFORE EVER ADOPTING ISO 9001.

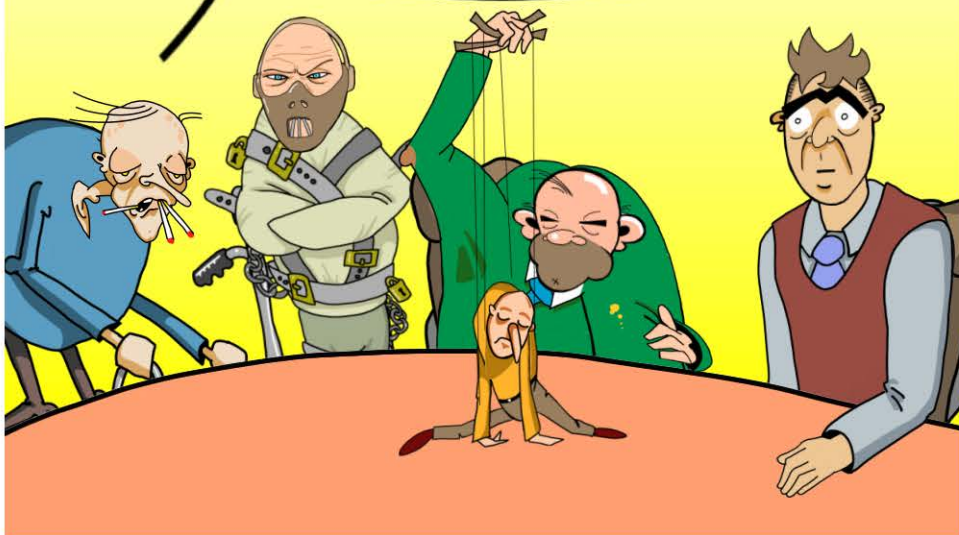


SO IT MAKES CLAUSE 8.1 SORT OF **POINTLESS**, DON'T YOU THINK?



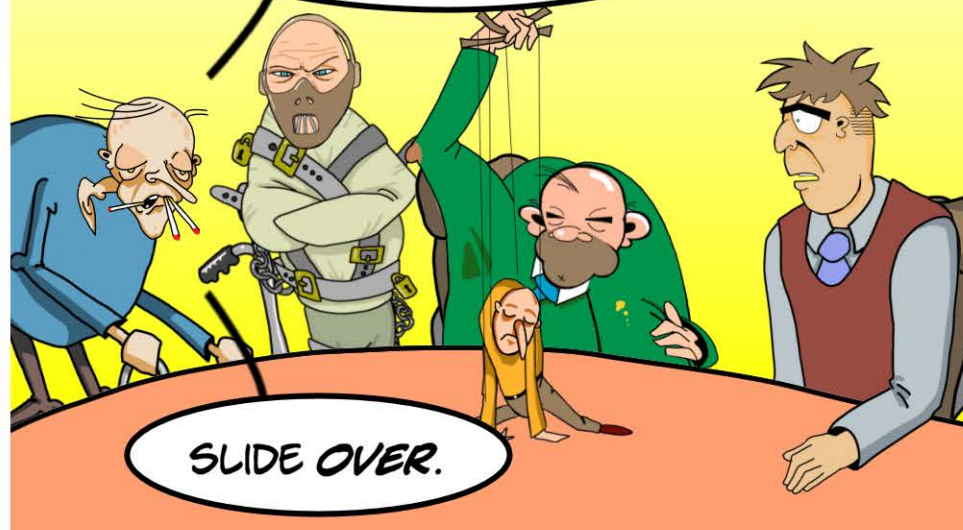
DID YOU KNOW I WAS CAST AS **CHORUS MEMBER # 3** IN MY SCHOOL'S PRODUCTION OF **LYSISTRATA**?

ALRIGHT, I'M **BACK**.
THE BAD NEWS IS THAT I JUST
FOUND OUT THE **IAAC** INTENDS
TO DO A WITNESS AUDIT OF
ME RIGHT NOW. THEIR GUY
IS IN THE **LOBBY**.



WHO IS THE
IAAC?

THE **INTER-AMERICAN
ACCREDITATION COOPERATION**.
THEY HAVE TO AUDIT MY COMPANY,
ANAB, TO MAKE SURE WE'RE
UPHOLDING **ACCREDITATION
RULES**.

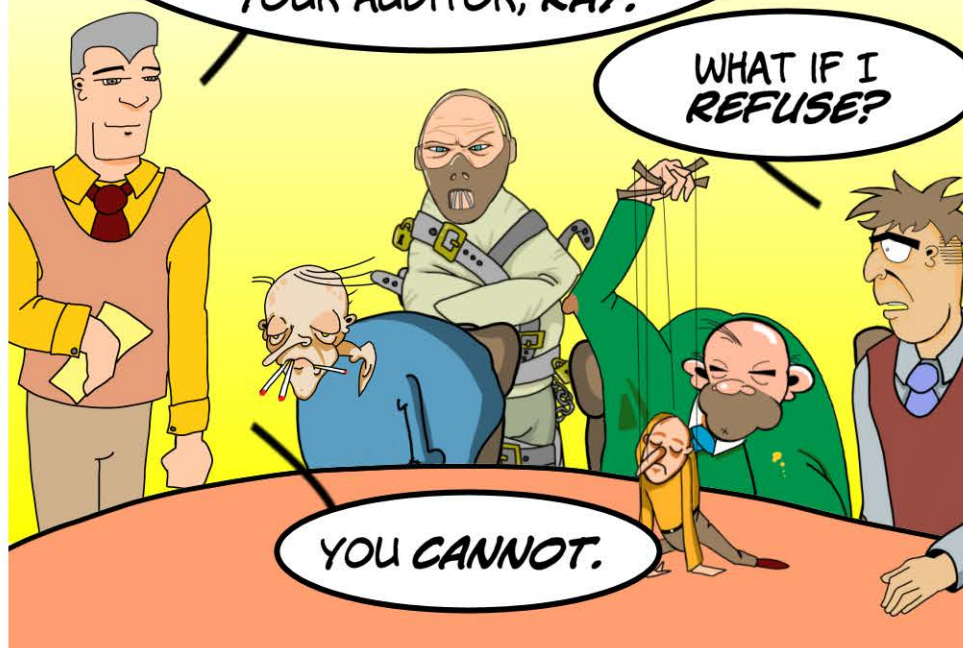


SLIDE OVER.

BUEN DIA.
I AM **HERMINIGILDO
DE AXILA**, FROM THE **IAAC**.
WE'LL JUST BE QUIETLY
WITNESSING **DALE FROM
ANAB** AS HE WITNESSES
YOUR AUDITOR, **RAY**.

WHAT IF I
REFUSE?

YOU CANNOT.



IF YOU **DENY
ACCESS BY ACCREDITATION
WITNESS AUDITORS**, YOUR
COMPANY IS **BLACKLISTED** FROM
ALL ISO CERTIFICATIONS.*

WAIT...
WHAT??

**YEAH, ISO CREATED
THIS SCHEME AFTER BINGEING
THE SOPRANOS.**



NO TE PREOCUPES, AMIGO. AS A **WITNESS AUDITOR** WITH **IAAC**, I AM ONLY HERE TO SILENTLY **OBSERVE**.

I KEEP **HEARING** THAT, BUT THE **WITNESS AUDITORS** TEND TO BE **LESS** THAN **SILENT**.

THE **IAF** **PEER-REVIEW SCHEME** IS DESIGNED TO ENSURE **EVERYONE** FOLLOWS THE **RULES**.

WAIT, I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE WITH THE **IAAC**, NOT THE **IAF**.

SI, I AM. THE **IAAC** IS THE **REGIONAL ACCREDITATION GROUP** FOR THE **IAF**. WE'RE PART OF THE **GREATER PYRAMID**.

IN FACT, I AM BEING **WITNESS-AUDITED** TODAY **MYSELF**, BY AN **IAF** **AUDITOR**.

SLIDE OVER.

THIS IS, ERM... **JOHN SMITH** FROM THE **INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION FORUM**. HE WILL BE SILENTLY **WITNESSING ME** AS I SILENTLY **WITNESS ANAB** SILENTLY **WITNESS RAY**.

NI-HAO, COMRADES.

OKAY, THIS IS
GETTING OUT OF HAND!
THAT'S CLEARLY A **CHINESE
COMMUNIST SPY** WEARING **FAKE
GROUCHO MARX GLASSES**
AND **MUSTACHE!**



THIS IS AN
ITAR-REGISTERED FACILITY!
I CAN'T HAVE **CHINESE AND MEXICAN
NATIONALS WALKING AROUND**
OBSERVING MY **PRODUCTION
OPERATIONS!**



DON'T **WORRY,**
MI AMIGO, THE **IAF PROCESS**
IS DESIGNED TO REDUCE ANY
IMPACT ON YOUR OPERATIONS
WHILE WE PERFORM OUR IMPORTANT
WITNESSING ACTIVITIES!



THIS WON'T
BE **DISRUPTIVE**
AT ALL!

ALRIGHT, TIMMY HERE
WANTS TO SEE YOUR
**PRODUCTION
SCHEDULE.**

他有侮辱我的鬍子嗎?

QUIERO VER SUS
PROCESOS DE
CALIDAD.

CAN
SOMEBODY
SCRATCH MY
BALLS?

HOLD ME
HIGHER, RAY!

I'M GONNA
GO **SMOKE.**



ROUGH DAY
TODAY, ALEX?

HORRIBLE! THE STRING
OF WITNESS AUDITORS
JUST DOESN'T STOP!

THE AUDIT TEAM NOW
INCLUDES A **CANNIBAL**,
A **COMMUNIST SPY**, A MEXICAN
CAR SALESMAN, AND A
PUPPET.

THIS WHOLE **CERTIFICATION**
THING HAS GOTTEN **OUT OF**
CONTROL, AND I'M NOT SURE
HOW MUCH MORE I CAN **TAKE**.

ALEX, THERE'S
SOMEONE IN THE **LOBBY**
FOR YOU.

OH, GREAT.
NOW WHAT?

HELLO, **WORM**!
I'M **WESLEY PISSCHURCH**
FROM **PRI**, AND I'M HERE
TO DO A **SPOT NADCAP**
AUDIT.

MY AUDITOR-IN-TRAINING,
DEREK TONGUE, HAD TO GO
TO THE RESTROOM.

BECAUSE OF THE
STRAIGHTJACKET, IT MIGHT
TAKE A WHILE.

NOW WE'RE GONNA
AUDIT CLAUSE 8.2.1, ABOUT
"CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION."

SO TELL ME
HOW YOU COMMUNICATE
WITH YOUR CUSTOMERS.

WELL, IN
LOTS OF WAYS.

ALL INCOMING
SALES REQUESTS ARE
ROUTED TO SALES,
OBTAININGLY.

OBTAININGLY.

AND QUALITY
ISSUES ARE ROUTED
TO QUALITY.

OBTAININGLY.

AND I'M PRETTY
SURE YOU'RE NOT PAYING
ATTENTION AT ALL TO
WHAT I'M SAYING
NOW.

OBTAININGLY.

I'LL BE SURE
TO NOTE THIS ON MY
CUSTOMER SATISFACTION
SURVEY TO YOUR
COMPANY.

OBTAININGLY.

ISO 9001 UNDERSTANDS THAT **COMMUNICATION** IS CRITICAL TO THE **SUCCESS** OF A COMPANY.

UMM... OKAY.

I THINK IT'S THE SAME FOR **US AUDITORS**. IF WE DON'T COMMUNICATE PROPERLY, YOU **CLIENTS** CAN LOSE YOUR WAY.

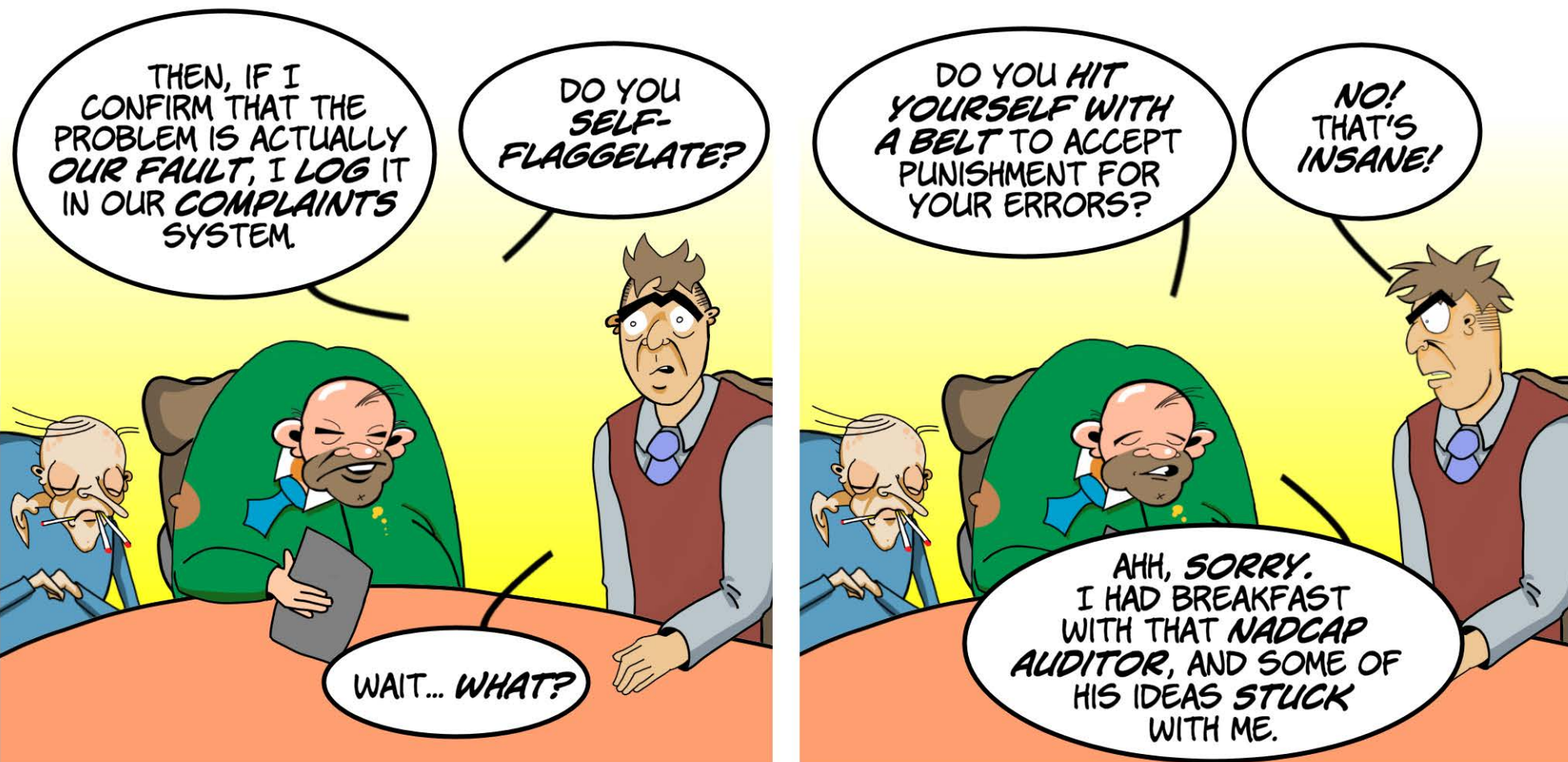
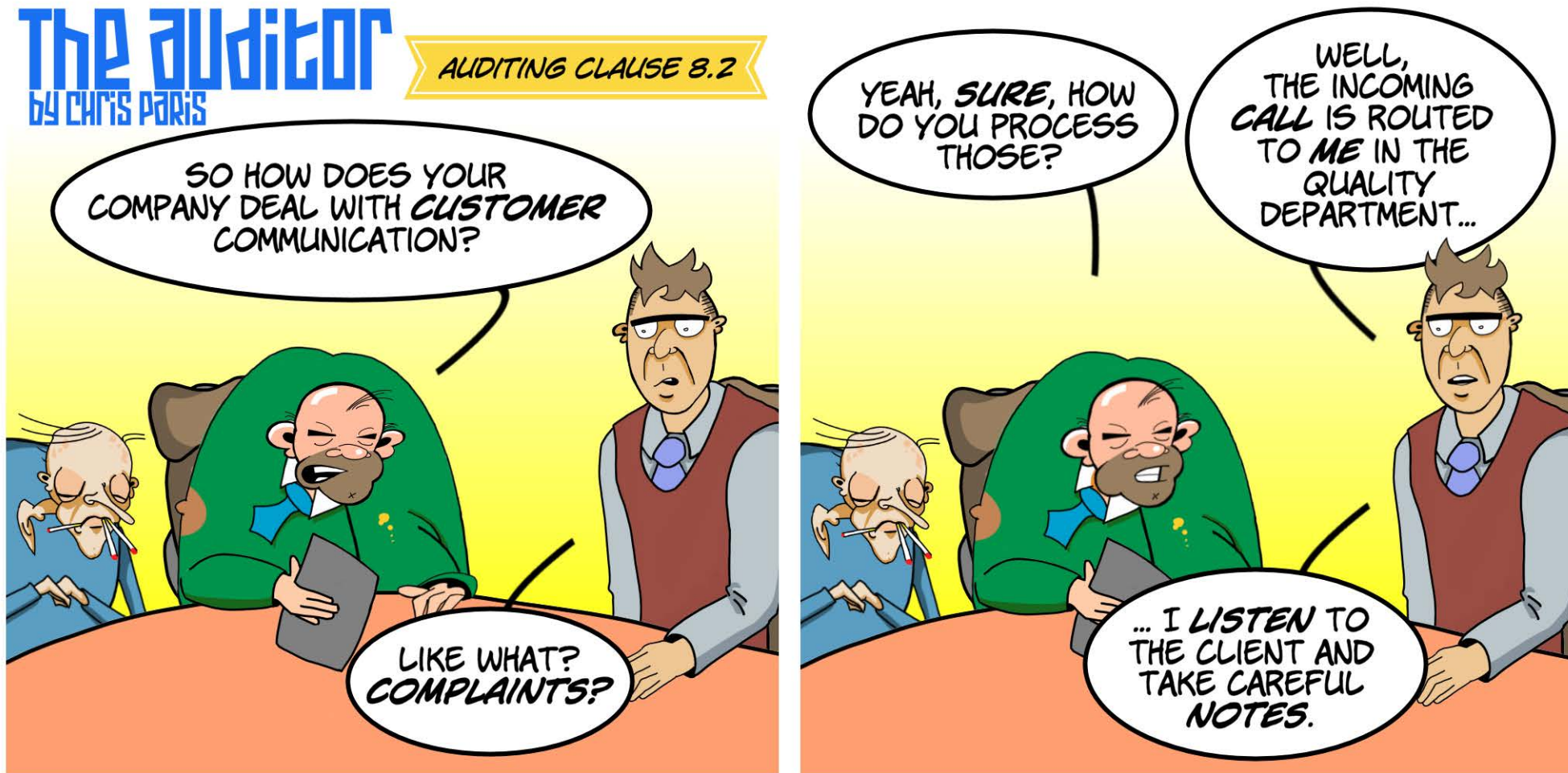
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I DID HAVE SOME **QUESTIONS** ABOUT YOUR LAST **AUDIT REPORT**.

YOU SPELLED THE WORD "**QUALITY**" WITH **THREE T'S**, YOU DATED THE REPORT FOR **1953**, AND FOR OUR COMPANY NAME YOU WROTE "**VAGINA**."

NONE OF YOUR **NONCONFORMITIES** INCLUDED ANY **EVIDENCE**, AND YOUR AUDIT **CONCLUSION** WAS A **TOMATO JUICE** STAIN.

IN MY **DEFENSE**, I WAS **DRUNK** ON **UKRAINIAN VODKA** THAT MORNING, AND STILL IN **PAIN** FROM THE **CHAFING** OF THAT **STRIPPER'S SAND DANCE** THE NIGHT BEFORE.

FRANKLY, IT WAS NOTHING SHORT OF A **MIRACLE** THAT I WAS ABLE TO PUT A FEW **VERBS** IN THAT REPORT.



CLAUSE 8.2.2 WANTS TO KNOW HOW YOU DETERMINE THE **REQUIREMENTS** FOR THE PRODUCTS YOU WILL OFFER TO CUSTOMERS.

WE **DON'T**. THE CUSTOMER TELLS US WHAT THEIR REQUIREMENTS ARE.

THAT'S **NOT** HOW A COMPANY IS SUPPOSED TO **WORK**, DARLENE.

LEMME **READ** YOU THE CLAUSE FROM ISO 9001.

"When determining the requirements for the products and services to be offered to customers, the organization shall ensure that the requirements for the products and services are defined."

YEAH, THAT'S **RIDICULOUS**. WE'RE A **MACHINE SHOP**. WE MAKE WHAT THE CUSTOMER TELLS US TO MAKE.

THEN I'M GONNA WRITE YOU UP FOR A **MAJOR NONCONFORMITY** UNDER CLAUSE 8.2.2.

THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO WRITE UP OUR **300 CUSTOMERS**, TOO, SINCE THAT'S THE WAY THEY **WANT** THINGS.

NAH, JUST GIVE ME YOUR **APPROVED SUPPLIER LIST** AND I WILL **COLD-CALL** EACH ONE TO SELL MY **CONSULTING SERVICES**. DADDY NEEDS A NEW **BOAT**.

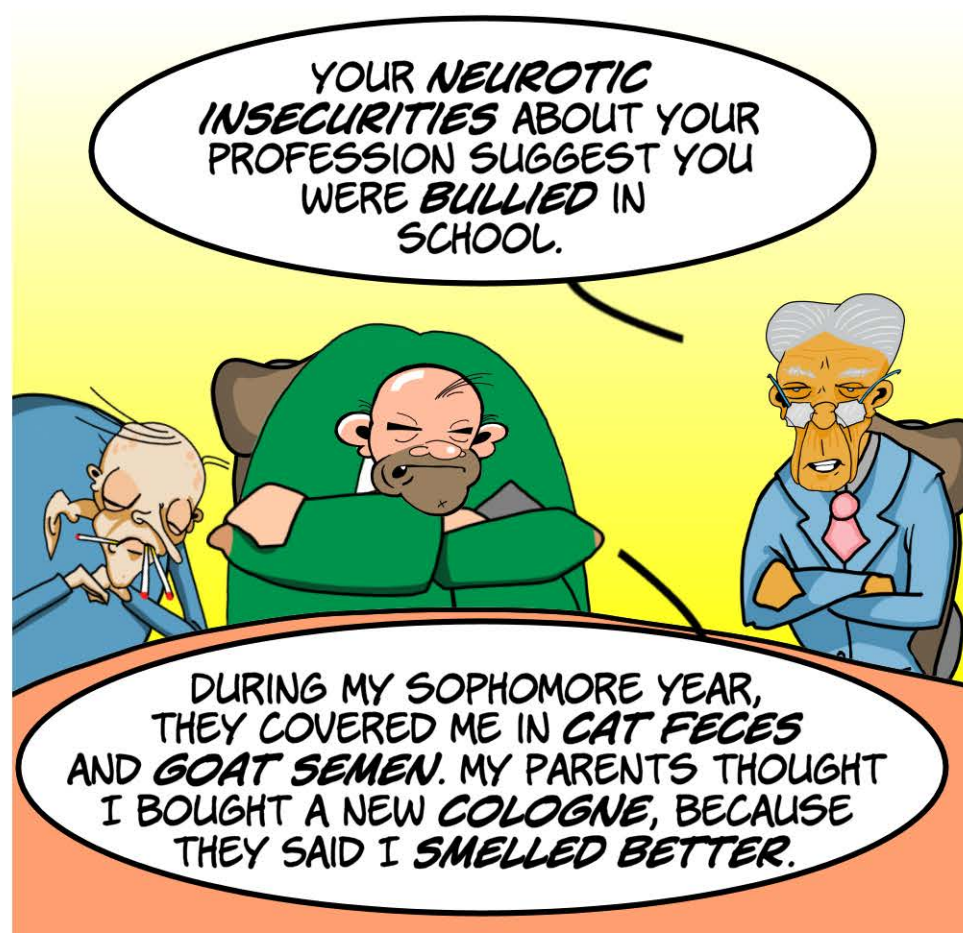
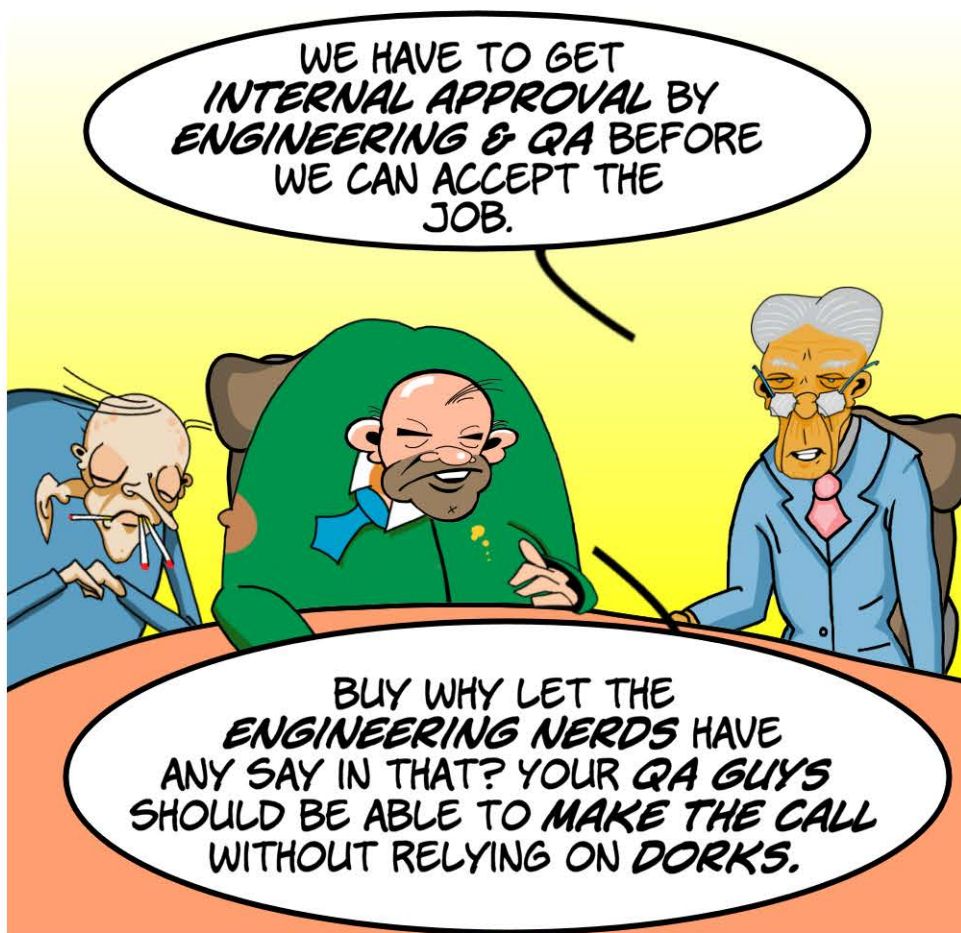
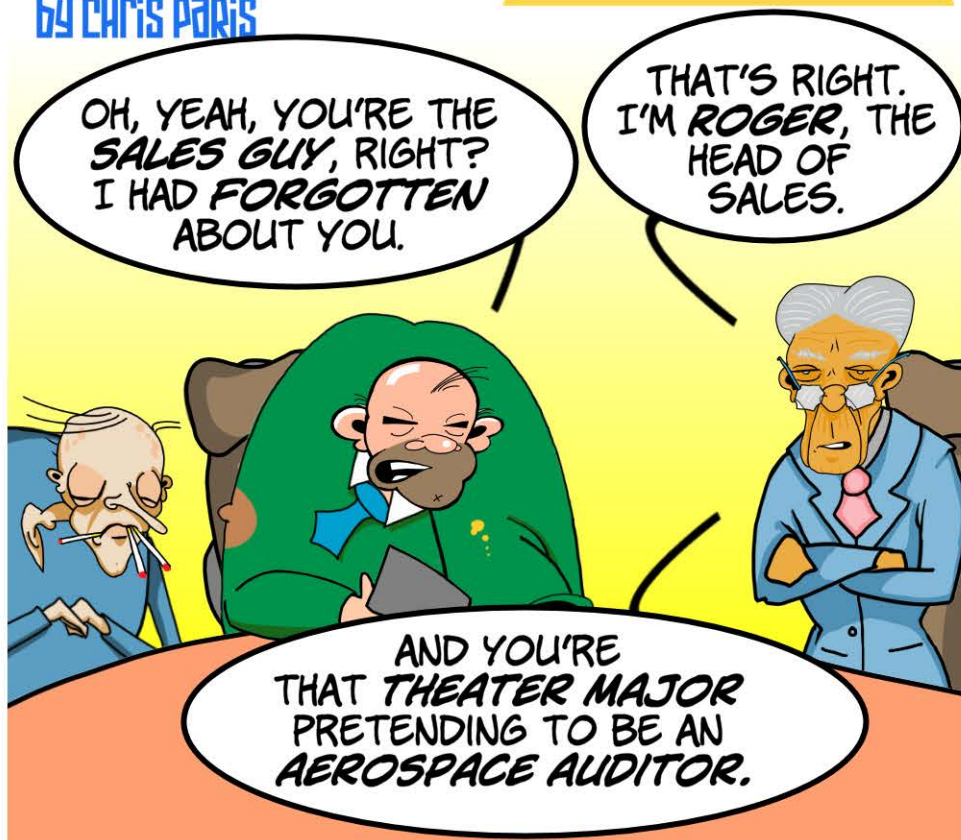
YOU KNOW IT MAKES
NO SENSE IF ISO EXPECTS
100% OF COMPANIES TO **FULLY DEFINE**
THEIR PRODUCTS **BEFORE** THEY
DESIGN THEM.

I'M NOT HERE
TO **INTERPRET** THE
STANDARD, JUST **AUDIT**
AGAINST IT, PAL.

BUT **THINK** ABOUT IT...
YOUR AUDITING **CLAUSE 8.2**.
THE NEXT CLAUSE IS **8.3**, WHICH
IS ABOUT **DESIGN** OF
PRODUCTS.

NOBODY **FULLY**
DEFINES THE PRODUCT
BEFORE THEY
DESIGN IT!

RAY, JUST SAY
THE **WORD** AND I'LL
LIQUIFY THIS GUY AND
DRINK HIS **SLURRY** WITH
A CRAZY STRAW.





SO HOW DO YOU ENSURE YOU HAVE THE **CAPABILITY AND CAPACITY** TO TAKE ON A NEW JOB?

OR DO YOU JUST ACCEPT **ANY ORDER** THAT COMES IN, AND THEN FIGURE IT OUT **LATER**?



ANY COMPANY THAT AGREES TO A **CONTRACT** WITH A CUSTOMER **BEFORE** MAKING SURE THEY HAVE THE RESOURCES TO **SATISFY** THAT CONTRACT IS **INEPT**.

COMPANIES LIKE **THAT** ARE ALSO ON THE FAST TRACK TO GETTING **SUED**.



WE DON'T DO **THAT**.

WHY **NOT**?

WELL, FOR **STARTERS**, BECAUSE WE'RE NOT **MORONS**.



HOLD ON A **SECOND**...

HELLO, **HEAD OFFICE**? THIS IS RAY BATTLESBEE. GET ME THE **NQF LEGAL DEPARTMENT** ASAP, SOMETHING **IMPORTANT** JUST CAME UP.

SO YOU'RE TELLING ME THAT A COMPANY **SHOULDN'T** TAKE ON A CONTRACT IF THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH **RESOURCES** TO ACTUALLY DO THE WORK?

THAT'S RIGHT, EINSTEIN.

IF THAT WERE TRUE, THEN WHY DOES **SAI GLOBAL** CONSISTENTLY TAKE ON NEW CLIENTS WHEN THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH **AUDITORS**?*

THEIR ENTIRE **AUDITOR POOL** CONSISTS OF THREE **OLD MEN**, A KID WITH **BRACES**, AND AN **AFRICAN GRAY PARROT** WHO ANSWERS THE PHONE IN AN **ALAN RICKMAN** ACCENT.

* REALLY HAPPENED

THE **REAL** QUESTION, THEN, IS WHY **ANAB** ALLOWS **SAI GLOBAL** TO **MAINTAIN ITS ACCREDITATION** IF CLIENTS KEEP **LOSING** THEIR ISO 9001 CERTS BECAUSE **SAI** DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH **AUDITORS**.

I THINK THAT ONE IS FOR YOU, DALE.

WE **TRIED**. WE **YANKED** THEIR **ACCREDITATION** FOR A FEW MONTHS, BUT THEN HAD TO GIVE IT **BACK**.*

IF WE **DIDN'T**, WE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE **PAYROLL**, AND **LORI GILLESPIE** WAS ALREADY **GRUMBLING** ABOUT BEING BEHIND ON HER **RENT**.

* REALLY HAPPENED

SO THIS CONTRACT FROM **BOEING** REQUIRES THAT YOUR COMPANY COMPLY WITH **ITAR**.

BUT **ITAR** REQUIRES YOU TO ONLY HIRE **AMERICANS**.

SO I SEE A LOT OF **SUS PEEPS** WALKING AROUND HERE.

SO?

I SAW SOME **BLACK GUY** IN THE WAREHOUSE, AND YOUR QUALITY GUY IS A **MEXICAN**.

THEY'RE BOTH **AMERICANS**.

THERE WAS A **CHINESE CHICK** IN ASSEMBLY.

SHE'S **AMERICAN**.

...THE **RUSSIAN QC INSPECTOR**...

US **CITIZEN**.

...THE **COLORED HR MANAGER**...

BORN IN **OHIO**.

THAT GUY WEARING THE **WEIRD HAT**...

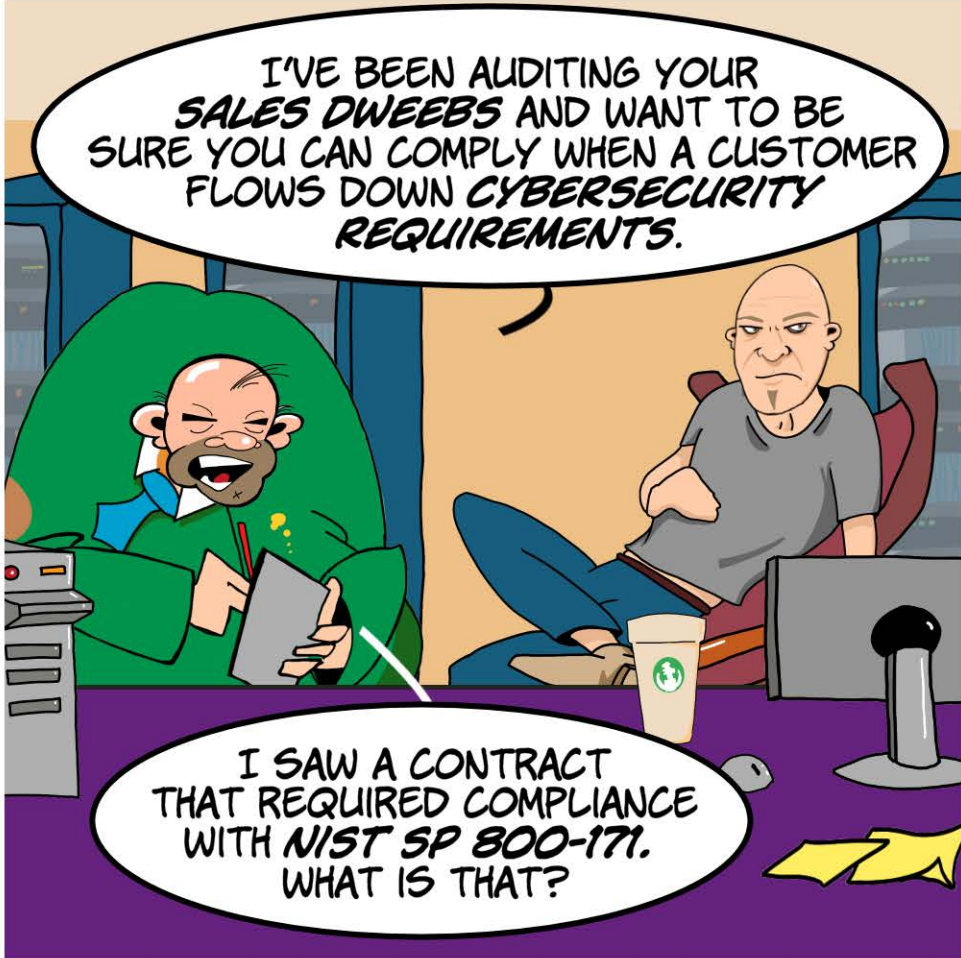
I'M GONNA STOP YOU **THERE**, OR I'LL HAVE TO CALL THE **ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE**.

I GOTTA ADMIT, I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT **ITAR** IS. I JUST KNOW IT ALLOWS **GUYS LIKE ME** TO COMPLAIN THAT YOU'RE NOT HIRING ENOUGH **WHITE PEOPLE**.



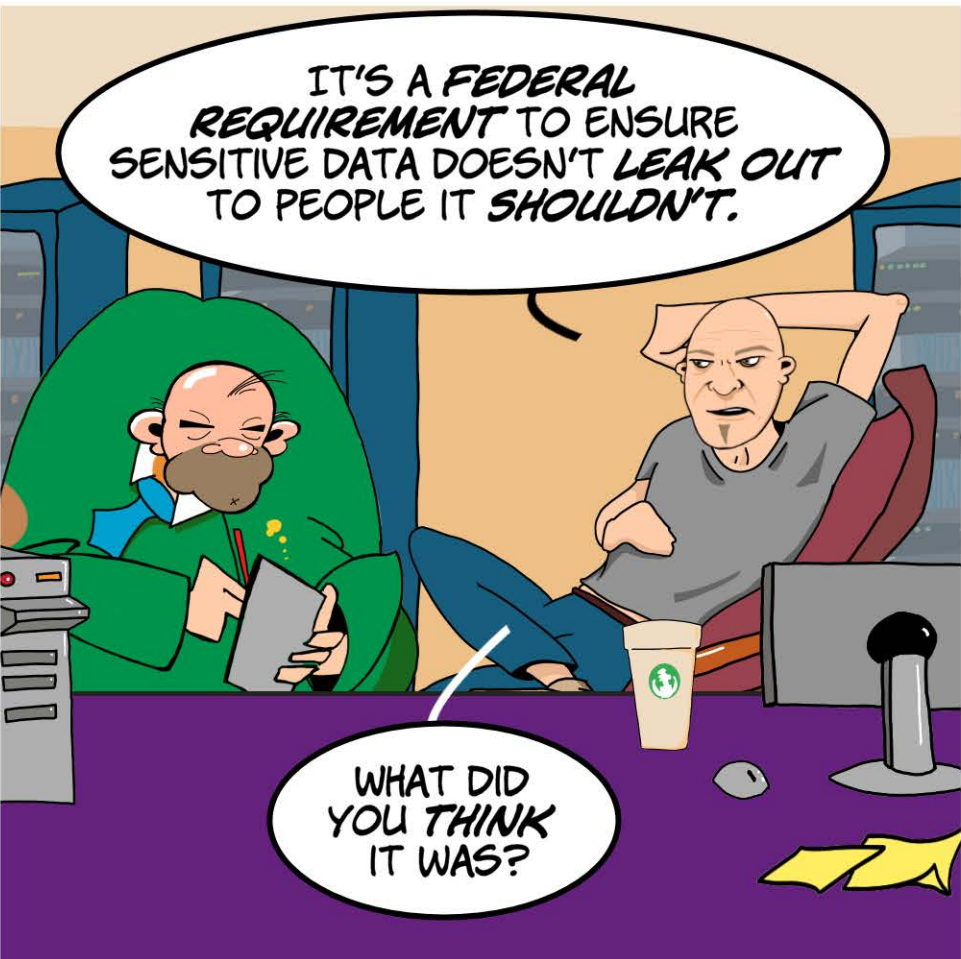
I'M RAY, YOUR ISO AUDITOR. I HEAR YOU'RE THE IT GUY.

I'VE GOT A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU.



I'VE BEEN AUDITING YOUR **SALES DWEEB**S AND WANT TO BE SURE YOU CAN COMPLY WHEN A CUSTOMER FLOWS DOWN **CYBERSECURITY REQUIREMENTS**.

I SAW A CONTRACT THAT REQUIRED COMPLIANCE WITH **NIST SP 800-171**. WHAT IS THAT?



IT'S A **FEDERAL REQUIREMENT** TO ENSURE SENSITIVE DATA DOESN'T **LEAK OUT** TO PEOPLE IT **SHOULDN'T**.

WHAT DID YOU *THINK* IT WAS?



I GOTTA BE **HONEST** WITH YOU, PAL. I THOUGHT **NIST** WAS A **BODY SPRAY**.

I WAS ACTUALLY GONNA ASK YOU WHERE I CAN **BUY** IT, SINCE I TEND TO **SWEAT** LIKE A **HORNY BULLFIGHTER** IN JULY.



I HEAR THAT
PRETTY SOON YOU'RE
GONNA HAVE TO GET
CERTIFIED TO
CMMC.

WHAT DO
YOU KNOW ABOUT
THAT?



IT'S THE **CYBERSECURITY
MATURITY MODEL CERTIFICATION**
PROGRAM, DEVELOPED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

IT MEANS EVENTUALLY ANY
COMPANY SELLING TO THE
DOD WILL HAVE TO GET AUDITED
BY GUYS WITH EVEN **LESS**
TRAINING THAN **ISO**
AUDITORS.



THAT'S A **TALL ORDER.**
IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH TO BECOME
AN **ISO 9001** AUDITOR,
YA KNOW.

MY TRAINING CONSISTED
OF A **5-DAY ONLINE, OPEN-BOOK**
COURSE AND A PROMISE TO
LET THE INSTRUCTOR USE MY
PORNHUB PASSWORD.



THEY'RE THE **DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE.** THEY'VE GOT AN
ANNUAL BUDGET OF OVER
\$730 BILLION.

TRUST ME, THEY'RE
GONNA **CRACK THE CASE** ON
HOW TO MAKE AUDITORS EVEN
WORSE THAN YOU.



I WAS JUST TALKING
TO YOUR IT GUY.

UMM... OKAY.



APPARENTLY YOU'RE
GONNA HAVE TO IMPLEMENT
SOMETHING CALLED "CMMC" SOON
IF YOU WANT TO KEEP SELLING
TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

YES, I THINK
I READ **SOMETHING**
ABOUT THAT.



WELL, I WENT
AHEAD AND INVITED SOMEBODY TO
COME EXPLAIN IT.

HE'S IN
THE **LOBBY**
RIGHT NOW.



HI, I'M RANDALL
FAPFAST FROM THE CMMC
ACCREDITATION BODY.

AS YOU PROBABLY HEARD,
IF YOU DON'T IMPLEMENT CMMC
SOON, YOU WILL **LOSE ALL**
GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS AND
WE WILL PUT YOUR KIDS IN
A MICROWAVE.

The Auditor

by Chris Paris

WHY ARE YOU WEARING SANDALS?

I WAS ON MY **BOAT** WHEN RAY CALLED.

HE SAID YOU HAD SOME **CONCERNS** ABOUT **CMMC**, AND I WANTED TO RUN RIGHT OVER TO BE SURE I COULD **ANSWER** YOUR **QUESTIONS**.

WHY ARE YOU SO **SWEATY**?

I HAD A **FIGHT** WITH MY **BOAT CREW**.

ANYWAY, ALL OF US ON THE **CMMC ACCREDITATION BODY** REALLY WANT TO BE SURE THERE'S NO **MISINFORMATION** OUT THERE ABOUT THE **CMMC SCHEME**.

WHY IS THERE A **BOLT** STICKING OUT OF YOUR HEAD?

I HAD A **MINOR BOATING ACCIDENT**.

OUR MOTTO AT **CMMC-AB** IS "**BUILT TO LISTEN**," AND ALL OF US TAKE THAT VERY **SERIOUSLY**. SO IF YOU HAVE ANY **QUESTIONS**, JUST **FIRE AWAY**.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT **MAYBE GIVING UP BOATING**?

WOW, **TOUGH QUESTION**.

I DON'T HAVE THAT ANSWER **HANDY**, BUT IF YOU CHECK THE OFFICIAL **CMMC-AB** **WEBPAGE FAQ**, I'M **SURE** IT'S ANSWERED THERE.

I HAVE TO SAY,
I *DO* HAVE CONCERNS
ABOUT THE **CMMC**
SCHEME.

IT SEEMS TO BE A
MAKE-WORK PROJECT FOR A
POLITICAL APPOINTEE WITH NO
DEMONSTRABLE **SKILLS**, COOKED
UP TO CREATE AN **OVERNIGHT**
COTTAGE INDUSTRY FOR HER
CONSULTANT PALS.

THE CMMC-AB HAS EXISTED
FOR OVER A YEAR AND A HALF,
AND YET HASN'T DONE A **SINGLE**
THING ASSOCIATED WITH AN
ACCREDITATION BODY.

TO DATE THERE ISN'T A **SINGLE**
CERTIFIED **CMMC ASSESSOR**, NOR
A SINGLE ACCREDITED **CERTIFICATION BODY**.
BUT YOU DID CREDENTIAL AN
ENTIRE NETWORK OF **CONSULTANTS**,
WHICH IS THE **ONE THING** YOU'RE
NOT SUPPOSED TO DO.*

* TRUE

WORSE, YOUR TRAINING
MATERIALS VIOLATE **FEDERAL LAW**
AND **DISCRIMINATE** AGAINST **DISABLED**
VETERANS...

... AND YOUR "**INDUSTRY**
ADVISORY COUNCIL" IS COMPRISED
OF HAND-PICKED **YES MEN** AND
TOADIES TRYING TO **CURRY FAVOR**
WHEN THEIR COMPANIES PURSUE
CMMC CERTIFICATION FOR
THEMSELVES.

SURE, BUT WE *DO*
HAVE A GREAT SET OF
JPEGS WE SELL AS OFFICIAL
CREDENTIALS.

THEY'RE BASICALLY
NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS
WITH **LESS HYPE** AND
OFFICIAL US GOVERNMENT
ENDORSEMENT.

* TRUE

I FRANKLY
THINK YOU SHOULD
CUT US SOME
SLACK.

THE CMMC-AB IS
STAFFED BY **VOLUNTEERS**
WHO ARE **TRUE PATRIOTS**
FIGHTING FOR THEIR
COUNTRY.

TRUE "**PATRIOTS**"
WOULDN'T USE THEIR "**VOLUNTEER**"
POSITIONS TO DRIVE **REVENUE** TO
THEIR **CMMC CONSULTING**
COMPANIES!

THEY'D RESPECT
THE **RULES** THAT DEMAND
AN ACCREDITATION BODY BE
FREE FROM ALL CONFLICTS
OF INTEREST AND PERSONAL
PROFITEERING!

AND REAL "**PATRIOTS**"
WOULDN'T HAVE SIGNED A **CONTRACT**
THAT FORCES THEM TO BE OVERSEEN
BY THE INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION
FORUM, WHICH IS RUN
BY **CHINA!**

SO, **NO.**
I **DON'T** THINK YOUR
GROUP IS COMPRISED
OF "**PATRIOTS.**"

HOW
ABOUT
NOW?



HEY, SOME GUY FROM **MONGO QUICKIE-CERT** IS IN THE LOBBY FOR YOU, ALEX.

SIGH... THAT'S THE **CERTIFICATE MILL** GUY.



I DIDN'T **HEAR BACK** FROM YOU ABOUT MY **OFFER** FOR **INSTANT ISO** **CERTIFICATION**.

THAT'S BECAUSE I'M **NOT** **INTERESTED**.



I KNOW YOU'RE **INTERESTED**, SO THOUGHT YOU MIGHT LIKE TO TALK TO ONE OF OUR **SATISFIED** **CLIENTS**.

I'D RATHER **SHOVE** **NEEDLES** IN MY **WEEZER**.



HELLO. MY NAME IS **STEVEN HAPPYCLIENT**, AND I WANTED TO PROVIDE A **TOTALLY-UNPROMPTED** **ENDORSEMENT** OF **DARYL MONGO** AND HIS COMPANY.

MY CLIENT SAID
YOU WEREN'T CONVINCED
THAT HE WAS BEING **GENUINE**
IN HIS **ENDORSEMENT** OF
MONGO QUICKIE-CERT.

THAT'S BECAUSE
YOUR "CLIENT" WAS **YOU**
WEARING **GLASSES** AND
A **FAKE MUSTACHE.**

I SEE YOU'RE
AT LEAST **OPEN** TO TALKING
TO **OTHER PEOPLE** ABOUT
MY COMPANY.

I'D RATHER
EAT **LIVE SNAKES** AND
JUMP IN A **BARREL**
OF **RATS.**

WAIT **HERE** A
SECOND, I'M GONNA
GET ANOTHER ONE
OF MY **SATISFIED**
CUSTOMERS.

IF THIS IS
JUST **YOU** IN A
RENTED **CLOWN WIG**,
I'M GONNA MAKE YOU
EAT YOUR OWN
FEET.

HELLO.

I UNDERSTAND
YOU MAY BE IN NEED
OF MY **SERVICES?**

HOLD ON TO YER **PANTIES**, CYNTHIA, I'M GONNA DO A DEEP DIVE INTO YOUR **CONTRACT REVIEW PROCESS**.

CONSIDER MY **PANTIES** APPROPRIATELY **SECURED**.

THIS CONTRACT FROM **LOCKHEED MARTIN** REQUIRES YOU TO COMPLY WITH THE **DODD-FRANK ACT**...

... IT SAYS YOU HAVE TO BE SURE YOU DON'T USE ANY "**CONFLICT MINERALS**."

YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

SO, WHAT'S THAT? LIKE **BLOOD DIAMONDS** OR SOMETHING?

WRONG AGAIN, WATSON. IT REFERS TO **TIN, TUNGSTEN, TANTALUM** OR **GOLD** FROM CERTAIN **AFRICAN NATIONS**.

I'M GONNA WRITE UP **TWO NONCONFORMITIES**. THE FIRST FOR BEING **RACIST**...

... AND THE SECOND ONE FOR NOT BUYING YOUR **BLOOD DIAMONDS** FROM REPUTABLE SOURCES LIKE **NORTH KOREA**.

OK, **SALES DUDE**, ANSWER ME **THIS**: HOW DO YOU ASSURE YOU HAVE THE **CAPACITY** TO TAKE ON A NEW CONTRACT?

WE CHECK THE **PRODUCTION SCHEDULE** BEFOREHAND.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR **CAPABILITY**?

WE HAVE A **CURRENT CAPABILITIES** LIST.

YOUR **COMPATIBILITY**?

THAT'S NOT A **THING**.

YOUR **CARAPACE**?

THAT'S A **TURTLE SHELL**.

YOUR **CATALYST**?

THAT'S A **CHEMICAL** USED TO FORCE **REACTIONS**.

CATARACAO?

INDIGENOUS MONKEY SOUP.

CARABINER?

MOUNTAINEERING TOOL.

CAPEKIN?

SHEEP LEATHER.

CAPONATA?

EGGPLANT APPETIZER.

CAPSICIN?

ARE YOU **READING THIS FROM THESAURUS.COM**?

SO I HEAR YOU'RE THE **DESIGN ENGINEER**. I'VE GOTTA **AUDIT** YOUR **PRODUCT DESIGN** PROCESS.

SURE THING.

FIRST, LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR **PERSONAL PREFERENCES**.

DO YOU PREFER **WATERFALL** OR **AGILE**?

A **HYBRID** APPROACH, I GUESS.

WOW, **KINKY**. WHAT ABOUT **REVERSE DONKEY** OR **INDIANA PIPEFITTER**?

HOLD ON A SECOND...

...ARE YOU ASKING ME ABOUT **DESIGN METHODOLOGIES** OR **SEXUAL POSITIONS**?

WAIT, **NEVERMIND**. I JUST NOTICED THE **BEARD**. WITH THAT **MAN-BUN** I THOUGHT YOU WERE A **CHICK**.

WHEN YOU'RE DOING
AGILE DESIGN, DO YOU
HAVE A LOT OF
SCRUMS?

LIKE, DO YOU AND
YOUR TEAM ALL GET
TOGETHER AND DO A
GROUP SCRUM?

I DUNNO, MAYBE LIKE
YOU ALL FORM A *CIRCLE* WITH
ONE GUY IN THE *MIDDLE*,
AND HE SORT OF *RECEIVES*
THE *SCRUM* FROM THE
TEAM?

OR DO YOU JUST
FORM A *LINE* AND *SCRUM*
ONE AT A TIME?

SORRY, THERE
DOESN'T SEEM TO
BE ANY WAY TO DISCUSS
AGILE DESIGN WITHOUT
IT TURNING INTO *SEXUAL*
INNUENDOS.

HOW DO YOU CAPTURE
DESIGN INPUTS?

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN, LIKE THE
CUSTOMER'S
REQUIREMENTS?

I DUNNO, MAN,
THIS **ISO 9001 STANDARD**
IS JUST ALL ABOUT **INPUTS**
AND **OUTPUTS**.

IT'S LIKE THE
AUTHORS OF THE STANDARD
WERE OBSESSED WITH **STICKING**
THINGS INTO **OTHER**
THINGS.

MAYBE THAT
EXPLAINS WHY YOU
CAN'T SEEM TO **AUDIT**
WITHOUT GETTING
HORNY.

SERIOUSLY, THEIR
IDEA OF **PROCESS MANAGEMENT**
RELIES SO HEAVILY ON
PENETRATION, IT'S AS IF IT
WAS WRITTEN BY
E. L. JAMES.

BUT, Y'NOW,
IF YOU'D LIKE TO GO
GRAB A **COFFEE** AND COME
BACK TO **MY PLACE**,
I'M **GAME**.

I'M NOT A **GOOD**
LOVER, BUT WHAT I LACK
IN **PERFORMANCE** I MAKE
UP FOR WITH **SPEED**.

ALRIGHT, LET'S
TALK ABOUT HOW
YOU MAKE THE **DESIGNS**
THEMSELVES.

WE DO MOST
OF OUR DESIGN WORK
IN **SOLIDWORKS**, OR SOME
OTHER **3D CAD**
SOFTWARE.

IN THE 50'S AND
60'S, I USED TO **GROPE**
PEOPLE IN THE MOVIE THEATER
DURING MATINEE **SCI-FI**
FLICKS.

THE NEWSPAPERS
USED TO CALL ME THE
"**3D CAD**."

I GUESS THERE'S
NO WAY WE'RE GOING TO
GET THROUGH THIS PART
OF THE **AUDIT** IN UNDER
FOUR HOURS.

OH, AND THE **NICKNAME**
FOR MY **PENIS** WAS
"**SOLIDWORKS**," SO THAT'S
A COINCIDENCE, TOO.

THE AUDITOR

by CHRIS PARIS

HI, I'M ALEX MENDES.

AND I'M RAY BATTLESBEE, THE AUDITOR.

OUR PRODUCERS HAVE NOTICED THAT SO FAR EVERY STRIP RELATED TO AUDITING ISO 9001 **CLAUSE 8.3 ON DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT** HAS BEEN, WELL... **SPICY**.

BUT I THINK RAY WILL **AGREE** WITH ME THAT THE **CLAUSE IS VERY IMPORTANT**, AS IT TRIES TO ENSURE THE DESIGN OF PRODUCTS IS **THOROUGH**.

UMM... YOU DO **AGREE** WITH ME, **RIGHT**, RAY?

I'M NOT PROMISING **NUTHIN'**, PAL. THE DESIGN GUY'S GOT A **SEXY MAN-BUN** AND SMELLS LIKE **PATCHOULI**. THERE'S NO CALMING MY **CHUB** AT THIS POINT.

SO HOW DO YOU REVIEW EACH DESIGN TO ENSURE IT ADDRESSES ALL THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS?

EACH ENGINEER HAS TO REVIEW THEIR OWN WORK, AND THEN THE DESIGNS GO THROUGH PEER REVIEWS.

HMM....

YOU'RE GONNA MAKE SOME DIRTY COMMENT ABOUT THE WORD "PEER," RIGHT?

I USED TO PEER THROUGH THE WINDOW OF MY NEIGHBOR WHILE SHE WAS FEEDING HER CAT. I IMAGINED IT WAS ME EATING THAT CAN OF TUNA.

OK, *SURE*, BUT DO YOU DO ANY OTHER KINDS OF DESIGN REVIEWS?

SURE, DEPENDING ON THE *CONTRACT*. SOMETIMES WE DO *PDR'S* OR *CDR'S*.

WHAT ARE *THOSE*?

PDR IS A *PRELIMINARY* DESIGN REVIEW.

AND CDR IS A *CRITICAL* DESIGN REVIEW.

NOW, *C'MON*... THERE'S *NO* WAY YOU CAN MAKE THAT INTO SOMETHING *SEXUAL*.

SORRY, I WAS *DISTRACTED* THINKING ABOUT HOW *NICE* IT WOULD BE TO RUN MY *FINGERS* THROUGH YOUR *HAIR* WHILE WE BOTH ATE *FRIED CHICKEN*.

SO ISO 9001 WANTS TO KNOW HOW YOU DO DESIGN VALIDATION.

WE VALIDATE THE DESIGNS THROUGH PROTOTYPING.

SO WE 3D PRINTED THIS PART, FOR EXAMPLE.

NOW WE'LL INSPECT IT, AND THAT WILL VALIDATE THE ORIGINAL DESIGN MODEL.


AND AFTER THAT, WE'LL DO SOME FUNCTIONAL TESTING.

ARE YOU GOING TO HIRE *HOOKERS* OR *ELEPHANTS* TO TEST THIS THING?

I MEAN, IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THOSE *DUTCH DILDOS*, BUT IN *EXTRA LARGE*.

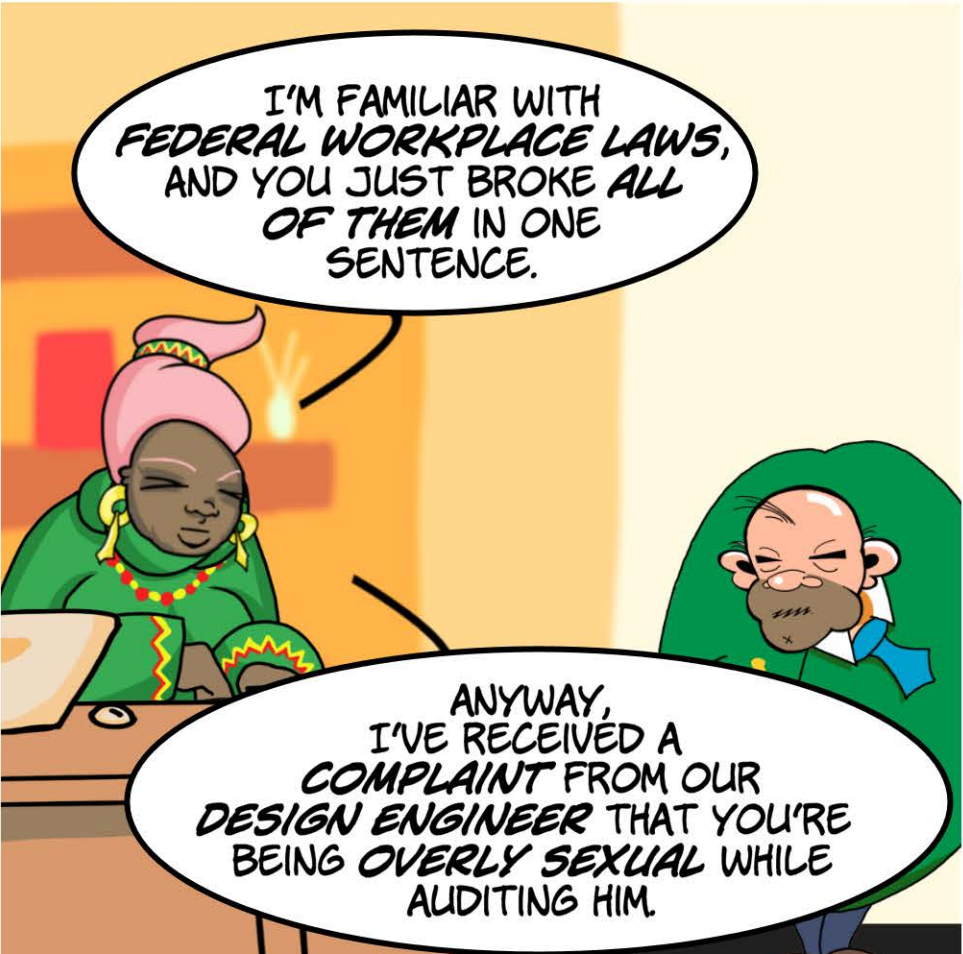
I'M GETTING CONVINCED THAT YOUR *BRAIN DAMAGE* MAY BE *IRREVERSIBLE*.

IF YOU WANT, I'LL TAKE IT FOR A SPIN IN THE *MEN'S ROOM*. NO EXTRA CHARGE.



THE TEAM ASKED ME TO **COUNSEL** YOU REGARDING YOUR **AUDITING METHODS**.

OH, I REMEMBER YOU. YOU'RE THE **BLACK HR BROAD** WITH THE **BIG BALLAST TANKS**.



I'M FAMILIAR WITH **FEDERAL WORKPLACE LAWS**, AND YOU JUST BROKE **ALL OF THEM** IN ONE SENTENCE.


ANYWAY, I'VE RECEIVED A **COMPLAINT** FROM OUR **DESIGN ENGINEER** THAT YOU'RE BEING **OVERLY SEXUAL** WHILE AUDITING HIM.



YOU MEAN THE **SKINNY CHICK** WITH THE **PONYTAIL**?

THAT'S **DRAKE PHIPPS**, AND HE'S A **MAN**.

HEY, NOW, **SUGARPUFF**, LET'S NOT GET CAUGHT UP ON **GENDER IDENTITY LABELS**.



I CONSIDER MYSELF A **LIBERAL LION**, AND THAT'S WHY I GET **GRABBY** WITH **HOT CHICKS** EVEN IF THEY MAY HAVE HAD, OR STILL HAVE, THE **DOWN-UNDER PIPING** OF A TRADITIONAL **XY CHROMOSOME BEARING MENS ROOM ATTENDANT**.

I MEAN, IF WE START **LIMITING** WHO WE'RE GONNA **SEXUALLY HARASS**, WHAT KIND OF **SOCIETY** WILL WE LEAVE TO OUR **CHILDREN**?

CAN I ASK YOU
JUST WHY YOU SEE TO BE
UNABLE TO AUDIT THE **DESIGN**
FUNCTION WITHOUT GETTING
INAPPROPRIATE?

BLAME THE CLOUDS
AT **ISO TC 176** FOR THE
WAY THEY WROTE
CLAUSE 8.3.

"The organization shall ensure
that design and development outputs
specify the characteristics of the products
and services that are essential for their
intended purpose and their safe
and proper provision."

WHAT PART
ABOUT THAT IS **HOT**
TO YOU?

MMMM....
WHAT PART
ISN'T?

WELL, **FRANKLY**,
IT'S WAIT...
WHERE **THE HELL**
DID HE GO?

I HAVE **BATHED**
AND **PERFUMED** MY
BODY. PLEASE CONTINUE
READING...

... BUT TRY
MAKING YOUR VOICE
SOUND LIKE **SCARLETT**
JOHANSSON OR **ALEC**
BALDWIN.



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