

**Speaker Bio's – Cowtown Quality Roundup 2025**  
**Order: alphabetically by last name**

**Jim Bossert**

Mar 2022

Jim is a Sr Performance Excellence Consultant with John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. Prior to that Jim was a Lean Six Sigma and Change Management Master Black Belt for High Reliability Initiatives at the Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare. In this role, he was responsible for leading and coordinating activities supporting the adoption of high reliability practices with hospitals and state hospital associations. He has been actively involved in quality and process improvement in all levels of management for over 35 years. He has presented at numerous conferences as well as written papers and webinars to share with others his learnings.

His experiences in a variety of industries have allowed him to help many diverse industries in the implementation of Rapid Process Improvement. Some of these industries are automotive manufacturing and design, chemical and process manufacturing, mobile phones, banking and finance, performance excellence consulting, software development and teaching. Dr. Bossert has certified Green Belts, Black Belts and Master Black Belts in these industries.

He was named Quality Magazine's Quality Professional of the Year in 2018

Jim has authored the Supplier Management Handbook (6<sup>th</sup> Edition) and Supplier Certification among other books. He is an ASQ Fellow, he received the Distinguished Service Medal from ASQ in 2012. Dr. Bossert received his MBB from GE. He is the past editor of the Six Sigma Forum magazine. Jim received his PhD from Indiana State University in Technology Management specializing in Quality Systems. He received his MS in Applied Math and Statistics from the Rochester Institute of Technology. He is an ASQ CQE, CQA, SSBB, SSMBB, and CQM/OE. He also has his CHPQ certification and is a reviewer for the Journal for Healthcare Quality.

**Ronnie Buehrig**

Sep 2024

Professional Background

- 16 Years in Quality Program Management in Power & Process Industries, including
- Education
  - Master of Human Resources Management, Keller/DeVry, Chicago, IL
  - Master of Business Administration (Project Mgmt.), Keller/DeVry, Chicago, IL
  - BSBA (Project Mgmt.), DeVry University, Kansas City, MO
- Professional Certifications
  - ASQ SSBB, CQA, CQE, CMQ/OE
  - Maxwell Leadership Certified Team
  - NQA-1 Lead Auditor

Hobbies & Volunteer Work

- President & Founder of the Tulsa Warriors Hockey Club (501c3 NP, OK)  
[www.tulsawarriors.com](http://www.tulsawarriors.com)
- Enjoys playing ice hockey, watching old movies, traveling with his wife (Melissa), and being hounded by his two dogs (Boomer & Charlie)

**Rolando Colindres-Bran** Feb 2024

**Summary:**

Rolando Colindres-Bran is a top-performing, solutions-driven executive with 25+ years of experience leading organizations into accelerated growth. Providing direction, developing and nurturing proactive working relationships with investors, bankers, business partners, and other personnel critical to corporate growth, expansion, and profitability. He has over thirty years of experience in manufacturing and service systems; including strategic deployment, operations management, total quality, and continuous improvement.

**Areas of Expertise:**

Rolando specializes in leading organizations into accelerated growth. Emphasis in collaboration and coaching choosing strategy with the leadership team, developing tactics, and executing actions with predictive controls. Designing, controlling, and managing the production and inventory systems. Striving for balancing the demand with the transformation system according to the organizations needs and vision.

His approach is crafted by a mix of principles embodied under various sources of knowledge, including years of experience, Factory Physics, Theory of Constraints, Lean Management Systems, Lean Six Sigma, ISO Management Systems, and Operations Excellence, among others.

**Ted Ditch** Mar 2017

Over 30 years of experience in the medical device and pharmaceutical industry in quality assurance and quality engineering. Started at Pfizer and later first retirement from Alcon. Retired a second time from AmeriPac, a contract packaging company as the Director, Quality Assurance.

Instructor for CQE exam preparation for the Fort Worth Chapter for the American Society for Quality (ASQ).

Master's in Engineering Management from University of Texas at Arlington.

ASQ Certified Quality Engineer (CQE), Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB), Quality Auditor (CQA), Quality Improvement Analyst (CQIA) and Quality Manager/Organization Excellence (CMQ)

Exemplar Global certified lead auditor for ISO 9001 and ISO 13485.

**T. Ditch Associates**  
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Arlington, Texas 76001-8403  
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**Joe Fierro**

Mar 2025

Joe recently added the Neuroscience Coach Certification from the International Association of Therapist to his comprehensive experience, academic achievements and professional certifications. “Dr. Joe” has led, coached, and consulted in full-time and “fractional” assignments in hundreds of organizations and thousands of professionals in public and private sectors from the front-line to the front office for over four decades.

Dr. Fierro’s award-winning leadership methods, tools, and techniques have achieved repeated and desirable results at small and emerging businesses through multi-billion-dollar Fortune 50, and local, state, and federal agencies with over 39,000 employees.

Dr. Joe is committed to doing his part to advance the vision of the enterprises he serves while balancing the seemingly competing demands of the workplace ecosphere. He is known for his high energy and informative workshops and looks forward to meeting like-minded Q&E experts and practitioners. Join him in this seminar and explore the nexus between the latest in neuroscience research and principles of enterprise excellence in the workshop entitled, “NeuroExcellence™ Strengthening a Culture of Excellence from the Outside In and the Inside Out.”

**Robert Freeman** Oct 2018

Robert is president of Practical Perspectives in Dallas, Texas. Practical Perspectives is a management systems and transitional management consultancy that has assisted more than 300 organizations with the development and implementation of quality, environmental and occupational health and safety management systems. These organizations cover a broad range of sizes and industries, and include both manufacturing and service organizations from the public and private sectors. Robert’s background includes senior level positions within organizations from both an operations and quality perspective, having served as both a Plant Manager and as a Director of Quality. He is a member of ISO Technical Committee (TC) 176 and served as the lead U.S. technical expert on the ISO 9004:2018. Robert is also a member of the United States Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to ISO Technical Committee (TC) 176 – Quality Management and Quality Assurance standards (including ISO 9001 and ISO 9004), and a member of Project Committee (PC) 302 – Auditing standard (ISO 19011:2018), having served as the Head of Delegation for the United States for PC302. He is a senior member of the American Society for Quality (ASQ), having published a number of articles in Quality Progress, and is a registered lead auditor for ISO 9001 through Exemplar Global.

## **Tony George**

Mar 2025

- Tony has worked for 20+ years in various quality roles including Quality Manager, Internal & Supplier Quality Auditor, and ISO 9001 Quality Management System Representative in industries such as Packaging, Plastic Injection Molding, and Water Management Technology.
- Tony is a Senior Member of ASQ and has served as a member the Ft Worth Section Leadership Committee several times in a variety of roles. Tony holds ASQ CQA, CSQP and CQIA certifications.
- Tony is a retired US Army National Guard Officer where he served in Field Artillery and Intelligence roles.
- Tony holds a BS in Industrial Engineering and Management from North Dakota State University.

## **Drew Jackson**

Mar 2025

Drew T. Jackson is a seasoned leadership strategist and executive coach with over 18 years of experience in driving organizational excellence. As the Subject Matter Expert in Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness at Tarrant County College, Drew is pioneering the integration of AI in leadership strategy to improve organizational outcomes.

He has successfully partnered with industry leaders like Chick-fil-A and Lennox, achieving measurable improvements in sales, employee morale, and cultural transformation.

Drew is known for his practical, people-centric approach to leadership, making him a trusted advisor for organizations seeking sustainable growth and success.

## **Kent Newtown**

Mar 2024

Kent has 40 plus years of engineering, manufacturing and operations support experience with Texas Instruments, MEMC Electronic Materials Inc. and Raytheon. Kent has also worked as a consultant in Dr. Eli Goldratt's Viable Vision program.

He became involved with Theory Of Constraints, Product Flow, and Cycle Time Improvement as a charter member of the TI Jonah Network. Results greater than 50% inventory reduction with 75% lot cycle time improvement have been achieved in TOC implementations all over the world. Kent has been able to convert suppliers that could not deliver on time, to consistent on time delivery to customer needs.

Kent holds a BSIE from the University of Florida. He is a certified Jonah through Baylor University and the Avraham Y. Goldratt Institute and is a charter member of the TOC-ICO (International Certification Organization).

Kent retired as the World-Wide Operations Improvement Manager from MEMC in Jan 2002, continuing to promote Constraint Management and Focused Lean Methods, through Workshops and contract assignments. Kent joined Raytheon in 2007 and is a Certified Material Program Manager, focusing past successes toward Raytheon's Supply chain and retired again in 2016.

He has taught TOC and Focused Lean fundamentals as part of University of Texas at Dallas, Supply Chain EMBA and Lean / Six Sigma certification programs.

**Stan Renteria** Apr 2022

Stan's career has been focused on manufacturing operations and quality, having worked in the automotive, aerospace, telecommunications, and medical device industries.

Stan is currently responsible for a multi-site Quality Systems Configuration Management team which executes product and QMS document changes for Medtronic businesses located in six U.S. states.

For more than two decades, Stan has actively cultivated his interest in leadership and self-improvement and takes the opportunity to sharpen and practice these "soft skills" daily in his effort to add value to people around him.

Stan is an ASQ Senior member and holds CSSGB and CQIA certifications

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**Edward Richards** Feb 2024

*Ed.D., M.S., B.S., A.S*

Adjunct Faculty Tarleton State University, Mayfield College of Engineering, Department of Engineering Technology. Teach Graduate Level Program in Quality and Engineering Management.

Develop and deliver graduate level Engineering Management Courses including: Introduction to Engineering Quality and Leadership, Project Management, Six Sigma Analysis, Project Financial Risk Management, and Engineering Research. Assess student course performance. Analyze student feedback and complete end of course improvement assessment. Partner with program steering committee to develop and update program needs. Coordinate with department faculty for teaching across the curriculum alignment.

**Education:**

- 1981 - AS Aerospace Technology: College of the US Air Force
- 1985 - BS Operations Management: Troy University
- 1991 - MS Industrial Engineering: East Texas State University
- 1997 - EdD Engineering Education: Texas A&M University
- 2005 - Post Doctoral Studies: Carnegie Mellon University

**Professional Career:**

- 1969-1989: US Air Force
- 1989-1997: General Dynamics
- 1997-2002: Cadence Design Systems
- 2002-2014: Lockheed Martin Aerospace

**Faculty Positions Held:**

- 1996-1998: Adjunct Faculty: Columbia College
- 1999-2011: Adjunct Faculty: University of Dallas

**Andreas Rueter** Mar 2024

Andreas is the Lean Manager for Recaro Aircraft Seating in Fort Worth, Texas. He manages the Lean activities, programs and projects for the local operations.

He has over 20 years' experience and studies in the Lean and Continuous Improvement field in various industries, ranging from automotive to cosmetic products.

His background includes:

- Prior positions of Continuous Improvement Manager, changing companies to a Lean Value Stream, with the honor of having been part of a hand-picked team to launch a lean automotive plant from the ground up.
- Process driven initiation of lean breakthrough projects and programs improving business practices ranging from operations to procurement.
- Utilization of proven lean and continuous improvement practices to accelerate business transformation in various lean maturity levels.

**Kendria Taylor** Mar 2025

KT is a Learning and Development professional with over 20 years of experience spanning education, corporate, and nonprofit industries. Known for her high-energy approach and expertise in experiential learning, KT brings an engaging and interactive style to facilitation, making training sessions not just effective, but also memorable and fun. Her “out-of-the-box” methods consistently yield innovative and long-lasting results for organizations seeking impactful training tailored to their unique needs, keeping participants excited and engaged.

KT specializes in developing and retaining talent through tailored training in communication, collaboration, conflict navigation, and beyond. Her unique ability to capture attention, even during the most challenging times, such as the infamous post-lunch crash, by getting participants out of their seats, laughing, and actively engaging throughout the session, ensures that learning is not only effective but also entertaining.

Before founding TG8 Solutions Insight, KT held senior consultancy positions, including with an international leadership training and consulting firm. Her leadership experience spans roles such as Director, Vice President, and Interim CEO, Chief of Staff, where her expertise in operations and organizational development consistently drove measurable success, instilling confidence in her leadership abilities.

KT's impressive credentials include:

- A Master's degree in Family Studies
- TMCA Credentialed Mediator, specializing in Workplace Dispute, Family Mediation
- A Women's Entrepreneurship Certificate from Cornell University
- Goldman Sachs 10K Small Business Alumni

KT's clients include prominent organizations like, the City of Denton, Tarrant County, Georgia Power, State Farm, Texas Instruments, Shiner Bock Beers, and many more. Her work has consistently led to improved employee engagement, enhanced communication, and increased productivity, demonstrating her ability to make a tangible difference in the organizations she serves.

**Trokon Tompo** Apr 2025

Trokon is a subject matter expert in process improvement and manufacturing excellence. A Six Sigma black belt certified by the ASQ, he has deep experience working with manufacturers on workforce development and continuous improvement initiatives. Tompo learned early on the value of teamwork and collaboration playing football at Eules Trinity High School in Texas, which ultimately earned him a full Division 1 Intercollegiate Athletic Scholarship to Western Illinois University.

At WIU, Tompo earned BS and MS in manufacturing and engineering. Following internships with Walen Manufacturing and Invensys, he joined Central Moloney Incorporated, where he rose to the position of industrial engineer, devising efficient systems integrating workers, machines, materials, information and energy to create a winning product or service. This led to engineering positions at ABB, Tenaris and KONE Americas, with Tompo joining ATCO in 2015 to lead its engineering functions. At ATCO, Tompo implemented 14 new products and eight new production lines in two years, next joining Lockheed Martin as a Senior Quality Engineer, where he led and supported all aspects of the organization's shop floor quality and continuous improvement efforts.

Armed with a wealth of manufacturing expertise and experience, Tompo launched Myriad Industries LLC in 2016, supporting manufacturing clients on all aspects of operations with an emphasis on long-term goals, growth, profit and return on investment (ROI). His clients have included Idea Planet, American Airlines, Deloitte, SMU, Sykes and Oldcastle BuildingEnvelope. Ultimately, Tompo describes his business as a factory training company. "We teach professionals how to be better professionals," he explains, adding that he focuses on the workings of the whole team. "I want to know who is working the line, who's managing it, who's maintaining the equipment, who is the champion or the business owner. I take all of these variables in before I diagnose the problem and propose a solution."

**Linda Westfall** Mar 2016

Linda Westfall is the president of The Westfall Team, which provides software engineering, software quality engineering, and software project management training and consulting services. Linda has more than 35 years of experience in real time software engineering, quality, and metrics. She has worked as a software engineer, systems analyst, process engineer, and manager.

Linda is a past chair of the ASQ Software Division and has served as the Division's Program Chair and Certification Chair and on the ASQ National Certification Board. Linda also teaches multiple courses through ASQ Learning offerings.

Linda was a significant contributor to the PMBOK editions 3 and 4. Linda is the author of "The Certified Software Quality Engineer Handbook". She has a PE in Software Engineering, and is an ASQ CSQE, CMQ/OE, CQA, CBA, a PMI certified PMP, a Certified Scrum Master and Product Owner and holds other certifications.

Linda and her husband share a hobby of building and shooting fireworks and Linda is a Grand Master of the Pyrotechnic Guild International.

**John Wright** Feb 2024

John Wright is President and Founder of Simple Leadership Strategies, a talent development company that specializes in leadership development, employee engagement, team building, and creating customer advocates.

Through a process called heart learning, he helps organizations transform customers into advocates, work groups into teams, employees into partners, and managers into leaders. These transformations result in operational excellence, improved financial performance, and changed lives.

Training managers and developing leaders for over thirty years, John is a Certified Seminar Leader (CSL) with the American Seminar Leader's Association and has presented seminars in 34 cities in the US, and in 11 countries in South America, Europe, Africa and Asia.

He is a Past President of the Fort Worth chapter of the Association for Talent Development.