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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **ASQ Grants Fellow Status to Edwin Bills**

**Milwaukee, Wis., January 6, 2012** — Edwin Bills, of Sumter, SC, was recently awarded ASQ Fellow status along with 21 other members of the worldwide organization dedicated to and passionate about quality.

The ASQ board of directors recently recognized the Fellows based on the members' distinction and pre-eminence in the technology, theory, education, application or management of quality control.

ASQ Fellows represent diverse industries on a global scale. The 2011 Fellows come from companies and organizations such as Ford Motor Company, General Motors, Delphi, and Thomson Reuters. ASQ has more than 600 active Fellows.

Bills, Principal Consultant at Bilanx Consulting LLC, received Fellow membership status for outstanding contributions to medical device quality through participation in the development of international risk management, quality systems, and product safety standards; for leadership in worldwide quality education activities; and for ASQ section and division leadership.

During his 23 year career in medical devices, Mr. Bills has held a number of quality and regulatory affairs positions. Mr. Bills ASQ Certified as Quality Engineer, Quality Auditor, and as Manager of Quality/ Organizational Improvement. He also is Regulatory Affairs Certified through the Regulatory Affairs Professionals Society, and received BS and Masters degrees from the University of Cincinnati.

Mr. Bills is a current member of the US national committees on medical device risk management and also on medical device quality management systems. He currently teaches risk management courses in the Virginia Tech Health Products Risk Management Graduate Program as well as consults with medical device companies on their quality and product risk management systems.

"ASQ Fellows, including Edwin Bills, are extremely passionate — sharing their time, ideas and expertise to make the world we live in better through quality," said James Rooney, ASQ president. "These men and women truly are leaders in today's quality movement."

According to ASQ bylaws, Fellow membership status may be awarded to those individuals who have been ASQ members in good standing and meet the following criteria:

- Have at least 15 years of quality-related experience.

- Meet minimum score requirements across six professional categories.
- Are sponsored by peers and endorsed by their ASQ section and/or division.
- Have been a senior member for five years or longer.

For a complete list of 2011 ASQ Fellows, please visit <http://www.asq.org/media-room/press-releases/2012/20120105-fellow-status-22-members.html>.

### **About ASQ**

ASQ is a global community of people dedicated to quality who share the ideas and tools that make our world work better. With millions of individual and organizational members of the community in 150 countries, ASQ has the reputation and reach to bring together the diverse quality champions who are transforming the world's corporations, organizations, and communities to meet tomorrow's critical challenges. ASQ is headquartered in Milwaukee, Wis., with national service centers in China, India, and Mexico. Learn more about ASQ's members, mission, technologies, and training at [www.asq.org](http://www.asq.org).

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