



The Quill

March 2022

• DUKE STREET •

A Periodic Column by
Rod Duke, Co-CEO and President



The New Normal Is Not Normal

As a baby boomer – I feel blessed to have lived in this era the past 60+ years. Yes, we had the Cuban Missile Crisis; we had an energy crisis while Jimmy Carter was in office; the Berlin Wall came down; we had the Soviet Union dissolution; cancer treatment advancements; heart medical advancements; the introduction of the cell phones; the internet was born; and we had many other technology advancements. All-in-all it has been a good six decades. What will the next six decades hold for our families?

I started typing this *Duke Street* column thinking about the people of Ukraine and thinking about the issues we are all still facing with short and longer-term effects of Covid19 and the pandemic. In addition, news of a North Korea ICBM successful missile test just popped up – again. I thought this “new normal” is not really normal at all. I am not a history buff, but I do know that with the advancement of technology comes change. Personal communications, social media, the live internet streaming, among others, are changing what us baby boomers think of as “normal”.

Qualis – A Purpose Led Company: You have heard me talk about my desire for Qualis to remain a purpose led company. A company that stands for something it be-

lieves in, going beyond profits and positively impacting society as a whole. It remains uplifting to me to know that every day, our Qualis employees are doing very important work that promotes not only our national security but the national security of our NATO partners as well. Our civil space activities support a wide range of significant valuable causes as you know. Your efforts, both directly and indirectly, are saving lives and protecting people. Deterrence is one way you are helping save lives. Us baby boomers recall the Ronald Reagan presidential advertisement that talked about a Bear lurking in the woods and inferring that we – the United States – needed to be bigger and stronger than the bear. The bear, of course, being a symbol of Russia. Economic sanctions alone will not stop the bear. So we need our Military Might to stay strong – as a deterrence, hopefully, rather than an active force.

As I think about what the next six decades may have in store for my five grandchildren, I wonder what their “normal” will be. Unfortunately, two years of their lives are off to an abnormal start from my perspective. These are serious times for our nation and world, but let me leave you with one last thought that might make you smile.

“It’s tough to make predictions, especially about the future.”... Yogi Berra

As always, thank you again for all you do for our customers, community, country, and Qualis Corporation. Stay safe out there!



Qualis University

Brent Wren, PhD
Marketing and Outreach Manager

Qualis University: Supporting Human Capital

Since the founding of Qualis Corporation, one of our enduring goals has been developing and supporting our most

critical resource: PEOPLE. Our founders believed in the value of promoting leadership, providing opportunity, and caring for our employees. Twenty-eight years later, one of our core values continues to be

Caring for Our Employees. As demonstrated through the benefits and training provided by Human Resources and programs like our Innovation Awards, PRIDE Awards, and corporate outings, the “caring for our employees” culture at Qualis remains strong.

On the Qualis Corporation website, you may have noticed a tab for our newest effort to support our people, **Qualis University**. In case you missed it, this article will introduce you to our latest endeavor and serve as your official invitation to come Learn, Grow, and Connect with Qualis U.

What is Qualis U?

Qualis University is our corporate learning program to support formal and informal development opportunities for members of the Qualis family. The mission of Qualis U is to: Create a *Learn, Grow, Connect* philosophy that fosters the development of hard and soft skills that employees need to be successful in support of personal and corporate goals, strengthening the organization’s culture. In simple terms, it is a centralized effort to help strengthen skills and facilitate the professional advancement of our employees, and we are proud to make this addition to our existing professional development benefits.

What are the components of Qualis U?

Qualis University serves as the central repository of a wide range of programs, organized around three core tenants:

Learn. Provide training and skill development in support of personal performance and help Qualis stay best-in-class in every aspect of operations. Examples in this area include completion of annual- and contract-mandated training, internally developed courses and curriculum, and supplementary materials like “Go-bys” and guidebooks.

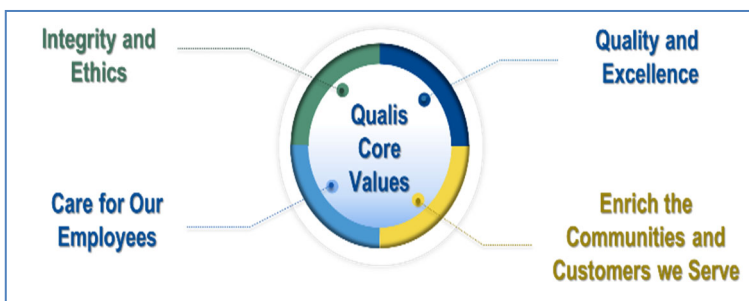
Grow. Support employees as they develop their individual talents, reach their personal potential and achieve their career goals. This is accomplished by supporting formal degree pursuit, tuition reimburse-

ment, professional development/conferences, certifications, workshops, seminars, etc.

Connect. Help employees connect with colleagues within their discipline and management within the company. Often the resources and answers people need come from those around them. By creating an environment of information exchange, mentorship, and networking, Qualis U helps employees plug into a network of people supporting their learning and development. Examples of connection opportunities include leadership series/talks, guest speakers, Communities of Practice, and corporate social events.

How can you get involved?

In the coming weeks, you will see regular updates on opportunities from Qualis U. There will be monthly brown bag/lunch and learn opportunities, leadership talks, and guest speakers on a variety of topics. If there are topics that you would like to see addressed or would be interested in learning more about, please contact Brent Wren with suggestions. You will also see an effort to catalog and update employee capabilities to support connectivity across the organization. This effort will seek to identify capability strengths and gaps, enhancing opportunities for growth and improved excellence.





Lisa's IT Corner

Column by Lisa McNabb.

IT Operations, Info Security & Facilities Director

Cybersecurity Tips for International Traveling



With spring break vacations in full swing and summer vacations just around the corner, please be aware and consider these cybersecurity tips for international traveling:

- When traveling internationally, remember that your mobile phone and other personal communications devices transmit and store your personal information.
- Before you go, take proactive steps to secure your devices and personally identifiable information.
- Leave any electronic equipment you don't need at home during your travel. If you take electronic devices, ensure to protect them by backing up your electronic files, removing sensitive data, setting strong passwords, and ensuring that antivirus software is up-to-date.
 - While traveling, be cautious about where and how you use your devices.
 - Make sure to keep your devices secure in public places such as airports.
 - Be aware of your surroundings and ensure that nobody is trying to steal information from you by looking at your device screen (consider using a privacy screen).
 - Do not use public Wi-Fi. This makes you an easy target and increases your chances of having information stolen.
- Remember, if your mobile device has your work email account, this account must be removed from the device before leaving the United States. All devices containing Company or government proprietary information can not be taken on foreign travel.

Some threats, such as device theft, for example, are obvious. However, others, such as data thieves trying to steal passwords that could compromise your personally identifiable information and/or access your accounts, will be invisible. You may be especially vulnerable in locations with public Wi-Fi, including internet cafes, coffee shops, book stores, travel agencies, clinics, libraries, airports, and hotels. Some helpful tips:

- Don't use the same passwords or PIN numbers abroad that you use in the United States.
- Do not use public Wi-Fi to make online purchases or access bank accounts.
- If for some reason you must use a public Wi-Fi network, periodically adjust your phone settings to forget the network, then log back in again and turn off your phone's auto-join function.
- Try purposely logging onto the public Wi-Fi using the wrong password. If you can get on anyway, that's a sign that the network is not secure.
- Remember to avoid using public equipment – such as phones, computers, and fax machines – for sensitive communication.

When you get home, remember that electronics and devices used or obtained abroad can be compromised. For example, your mobile phone and other electronic devices may be vulnerable to malware if you connect with local networks abroad. So update your security software and change your passwords on all devices.

NOTE: [Featured Jobs, Referrals, PRIDE Awards, and New Hires are located on the Qualis Employee Portal!](#)

Follow link to: <https://www.qualis-corp.com/employee-portal/login/>

Qualis Cares About Kids

You likely have heard of the *Make-A-Wish Foundation* and its amazing history of fulfilling the wishes of thousands of children with a critical illness. Some of you may even know of a child and their family that has their wish granted. If so, you have seen firsthand how a wish can be the spark that helps these children believe that anything is possible and gives them the strength to fight harder against their illnesses.



What you may not know about is the passion and dedication that members of our own *Qualis* family have for supporting *Make-A-Wish* kids. For the past two years, Chuck Goble, Alexis Goble, and Laura Wren have completed the *Make-A-Wish Alabama Trailblaze Challenge*. Through this program, hikers spend several months training and raising money

through fundraisers, donations, and events, culminating in a one-day, 26.3-mile hike along the Pinhoti Trail, crossing the highest point in Alabama! Last year the *Make-A-Wish Alabama Trailblaze* group raised over \$930,000, leading to 100 life-changing wishes granted to Alabama children. Chuck, Alexis, and Laura each raised over \$3,500 for the cause and have gotten to witness several wishes being granted over the past year.

Alexis and Laura are at it again, training and fundraising for this year's *Challenge*, which will take place in April. They have organized a *Trailblaze Jr Challenge* event to allow kids to support *Make-A-Wish*, while also getting to experience their own mini-Trailblaze Challenge.



Through our *Qualis Cares* program, we are proud to support their work on behalf of *Make-A-Wish* and the kids of Alabama. We wish these members of our *Qualis* family well in their endeavors leading up to one big life-changing day.

Make-A-Wish.



As tornado season has arrived it is an important time to make sure you are prepared in the event of a tornado. Below are some ways that you can prepare and stay safe during a tornado:

Preparing for a Tornado

- Know the signs of a tornado.
- Sign up for your community's warning system / buy a weather radio.
- Pay attention to weather reports.
- Identify and practice going to a safe shelter. (The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room or basement on the lowest level of a sturdy building.)
- Know the weather safety plan for your work or school.
- Plan for your pet.
- Prepare for long-term stay at home or sheltering in place. (Gather emergency supplies, cleaning supplies, non-perishable foods, water, medical supplies and medication.)

Staying Safe During a Tornado

- Immediately go to a safe location that you have identified.
- Pay attention to the Emergency Alert System, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems
- Protect yourself. (Cover your head or neck with your arms and putting materials such as furniture and blankets around or on top of you.)

Do not try to outrun a tornado in a vehicle (If you cannot get into a building, cover your head and neck with your arms and cover your body with a coat or blanket, if possible.

Additional information can be found at www.ready.gov/



Qualis Corporation

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Qualis Corporation Director of NASA Programs James Bruce was on hand for the rollout of the @NASA_SLS rocket and @NASA_Orion spacecraft as it arrived at the launch pad. Qualis is proud to be part of the #Artemis team that will inspire the next generation of lunar explorers, while stimulating a new round of scientific discovery and economic development around space.

Be sure to follow us on Social Media to keep up with what is happening at Qualis as well as Job Openings!



Qualis Corporation

NOW HIRING!!
 Location: Dugway, UT

Deputy Program Manager (1985599)

Technical Writer (1985390)

Test Data Collector (1926566)



Eglin Wide Agile Acquisition Contract (EWAAC) Award

Qualis was part of the JB Solutions Team that recently won an award for the EWAAC, a contracting vehicle for the Agile Weapons Division of the US Armament Directorate at Eglin AFB. The EWAAC is focused on digital acquisitions, agile processes, open system architecture, and enterprise analytics. The primary objective is to provide rapid response applicable to all areas and lifecycle phases of weapons development to include weapons concepts, concept development, concept demonstrations, weapons system procurement, production, fielding, operations, and sustainment to quickly meet current and future weapons system requirements. The contract provides Air Force customers with Science and Technology (S&T); Research and Development (R&D); Test and Evaluation (T&E); Integration / Assembly; Production and Fielding; Operations and Sustainment; Modernization; Prototyping; Experimentation; Studies, Demonstrations, Testing of prototypes; Hardware and Software modifications; Weapon Design; System Modeling; and Data mining/collection/analysis. EWAAC is a 10-year indefinite delivery indefinite quantity contract with a \$46 billion ceiling.