

## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Fifth Annual Lab Quality Confab Returns to San Antonio on November 15-16, 2011

AUSTIN, Texas (April 26, 2011) — Organizers of the fifth annual [Lab Quality Confab and Performance Improvement Institute](#) announced this week that the event will take place on November 15-16, 2011 at the [Hyatt Regency Hotel in San Antonio, Texas](#), on the famed Riverwalk.

The *Lab Quality Confab* brings together the nation's leaders in the use of [Lean](#), [Six Sigma](#), [ISO 15189](#), and other process improvement methods. It is the best-attended such meeting in the [clinical laboratory](#) and [anatomic pathology](#) industry and attracts attendees from countries throughout the world.

"Since its inception in 2007, *Lab Quality Confab* has steadily grown in size and sophistication," stated [Robert L. Michel](#), Founder of *Lab Quality Confab* and Editor-In-Chief of [The Dark Report](#). "It is the only lab industry meeting where clinical laboratory managers and pathologists can come together and share their successes in using Lean, Six Sigma, and similar process improvement methods to raise the quality of services in their laboratories, while increasing productivity and decreasing costs."

Almost every clinical laboratory and anatomic pathology group faces sustained financial pressure to reduce costs—even as the volume of specimens to be tested continually increases. Thus, it is no surprise that growing numbers of lab organizations, hospitals, and health systems are establishing permanent performance improvement programs that incorporate Lean, Six Sigma, and workflow redesign methods.

"*Lab Quality Confab* now has a reputation as the one place where laboratory managers can gather and get accurate and practical information about how to use performance improvement techniques in their laboratories," noted Michel. "In its own way, it has become an incubator of ideas and inspiration for experienced quality program managers. At the same time, *Lab Quality Confab* is a valuable learning resource for beginners and any manager involved in a workflow improvement project."

*Lab Quality Confab* is currently seeking speakers and topics for this November's conference. Lab managers, pathologists, and industry vendors who would like to speak or present a performance improvement case study from their laboratory organization are invited to contact Robert Michel at: [rmichel@darkreport.com](mailto:rmichel@darkreport.com). For more information about *Lab Quality Confab 2011*, visit the website at <http://www.labqualityconfab.com>.

For additional information contact: Justin M. Clark, 512-264-7103

### About THE DARK REPORT

Established in 1995, THE DARK REPORT is the leading source of exclusive business intelligence for laboratory CEOs, COOs, CFOs, Pathologists and Senior industry executives. It is widely-read by leaders in laboratory medicine and diagnostics. The Dark Report produces the famous *Executive War College on Laboratory and Pathology Management* every spring, which showcases innovations by the nation's and globe's leading laboratory organizations. [Dark Daily](#) is an Internet-based e-briefing intelligence service, read worldwide by thought leaders in laboratory and pathology management. Other well-known conferences conducted by THE DARK REPORT are *Lab Quality Confab* (on the use of Lean and Six Sigma methods in labs and hospitals) and [Molecular Summit](#) (on the integration of in vivo and in vitro diagnostics). THE DARK REPORT co-produces [Frontiers in Laboratory Medicine](#) annually in the United Kingdom; [Executive Edge](#) bi-annually in Canada; and [The Business of Pathology](#) bi-annually in Australia.

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