



PinPoint Solutions: Continuous Improvement/ Lean/ Quality

APQP: A Rearview Look

Years ago, right before the economic fallout, we were engaged on multiple searches for newly created positions titled APQP Specialists. At that time, these were “purple squirrel searches”. Our client was a global industrial, heavy equipment manufacturer. Since the client was building out a team of these people, there were multiple openings to fill with few candidates in the market having the depth of experience the client wanted. Of course, this is always the case when new standards and processes emerge in manufacturing, but considering the framework for APQP had been around since the early ‘80’s, you wouldn’t think it would be so difficult to find these people. The housing and construction market crashed and the 30+ openings, including the APQP’s, went on hold indefinitely.

Fast forward to 2017, APQP and, in particular, PPAP are relatively standard expectations in quality and operations overseeing quality professionals. What was once seen as an automotive practice, has quickly been adopted, tailored and implemented across other industries as well. APQP, I liken, to what I learned years ago in shop class, “measure twice and cut once”...plan the process, materials, how it will all fit together and then you manufacture a product.

I’ve spent the last 10 years specializing in Quality and CI roles in manufacturing at PinPoint Solutions. I welcome the opportunity to connect with you about PinPoint Solutions and my expertise in connecting companies with talent.



Recently Filled Searches



- Director of Quality Assurance– WA
- Quality Engineer– MI
- Sr. Quality Director– MN
- Site Quality Leader– UT
- Executive Director of Quality– CA

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Current Searches



- Site Quality Leaders– CA, UT, GA
- Quality Manager– CT
- Director, Lean Continuous Improvement– NC
- Quality Manager– GA
- Director of Quality and Compliance– OR



Meet the Team



Practice Area Director, Packaging & Plastics– Melissa Poole

Melissa Poole has been with PinPoint Solutions since 2008. Starting as an Executive Recruiter and advancing her career to Practice Area Director at PinPoint, she has developed clients in many industries including packaging, chemical, industrial, aerospace and automotive. She counts as clients some of the largest, most well known companies in the country and did so through building relationships with hiring managers, HR, and Talent professionals.

Melissa's passions are her practice areas, Lean/CI and Quality Operations. She works in any industry heavily focused on customer engagement. Melissa firmly believes that in order to become an expert at something, you have to be fully engaged in it, love it and work at it everyday, therefore, these are the areas she's considered an expert in because the majority of her time is spent in this space. Melissa's engaged in and placed numerous Lean/CI and Quality professionals, from VP and Director level to individual contributor level engineers in these functions.

To stay up to date on our Continuous Improvement, Lean & Quality practice area, including industry news and job openings, please follow our LinkedIn Showcase Page [HERE](#).

