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# FDA Compliance on a Budget: Avoiding FDA Trouble While Surviving Budget Cuts

#### John Avellanet

Cerulean Associates LLC

Date: Thursday, December 9, 2010

Time: 1:00pm – 2:30pm Eastern Standard Time (GMT/UT 1800)

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# FDA Compliance on a Budget Avoiding FDA Trouble while Surviving Budget Cuts



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an FOI Services teleconference

# Acknowledgements

#### **FDA**

- Joseph McGinnis
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- Pablo Bonangelino
- Kim Trautman
- Barry Cherney

#### DoJ

Gene Thirolf

### **Industry**

- Mike Weber
- Dan O'Leary
- Anita Fauchier
- Roberto Guzman
- Brian Kaufman

# **Agenda**

- Costs and challenges
- Lean compliance framework
- Lean compliance techniques
- Quick cost-conscious compliance advice

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Industry hurdles
FDA perceptions
True cost of compliance

# **Costs and Challenges**

# - \$92,000,000,000.00

# **Industry Response in 2010**

Bayer to cut 4,500 jobs in global overhaul - reuters

Layoffs return with Abbott's 3,000 job cuts - pharmatimes

Roche details cuts, new buyout plans in global restructuring - wall street journal

Pfizer to slash 10,000 jobs - fiercepharma

Merck to cut 16,000 works, close 16 plants, labs - daily finance

AMAG Pharmaceutical to cut workforce by 24% - reuters

Biogen Idec axes 650 jobs - reuters

Pfizer plots more post-merger job cuts for 2011 - dow jones

# **More Costly Challenges**

- Rising healthcare price pressures
- Knowledge specialization
- Controlling virtual suppliers
- Generational conflicts
- Diversion of technology and regulation
- Globalization marketplace, regulations, liability
- 20<sup>th</sup> century quality systems
- Increased compliance burdens
- RA and QM demographic shifts

Source:

Get to Market Now! Turn FDA Compliance into a Competitive Edge in the Era of Personalized Medicine (Logos Press)

# "Noncompliance always seems to boil down to COMPETITIVE ECONOMICS or deliberate ignorance."

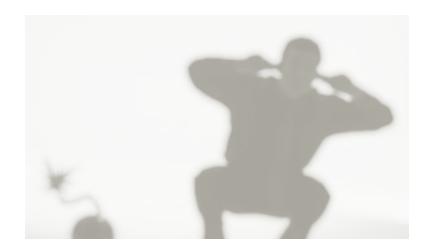
- Gene Thirolf, Director, Office of Consumer Litigation, Department of Justice



"Manufacturers who CHOOSE TO WAIT until FDA investigators find violations rather than policing themselves will find that they have made a

## POOR AND COSTLY DECISION."

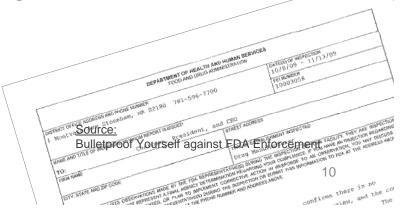
- Dr. Lester Crawford, former FDA Deputy Commissioner



## **483 Observation Excuses**

"It cost too much to fix and we didn't think you'd cite us for such a technicality"

"The fix is too expensive for such a low probability of this happening again"



# 2002 FDA Survey

Surveyed

1,566 firms

Small businesses

966 (61%)

(less than 500 personnel)

Source:

FDA Analysis of Economic Impact Presentation

# 2002 FDA Survey

## Annual Cost of FDA Compliance

Startup / micro firm → \$38,000 per product

Small business → \$61,000 per product

Large, multinational → \$47,000 per product

# **Annual Compliance Cost per Regulation**

SOX, HIPAA, GMPs, QSRs, etc. **296 man-days each year** at \$2,000 per day

(i.e., 296 x 2,000)

Min. Yearly Compliance Cost per Regulation

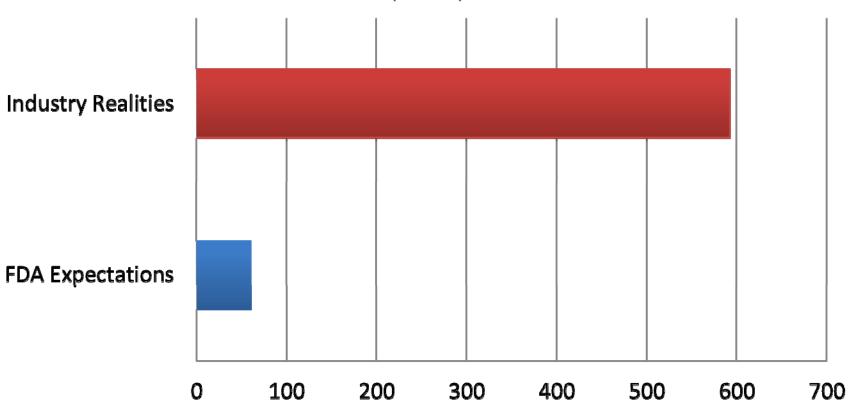
**= \$592,000** 

<u>Source:</u>
IDC Compliance Automation Analysis

# Comparison







# **Two Compliance Questions**

1. How much is **too** much to spend on compliance?

2. How much is to spend?

# \$ 5,400.00 per person



#### Source:

"Lean Compliance for Midsized Companies," Journal of GxP Compliance

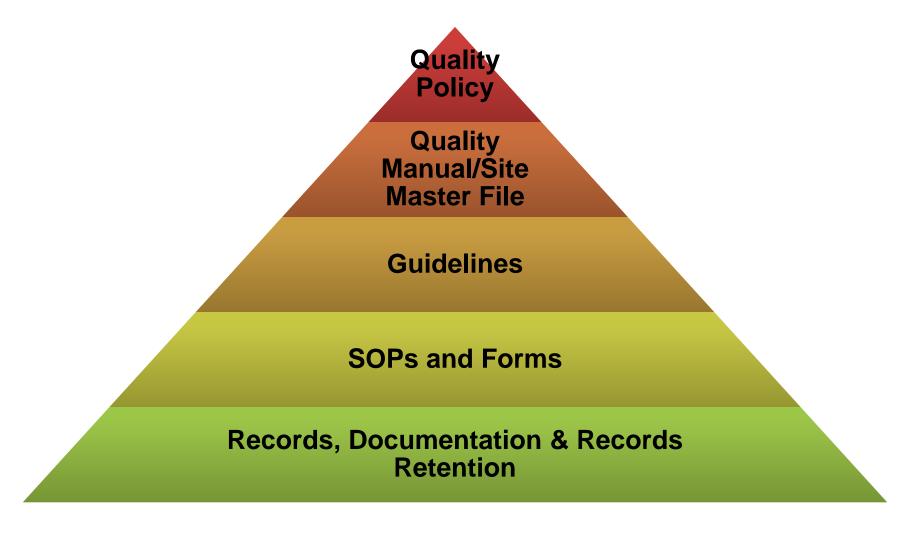
Lean quality management system

Lean regulatory affairs program

Lean cross-compliance coordination

# **Lean Compliance Framework**

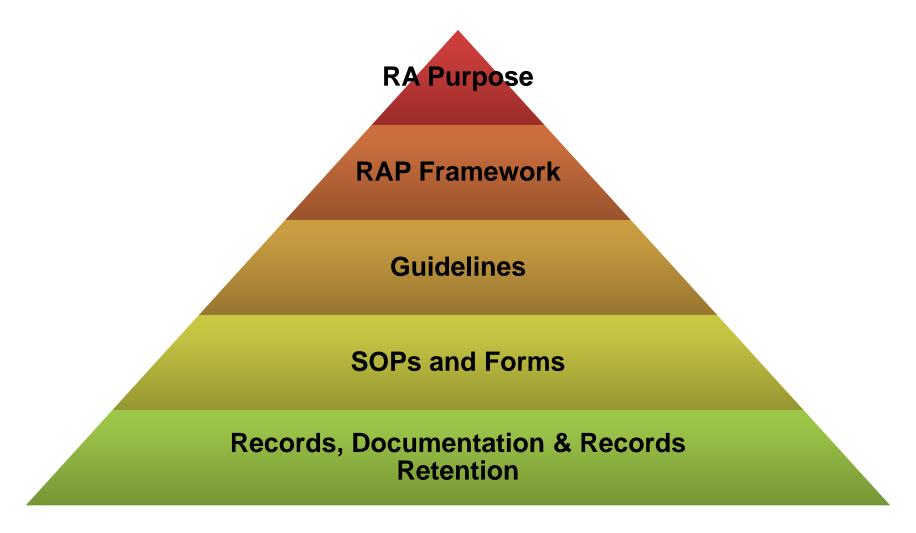
## **Lean QMS Framework**



# **Practically Speaking**

- Speed SOP incorporation into day-to-day
- Written procedures compete for mental focus in an increasingly fragmented work day
- Focus efforts around ensuring comprehensibility and flexibility

## **Lean RAP Framework**



# **Practically Speaking**

- Fill out framework with:
  - annual RA management review
  - compliance radar
  - cross-functional roles RA plays
- Build a regulatory requirements matrix
- Use a CRISP for better cross-functional planning

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# **Cross-Compliance Coordination**

- Leverage other compliance efforts in company
  - sarbanes-oxley audit committees
  - integrated audits of critical suppliers
  - sampling rationales
  - internal audit plans
- Leverage vendor compliance



# **Practically Speaking**

- Improves influence with senior management
- Helps avoid "silo mentality"
  - is focus on ensuring regulatory adherence or ensuring business success ...?
- Minimizes risk of being seen as overhead
  - integral part of operational and strategic success
  - see "Bucking the Regulatory Affairs & Quality Outsourcing Trends" in Regulatory Affairs Journal, May 2010

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Prioritizing with risk
Writing lean SOPs
Using a clinical regulatory integrated strategic plan
Leveraging vendors
Metrics that matter

# **Lean Compliance Techniques**

## Which Should You Do First?

**Best Practices** 

Standard Operating Procedure

**Adverse Event and Complaint Handling** 

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**Best Practices** 

Standard Operating Procedure

**Pest Control** 

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## **Prioritize Based on End Risks**

### **FDA Concerns**

Your Proof ...?

- 1. Patient safety
- 2. Product safety
- 3. Product efficacy
- 4. Regulatory / statute compliance
- 5. Product quality

# Leave a Trail of Risk Control

#### **FDA Concerns**

- Patient safety
- 2. Product safety
- 3. Product efficacy
- 4. Regulatory / statute compliance
- 5. Product quality

#### **Your Proof**

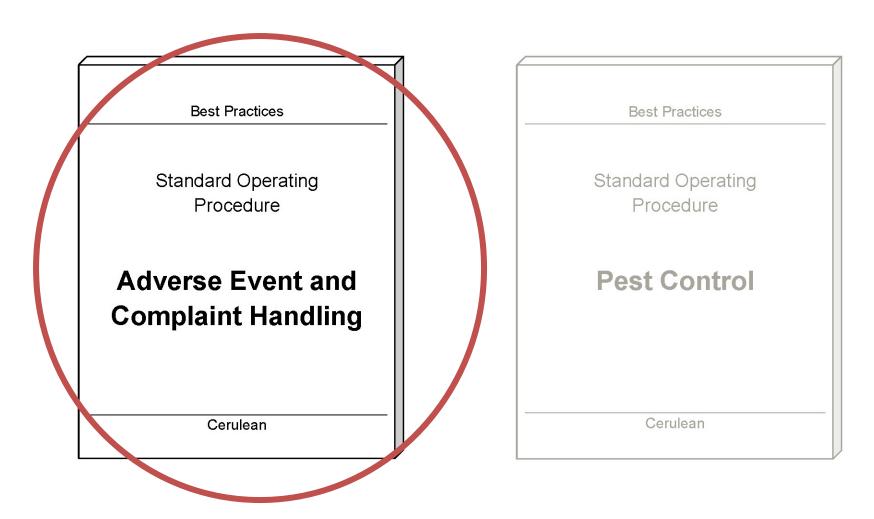
- Clinical trial plans, implemented SOPs
- 2. Consumer complaint files, critical supplier audits
- Clinical / nonclinical results, postmarket studies
- Advertising and marketing materials, validation plans
- Equipment calibration records, PAT trend analyses

# **Lean Compliance Tactic #1**

# Prioritize based on **proximity** patient



# Which Should You Do First?



# Lean SOPs

"This SOP applies to all regulatory and technical staff responsible for authoring and compilation of annual reports, recognizing that IND Annual Reports are to be submitted within 60 days of the effective date of the IND as stipulated in 21 CFR 312.33, and covering the information cut-off date."

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## Lean SOPs

"This SOP applies to all regulatory and technical staff responsible for authoring and compilation of annual reports, recognizing that IND Annual Reports are to be submitted within 60 days of the effective date of the IND as stipulated in 21 CFR 312.33, and covering the information cut-off date."

There are 5 problems with this scope statement that will cause the firm headaches within 1 year – can you find them?

# Lean SOPs

"So anyone else that might actually be involved doesn't need to follow any part of this SOP...?"

"ONLY authoring and compilation...?"

"This staff responsible for authoring and compilation of annual reports, recognizing that IND Annual Reports are to be submitted within 60 days of the effective date of the IND as stipp ated in 21 (FR 312.33, and covering the information cut-off date."

"Why specify the *current* regulation and its *current* timeframe in the scope of the SOP...?"

"So you only follow this process when you have to do an IND annual report for FDA – what about reports for EMA, HC, MHRA, et al...?"

# Five Steps to Lean SOPs

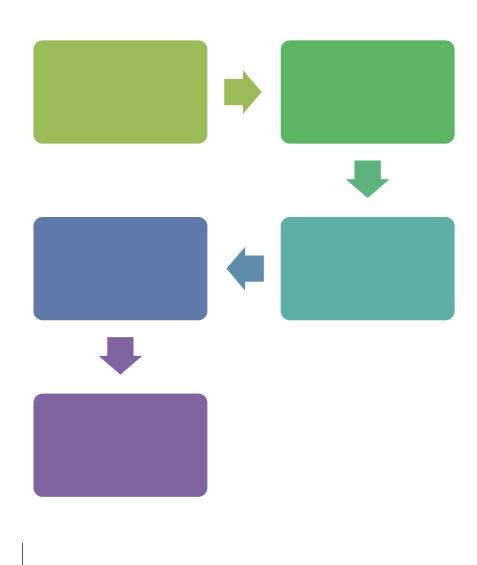
- 1. Map the process
- 2. Strive for readability
- 3. Stay silent
- 4. Put the process up front
- 5. Take advantage of everyday technology

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# "The first thing we're training new inspectors to look for is a workflow or process map."

- Kim Trautman, QSR Author, FDA

- Information flow
- Handoffs
- Decisions
- Approvals
- Records generated



Map the process



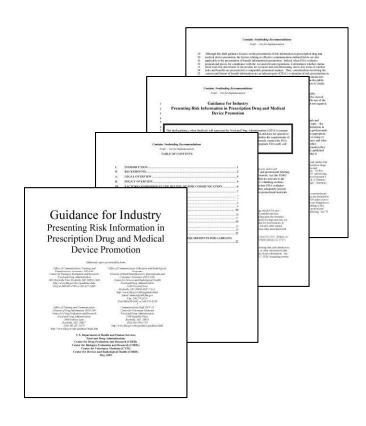
- Training aid
- Speed audits or CAPA investigations
- Process reinforcement
- Rapid prototyping implementation
- Procedural consolidation
- Cross-functional coordination
- Avoid analysis paralysis
- Eliminate non-value added activity

#### **Process map benefits**



# FDA Guidance on Presenting Risk Information

May 2009



Strive for readability

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#### **Manual formulas**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flesch%E2%80%93Kincaid\_readability\_test

#### **Automated in Word-Processing**

- Google Docs
- Microsoft Office Word
- WordPerfect
- WordPro
- Kword

**Strive for readability** 









 $\bigcirc$ 

#### **Original**

"This SOP applies to all regulatory and technical staff responsible for authoring and compilation of annual reports, recognizing that IND Annual Reports are to be submitted within 60 days of the effective date of the IND as stipulated in 21 CFR 312.33, and covering the information cut-off date."

#### Revised

"This SOP applies to all personnel responsible for authoring, compiling, reviewing, and/or submitting annual reports to regulatory health agencies."

- More conducive to how people work
  - "Scannable"
- Easier to understand and follow
  - Day-to-day applicability is simpler
- More streamlined
  - Cost-effective
  - Flexible

**Readability benefits** 









"If we don't need to say it, it's best to simply **stay silent** on the matter."

**Stay silent** 











#### **Original**

"This SOP applies to all regulatory and technical staff responsible for authoring and compilation of annual reports, recognizing that IND Annual Reports are to be submitted within 60 days of the effective date of the IND as stipulated in 21 CFR 312.33, and covering the information cut-off date."

#### Revised

"This SOP applies to all regulatory and technical staff responsible for authoring and compilation of annual reports, recognizing that IND Annual Reports are to be submitted within 60 days of the effective date of the IND as stipulated in 21 CFR 312.33, and covering the information cut-off date."

- More flexibility
  - Avoid inadvertently confining ourselves
- Less chance of typos and other errors
- Easier to achieve readability
- Minimizes risk of having un-provable steps

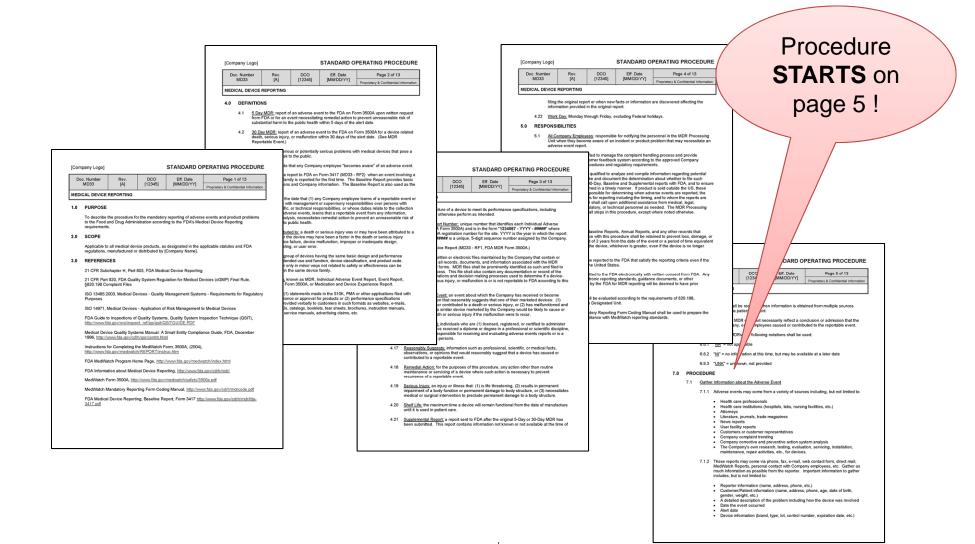






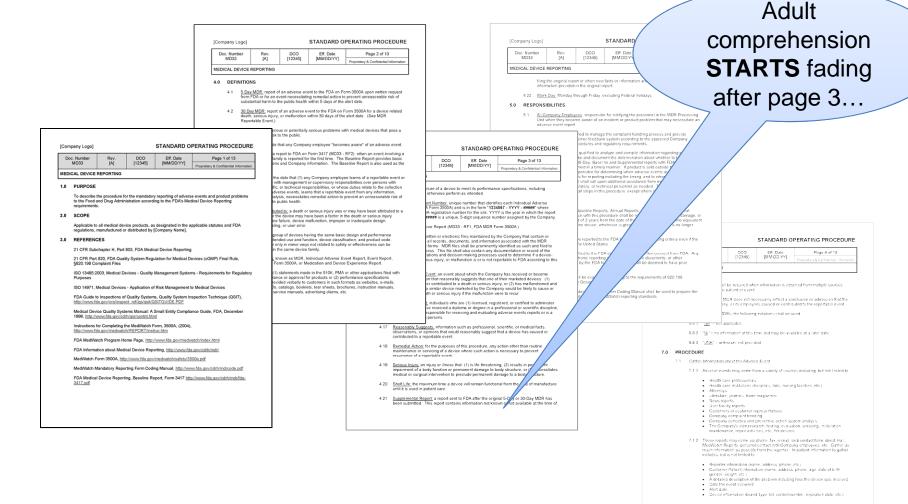






#### Place process upfront





#### Place process upfront



- Aids comprehension
- Supports important information retention
  - Which is more important the process or definitions?
- Encourages people to actually look up the SOP

- Hyperlink appendices
- Hyperlink definitions
- Use a simple intranet webpage with links
- Send out emailed reminders
  - "Did you know that if you're working on an annual report, there's an SOP that can help? Here's the link...check it out."

Leverage technology OOOO

- Easier outreach to Gen X and Y
- Simpler maintenance
- Helps encourage a culture of compliance
  - SOPs becomes more than just paperwork











Prioritizing with risk
Writing lean SOPs

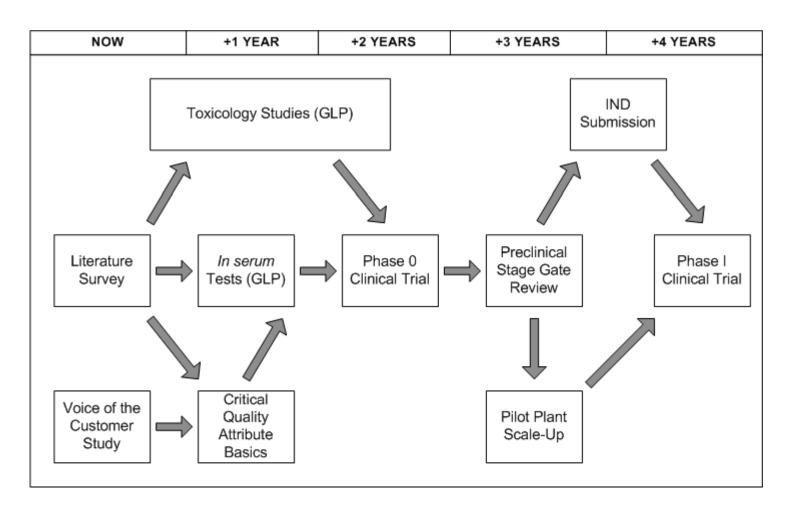
Using a clinical regulatory integrated strategic plan

Leveraging vendors

Metrics that matter

# **Lean Compliance Techniques**

#### **CRISP**



#### Source:

Get to Market Now! Turn FDA Compliance into a Competitive Edge in the Era of Personalized Medicine (Logos Press)

# **CRISP Components**

- Regulatory strategy
  - Core region
  - Global
- Clinical strategy
- Nonclinical strategy
- Safety and efficacy strategy
- Postmarket surveillance elements
- Quality by design coordination strategy
- Timetable of strategic elements

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#### **CRISP Lean Benefits**

- Encourages cross-functional coordination
  - Reduces waste and duplication
  - Better, simpler, easier adoption of quality by design
- Allows for long-term planning horizons
  - "Development" no longer ends at Phase III
  - Provides flexibility points based on regulatory intel
  - Makes partnering milestones and timelines easier
- Encourages valuable strategic role for RA
  - Minimizes risk of RA being seen as expensive submitters

# companies have an average of 651 suppliers each



International Journal of Purchasing and Materials Management Institute for Supply Management



# Three Ways to Leverage Vendors

- 1. Focus on oversight
- 2. Use their SOPs
- 3. Look for learning opportunities

- Do not duplicate their processes
- Focus on oversight of their processes
  - Audit to their SOPs and policies
  - Audit those SOPs and policies to FDA minimum expectations

55

- Document what you did
  - Write your SOPs as "Oversight of [vendor process]"

Oversight focus

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- As records
  - CMO's site master file in your vendor dossier
  - Their master SOP index in dossier
- As a starting point for your gaps
- As an independent benchmark
  - Number of SOPs
  - Types of SOPs etc.

Use their SOPs O







- Ask "Why?" ... a lot
  - Why did you choose to do \_\_\_\_\_ this way?
  - Why did you reference that industry standard?
- Compare and contrast
  - Forms are a great place to find better ways
- Look for items to identify for future revisions
  - Regulators like to see "continuous improvement"

Learn from vendor







#### **Lean Benefits**

- Avoids re-creating the wheel
- Allows easier record-keeping
- Offers opportunities to strengthen compliance
  - Use learnings to "continuously improve"



Goals	Measures					

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1. How we made the company money

2. How we saved the company money

3. How we **minimized risk** to the company

Goals	Measures				
Implement QMS	Action schedule v. plan				
Stakeholder learning of SOPs	Time from approval to training completion				
Success of quality policy	Randomly survey personnel				
Reduce overhead	Time to process change requests				
	Time to move received goods between quarantine and inventory				
Success of QMS	Mock FDA audit results				

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- Time between SOP draft to implementation
  - Avg. hourly wage X No. of days = cost to company
- Number of mock FDA audit critical findings
  - Roughly equivalent to at least an FDA Form 483 observation
  - Three or more = risk of public warning letter
  - WLs cause 6+ mos. decline in stock price of 3%
  - How much does a 3% stock price decline cost the company?

#### **Metrics Benefit**

- Speak the language of senior management
  - Provide greater visibility and strategic importance
  - Draw direct line between compliance ←→ revenue
  - Connection leads to budgetary importance
- Clearly demonstrate continuous improvement
  - To senior management
  - To regulators
  - To investors, business partners, et al

Three keys to budgeting buy-in Find automated tools
Better ROI for training

## **Quick Cost-Conscious Advice**

# Three Keys to Budgeting Buy-In



Assess operational costs quarterly



Show at least a 3-to-1 ROI



Give back at 2RF

#### **Find Automated Tools**

- Vendor whitepapers touting ROI or TCO
  - ROI: 3-to-1 in 6 months, 5-to-1 in 12 months
- Google "[vendor name]" and "FDA"
- Tools that save time
  - Portable scanners for on-site supplier material testing to save back and forth with labs

# **Better ROI for Training**

- Focus on getting an ROI within 6 months
  - As a result of the training, what will you implement that will save money, make money, reduce risk?
- Utilize off-the-shelf
  - Teleconferences and webinars
  - Recorded audio CDs from conferences
  - Slidecasts
     http://www.get2marketnow.com/free-resources/mini-presentations/

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# **Better ROI for Training**

- Average training expenditure per person
  - \$1,041 (2010 Training Industry Report, *Training Magazine*)
- Bring an external training inhouse
  - Typical in-house workshop is \$10K
  - For 10 attendees = \$1K each person
  - For 100 attendees = \$100 each person
  - Consider partnering with local college or association

#### Want More?





Choose from 120 strategies, tactics and tips to:

- Set up cost-effective FDA compliance
- Put in place a proactive compliance team
- Build safety, efficacy, and patient needs into new medicines from Day One
- Speed time to market by at least 10-18 months saving you more than \$2-11 million

Case studies

Discussions & insights from FDA officials

Executive "to-do" lists in every chapter

PLUS an exclusive book website of templates, checklists, mini-seminars and other resources





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# Agenda Summary

- ✓ Costs and challenges
- Lean compliance framework
- Lean compliance techniques
  - Prioritizing with risk
  - Writing flexible SOPs
  - Planning with the CRISP
  - Leveraging vendors
  - Picking metrics that matter

✓ Quick cost-conscious compliance advice

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#### **Executive To-Do List**

- Download reference material in link from follow-up email
- ☐ Take the 38-point lean compliance self-assessment
- Share the results with your team and discuss next steps
- Determine how many SOPs have process maps
- Identify at least 3-5 metrics that matter
- ☐ Schedule your first operational expenditure review
- Regularly read the monthly SmarterCompliance newsletter trial

#### **About Your Presenter**



www.Ceruleanllc.com www.ComplianceZen.com

**John Avellanet** solves complex compliance problems for clients. Winner of the 2009 Best of Business award by the Small Business Commerce Association, Mr. Avellanet has earned international acclaim for his business-savvy, practical compliance advice.

His latest book, <u>Get to Market Now! Turn FDA Compliance into a Competitive Edge in the Era of Personalized Medicine</u>, has earned multiple five-star reviews in industry publications, blogs, and Amazon.com.

He has a breadth of experience designing, implementing, and being accountable for quality systems and compliance programs for FDA the ICH and GHTF, and ISO. For more than 15 years, John served as an executive accountable for compliance, records management, and information technology, most recently as a *C*-level executive for a *Fortune 50* combination medical device and biotech subsidiary.

In 2006, Mr. Avellanet founded his private FDA compliance consulting firm, **Cerulean Associates LLC**.

# thank you



#### Expert in

- ·lean FDA compliance
- quality by design
- ·records management
- •IT compliance

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PO Box 498, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-0498, US

- IT compliance
- records management
- ·quality by design

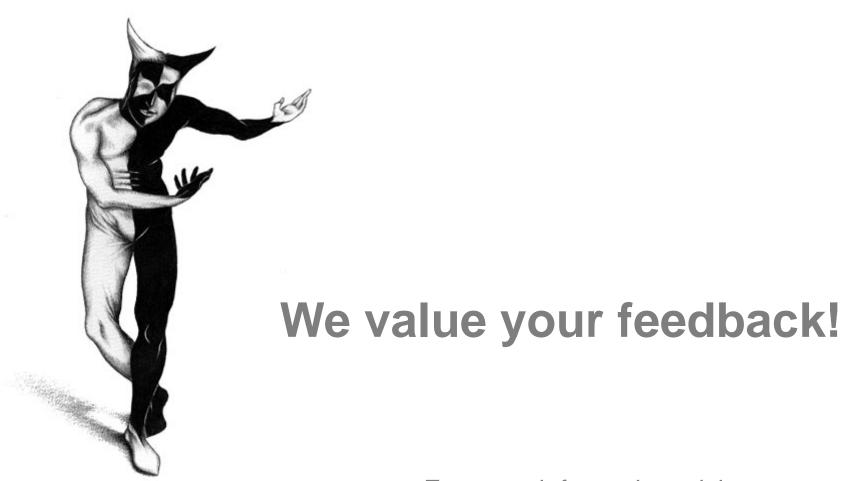
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	Other (please specify	y):								
Please r	ate various aspects o (1 = Poor; 2=Fair; 3=0			ellent – please circle	your answers)					
	What is your overall ra	ating of the o	course?			1	2	3	4	5
	How do you rate the	content of the	e course?			1	2	3	4	5
	Were course materials clear and understandable?  Was the length of the course adequate to cover the content?						2	3	4	5
							2	3	4	5
	Was the instructor kn	owledgeable	about the sub	ject matter?		1	2	3	4	5
	How would you rate the	he instructor	overall?			1	2	3	4	5
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