

Barco press release

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For immediate release

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Barco embarks on Six Sigma for continuous improvement

KORTRIJK, BELGIUM, 28 April 2004 – Barco is proud to announce that it has started the implementation of the Six Sigma methodology for the continuous improvement of business processes in its BarcoView division. Six Sigma is one of the most successful business strategies used today to promote and achieve continuous improvement. It has already been adopted by leading technology companies worldwide. First project results have started to show significant process improvements and cost reductions.

Six Sigma is a proven management methodology aiming at the improvement of business processes. Focusing entirely on the customer, Six Sigma handles a structured, data-driven approach to manage processes, quantify problems and reduce business costs. The Six Sigma methodology is applicable to any business process, including manufacturing, development, sales, marketing and accounting.

Luc Vandembroucke, President BarcoView, stresses the company's commitment to Six Sigma: "Our customers expect that we deliver our products and services faster, better and cheaper. Technologies, products and production processes are gradually becoming more complex. Applying the same business methods over and over again means getting stuck. Before that happens, we want to shift into a higher gear and drastically change our approach. By following the Six Sigma methodology, we will be able to establish a permanent change in culture and continuously improve our business processes. At the same time, Six Sigma will make our customers successful by helping them to realize their Key Performance Indicators."

BarcoView started Six Sigma trainings and coaching programs in August 2003. Currently, the company has committed itself into 14 Six Sigma projects, focusing on a mix of manufacturing and commercial processes. For Six Sigma training and support, Barco has partnered with Six Sigma Qualtec, one of the original firms that started the Six Sigma revolution. Bob Edinboro, Six Sigma Qualtec's European Practice Leader, said "BarcoView's commitment to link projects to strategic corporate priorities and the Voice of the Customer is at the root of its success."

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About Six Sigma Qualtec

Six Sigma Qualtec is a premier provider of performance improvement training and implementation services that drive measurable financial results. Six Sigma Qualtec's methodology is an integrated deployment of training and tools for achieving breakthrough performance including dramatically reduced cycle times, defects and costs. This approach has significantly improved productivity, efficiency and customer satisfaction with clients worldwide. To learn more, call the company at +44 (0) 1926 314349 visit its website at www.ssqj.co.uk

About Barco

Barco, an international company headquartered in Kortrijk, Belgium, provides visualization and display solutions for professional markets. Barco designs and develops solutions for large screen visualization, display solutions for life-critical applications, and systems for visual inspection. Barco has a network of subsidiaries, distributors and agents in almost 100 countries. Barco is quoted on Euronext Brussels and is a BEL 20 and a Next 150 company.