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Dear WEQ EC Member,

Recently, WEQ participation has been limited during meetings of the Executive Committee, the Triage Subcommittee, and the All Quadrant EC teleconferences. Typically we do not achieve or just barely achieve a quorum. When a quorum is not achieved, an official meeting can't be held, and any votes must go out for notational ballot. This is an inefficient process at best and an unnecessary burden on the NAESB office. In addition, the importance of the sharing of ideas and information that should be considered before you cast your vote should not be understated.

Perhaps more importantly, lack of participation may mean that either the quadrant as a whole or your segment is not being heard on issues that may impact it. Remember that as EC members, we are serving not only for the benefit of our organizations, but for the WEQ and on behalf of our particular segment members as well. Thus when we don't participate, we are impacting more than our own interests.

It is recognized that we are all busy and that it is not possible to make the plethora of meetings that take place. It is also recognized that travel restrictions have limited many of us. However, that is why we have alternates for most committees and why teleconferencing is available. So if you can't attend a meeting, please contact your alternate in advance of the meeting to determine whether he or she can sit in for you. For some meetings, submitting your proxy to the NAESB office may also be an appropriate alternative. Finally, if your job responsibilities have changed, and you simply can no longer can meet your NAESB commitments, please communicate this to the NAESB office and or WEQ leadership so that you may be replaced.

As Michael Desselle stressed in his October 3, 2003 open letter, 2004 is a "...critical year for the quadrant's continued success." We need everyone fully engaged in the process and contributing to the committees that they've agreed to work on in order to accomplish the goals outlined on our Annual Plan. If you have any thoughts or suggestions that can be implemented to help you in this process please share them.

Thank you again for your commitment to NAESB WEQ.

Sincerely,

Lou Oberski
Chairman, WEQ EC

Steve Cobb
Vice Chairman, WEQ EC

Cc: R. McQuade – Executive Director
M. Desselle – Vice Chair, WEQ

[Attach list of WEQ Triage members and alternates with phone number and e-mail address]
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