Current Use of Management Systems and Quality Tools in Companies Located in the State of Puebla, Mexico and its Surroundings

L.A. Gómez-Jaimes, J.A. Cruz-Moreno, and L. Cuautle-Gutierrez

Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla (UPAEP) Puebla, México

Corresponding author's Email: luisantonio.gomez@upaep.edu.mx

Authors Note: Luis Antonio Gómez, mechatronic engineer with experience in the automotive and metalworking industry. Jesús Alejandro Cruz, mechatronic engineer with experience in the automotive industry. The authors acknowledge the support provided by the employees from various firms in and around the state of Puebla, Mexico, who kindly responded to the survey sent. Special thanks to Dr. Luis Cuautle who advised us during the development of this research.

Abstract: According to what Geert Hofstede stated in his study of *cultural dimensions*, the Mexican society is characterized for having a relatively small desire to save for the future and wanting quick results; this type of disruption also occurs in most firms placed in Mexico. One way of effectively managing the companies and stopping them from falling into this kind of disorganization, is through the implementation of *quality tools* and *quality management systems*. Nonetheless, are the companies in the state of Puebla and its surroundings, using these methods to achieve a *continuous improvement*? Or are these methods being "implemented" to keep operating in the current market? The main objective of this paper is to show that the knowledge acquired during college by employees about QMS and QCT and their application in the industries located in the studied region, allows highlighting a contrast as indicated in the study of cultural dimensions.

Keywords: Cultural Dimensions, Quality Management Systems, Quality Tools, Continuous Improvement