Almost half of the year has gone and it seems like only yesterday that we were hosting the World Business Capability Congress in Auckland, New Zealand. This was an impressive event with over 190 presentations and 28 countries represented. If you missed out on the Congress don’t worry - most of the presentations are available at http://www.worldbusinesscapabilitycongress.com as written articles, ppt slides or as videos.

At the Congress the New Zealand Best Practice Competition, International Best Practice Competition and Global Benchmarking Award were launched. These events were a major success with entries from 8 countries and over 35 presentations from organisations competing for the awards. To see who won visit http://blog.bpir.com/benchmarking/global-benchmarking-and-best-practice-awards/.

The good news is that the 2nd International Best Practice Competition and 2nd Global Benchmarking Award will be held at the Global Business Excellence Conference in Singapore, 30/31 October. These competitions are quick, easy and fun to enter – see http://www.bestpracticecompetition.com. Have a think about what your organization does well and submit your entry by 22 July. If successful you will be asked to share your best practice in an 8 minute presentation in Singapore.

Some countries offer a local competition that feeds into the international competition:
- **Australia** – for an entry form contact Bruce Searles, bruce@benchmarkingpartnerships.com.au
- **India** – contact Suresh Lulla, ssl@bestprax.com
- **New Zealand** – for an entry form contact Michael Voss, michael@coer.org.nz, dead-line for entry 1 July.

Best new song on Quality and Business Excellence:

- Listen and move your body to the next big hit in your country http://blog.bpir.com/latest-news/excellence-canada-rap-song-thats-how-we-roll/. Written and performed by Adam Stoehr, Vice President – Education, Excellence Canada – BPIR.com’s partners in Canada. Dates for Adam’s world tour will be released soon ☺... **Tip..** Play the song at your next senior executive meeting, ramp up the volume to maximum, and see interest in business excellence soar!

Upcoming workshops:

- **May 30 – 31: Benchmarking for Excellence, Singapore** - Only a few places left. Benchmarking is a powerful change management technique enabling innovative breakthrough improvements to strategies, processes and practices - the problem is that few people have been trained on how to do benchmarking effectively. This practical 2-day workshop will help you to kick start a benchmarking project and give you hands-on experience in using COER’s TRADE Best Practice Benchmarking Methodology. To register contact registration@mgdelxis.com

- **September 24-25: Benchmarking for Excellence, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.** To register contact caseyang@bto.com.my

Upcoming conferences:

- July 29-31: 17th International Conference on ISO & TQM (17-ICIT), Sydney, Australia http://www.hk5ss.com/icit/
- September 23-25: Canadian Quality Congress, Calgary, Canada [http://canadianqualitycongress.ca/mock-event-program/call-for-papers/]

Recent publications:

- Information Communication Technology Best Practice Report - [http://www.bpir.com/information-communication-technology/menu-id-71.html]

PhD Research opportunities:

- We aim to add to our PhD research team in 2013. If you would like to pursue a PhD in Benchmarking, Business Excellence or Best Practices refer to [http://www.coer.org.nz/acquire/phd-applicants].

BPIR.com: Looking to make a bigger impact:

- BPIR.com continues to lead the way in sharing best practices and improvement tools. Now including over 100 business excellence award winner applications, over 70 self-assessment tools and 1,000’s of best practices linked to all process areas.
- Can you help the [www.BPIR.com] to become more successful as a contributor of information, writing Best Practice Reports, assisting with the design of the website, marketing the website or joining our leadership team? If so, it would be great to hear from you.

Best regards

Robin

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