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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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QAI Appoints Sue Baird as New Technical Manager

San Diego, CA – Quality Assurance International, Inc. (QAI, Inc.), the global leader in organic certification services, today announced the appointment of **Sue Baird** as its new technical manager.

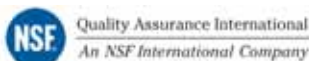
In her new role, Ms. Baird will oversee QAI's technical and inspection departments. She will also serve as QAI's technical authority for organic standards and the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP) principles.

Ms. Baird has over eleven years of experience in the organic industry as well as extensive experience in conducting organic certification educational workshops for university personnel, agricultural crops, dairy, and beef producers. She has developed workshops in collaboration with the USDA-National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service, the Independent Organic Inspector's Association, Missouri Department of Agriculture and the University of Missouri Extension Service.

Prior to joining QAI, Ms. Baird was division manager for a third-party organic certification organization in Missouri. As division manager, she worked closely with producers and processors of crops and livestock, overseeing certification efforts and ensuring compliance with NOP regulations. Before that, she developed and managed the Missouri state organic certification program.

“As technical manager, Sue will continue to leverage her outstanding skills, experience, and insight on organic certification, while working closely with key regulatory agencies. We are pleased to enhance QAI's technical strength and expertise with the addition of Sue to our management team,” said QAI President Kristen Holt.

In addition to her organic training background, Ms. Baird served on the Organic Materials Review Institute Board of Directors from 2003 to 2006, on the National Association of State Organic Programs (NASOP) Board of Directors from 2002-2004, and on the Missouri Organic Association Board of Directors from 2002-2006. She was most recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the Independent Organic Inspectors





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Association (IOIA). She has earned a master's degree in poultry diseases and a bachelor's degree in poultry science, both from the University of Arkansas.

“I look forward to applying my technical expertise to QAI's growing certification business and representing QAI with leading organic industry organizations,” said Ms. Baird. “In my spare time, I enjoy managing my own certified organic vegetable and fruit farm in Missouri and marketing organic products at the local farmers markets, restaurants, and natural food stores.”

Quality Assurance International (QAI, Inc.), the global leader in certification services, has operations in the U.S., Canada, Japan and the European Union. Clients include agricultural producers, food processing facilities, integrated manufacturing operations and contract packing operations, traders, distributors, retailers, and other unique food operations. QAI's programs are designed to verify compliance at every link of the product handling chain, thus assuring consumers that product integrity is preserved in the marketplace. For further information about QAI, visit the company's website at www.qai-inc.com.

