

# Best Practices Study: Partner's Role

Organizations identified by APQC as exhibiting exceptional performance or employing innovative approaches may be chosen to serve as partners in best practices studies. Partners serve as best-practice examples throughout the course of the study for organizations seeking to improve their processes. This honor is presented to a select group of organizations each time APQC convenes a best practices study on a particular business process or issue. Partners receive certain benefits and deliverables, outlined below:

- ▶ the opportunity to showcase capabilities and strengths to a broad audience,
- ▶ networking and relationship building with peers, fellow leaders, and subject matter experts,
- ▶ receipt of important study deliverables at no charge, which allows partners to receive some of the same benefits of paying sponsor organizations,
- ▶ complimentary attendance to site visits hosted by the other best-practice organizations,
- ▶ access to study findings in the project's final report,
- ▶ a case study of your organization prepared by APQC that can be used for marketing, public relations, and educational purposes,
- ▶ spotlight appearance/presentation at the knowledge transfer session, the study-concluding meeting, and
- ▶ an APQC best-practice partner award for display.

## OUTLINE OF PARTNER INVOLVEMENT

APQC's goal is to maximize the benefits to study partners, while minimizing the amount of time participants spend working on the project.

Key Project Activities for Partners	Partner Time (Approx. # days)
Work with an APQC project manager to arrange logistics for the site visit to your organization	0.5 hour
Host site visit at your organization (either on-site or virtual)	4 - 6 hours each + preparation
Complete and return detailed questionnaire data for your organization	1-2 hours
Review and approve case study based on site visit prior to APQC publishing it	1-2 hours
Attend knowledge transfer session: make short presentation and/or participate in panel discussions with subject matter experts and other best-practice organizations	1½ days + travel
▶ Total Approximate Days	2 to 4 days

Note: These estimations are based on past experience and may vary from study to study. Site visits are generally four to six hours long; virtual site visits are typically 2.5 to 3.5 hours.