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ARCO MEMBERSHIP – WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

Founded in 1967 by a group of reporting firms from around the country, the Associated Reporting Companies (ARCO) remains the broadest-based trade association for the Inspection, Information, and Premium Audit industry. Now, more than thirty-five years later, the industry's landscape is progressing through some of the most dramatic changes in modern memory.

Once the independent reporting companies typically operated within defined geographic regions and were often regarded as a *niche* industry; the reporting field was dominated by a small group of firms offering national facilities and services. National firms whose names were once so familiar, have largely consolidated, restructured or vanished from view. In the wake of these changes, the independent reporting services have been busier than ever in their own operating territories. At the same time, they are often called upon to fill the widespread geographical needs of their clients – something which can be best accomplished through effective networking and by establishing viable business exchange relationships with established, responsible independent reporting firms around the country.

The many member companies of ARCO have been thankful for their affiliation. The contacts made through the Annual Meeting of members, have provided a unique opportunity to firm-up friendships and business associations, and assist members in obtaining the type of nationwide assistance which they may be called upon to provide to their customers. Going hand-in-hand with this sort of mutually beneficial networking has been developing friendships, exchanging ideas, experiences and knowledge as well as programs, forms and even direct referrals to prospective customers. In short, all ARCO members have benefited from their small investment of modest dues (\$165.00 annually) and their attendance, whether regular or occasional, at the Annual Meetings.

The Association continues to provide a periodic newsletter to its members and to publish its annual Directory of Members, which is distributed to nearly two-thousand interested recipients in our client industry. The guest speakers and vendors who occasionally address the membership at meetings or in our newsletter, have dealt with some topics of great interest and as our membership grows, new participants introduce fresh ideas and infuse the Association with a renewed sense of purpose.

Thank you for your interest in ARCO. If you have further questions or interests, you may find some answers in our Constitution and Bylaws, available to you on our Website. At our site, you can also review past newsletters, a list of member companies, and other interesting information.

Sincerely, ARCO Membership Committee