

cc BGA ✓

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Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

22 October 1986

The Rt Hon Nigel Lawson MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
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Send copy

Nigel

QUALITY COUNTS

The 1982 White Paper, "Standards, Quality and International Competitiveness" (Cmnd 8621) made a number of recommendations on how Government could improve the competitiveness of British industry and commerce by encouraging the adoption of modern quality techniques, and by setting the right framework of standards, certification and accreditation to support industry's quality efforts.

in attached folder

My Department has today published the enclosed booklet, "Quality Counts", as a follow-up to the 1982 White Paper. The booklet shows what Government has done since 1982 to encourage quality, and how we are improving standards by a more committed input to the work of the British Standards Institution and by greater use of standards and third party certification in purchasing and regulatory activities. It also identifies areas where more needs to be done and invites comments and suggestions for further action.

I hope that all colleagues in Departments which are involved in the purchasing of goods and services, or have regulatory responsibilities which affect industry, will make sure that their Departments have understood the positive influence we can have on the competitiveness of UK industry by encouraging the right approach to quality and standards.

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BOARD OF TRADE
BICENTENARY



I am copying this letter, with a copy of Quality Counts, to the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Douglas Hurd, Peter Walker, George Younger, Nicholas Edwards, Norman Fowler, Norman Tebbit, Tom King, Michael Jopling, Nicholas Ridley, David Young, Kenneth Baker, Malcolm Rifkind, John Moore, and Bryan Nicholson at the MSC.

Yours,

Paul

PAUL CHANNON

JG3ABS