



Advanced Integrated Management Systems Auditing Training Course

Ref: #ISO9971



Course Introduction / Overview:

This course provides a comprehensive framework for mastering the complexities of auditing Integrated Management Systems (IMS). In today's business environment, organizations increasingly combine standards like ISO 9001 (Quality), ISO 14001 (Environmental), and ISO 45001 (Occupational Health & Safety) to enhance efficiency and reduce redundancy. However, auditing these integrated systems requires a more sophisticated, risk-based approach than auditing standalone standards. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, is meticulously designed to elevate the skills of internal auditors from compliance checkers to strategic business partners. We delve into advanced techniques for planning, conducting, and reporting on IMS audits, ensuring they provide tangible value and drive continual improvement. Drawing upon the principles of quality management pioneers like Dr. David L. Goetsch, who emphasizes the critical link between quality, safety, and organizational performance, this course focuses on the practical application of auditing principles. Participants will explore concepts from leading literature such as "The Integrated Use of Management System Standards (IUMSS)" to understand how to assess the synergy and effectiveness of combined systems, ensuring a holistic view of organizational performance and risk management.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Internal Auditors and Audit Team Leaders.
- Quality Assurance Managers and Professionals.
- Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) Managers and Coordinators.
- Compliance and Risk Managers.
- Management System Representatives.
- Consultants specializing in ISO standards implementation and auditing.
- Operations and Departmental Managers involved in the audit process.
- Professionals seeking to advance their auditing skills for integrated systems.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Manufacturing and Engineering.

- Construction and Infrastructure.
- Oil, Gas, and Energy.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Information Technology and Telecommunications.
- Logistics and Transportation.
- Governmental agencies and public sector organizations.
- Consulting and professional services firms.



Target Organizations Departments:

- Internal Audit Department.
- Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC).
- Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) Department.
- Compliance and Corporate Governance.
- Risk Management.
- Operations and Production.
- Engineering and Project Management.
- Corporate Strategy and Planning.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the principles and structure of an Integrated Management System (IMS).
- Master the requirements of key standards like ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and ISO 45001 within an integrated context.
- Plan and prepare risk-based internal audits for multiple management systems simultaneously.
- Apply the process approach to effectively audit interconnected business processes.
- Utilize advanced evidence-gathering and interview techniques suitable for an integrated audit.
- Identify and document non-conformities, observations, and opportunities for improvement with precision.
- Write clear, concise, and value-added audit reports that facilitate management action.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of corrective actions and contribute to the continual improvement cycle.

- Communicate audit findings effectively to senior management and other stakeholders.
- Lead an audit team with confidence in a complex, multi-standard environment.



Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training is designed to be highly interactive, practical, and engaging, ensuring participants can immediately apply their learning in the workplace. This course moves beyond traditional lectures by incorporating a dynamic blend of expert-led presentations, real-world case studies, and collaborative group workshops. Participants will analyze complex scenarios involving the integration of quality, environmental, and safety management systems, learning to identify risks and opportunities from a holistic perspective. A significant portion of the course is dedicated to hands-on activities, including role-playing exercises that simulate audit interviews and team meetings, allowing for the practice of communication and conflict resolution skills in a controlled environment. Team-based projects will challenge participants to develop integrated audit plans and checklists for a model organization. Throughout the program, our expert instructors provide continuous, constructive feedback, fostering a supportive learning environment where participants can build confidence and refine their auditing techniques. This immersive approach ensures a deep understanding of advanced IMS auditing strategies and equips attendees with the practical skills needed to excel in their roles.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Integrated Management Systems (IMS)

- Introduction to Integrated Management Systems (IMS).
- Benefits and challenges of integrating ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and ISO 45001.
- Understanding the high-level structure (Annex SL) and its role in integration.
- The context of the organization in an integrated framework.
- Leadership and commitment requirements across multiple standards.
- The role and competencies of an IMS internal auditor.
- Principles of auditing according to ISO 19011.

Unit Two: Planning the Risk-Based IMS Audit

- Developing the integrated audit program.
- Defining audit scope, objectives, and criteria for an IMS.
- Applying risk-based thinking to the audit planning process.
- Creating an effective integrated audit plan.

- Developing comprehensive audit checklists covering multiple standards.
- Resource planning and selecting the audit team.
- Preparing and distributing the audit plan to relevant parties.



Unit Three: Conducting the Integrated Audit

- The opening meeting and setting the tone for the audit.
- Applying the process approach to audit activities.
- Techniques for gathering objective evidence across integrated processes.
- Effective interviewing and communication skills for auditors.
- Auditing top management and leadership processes.
- Managing time and staying on schedule during the audit.
- Handling challenging situations and difficult auditees.

Unit Four: Audit Reporting and Corrective Actions

- Analyzing audit evidence and formulating findings.
- Classifying non-conformities (major, minor) and observations.
- Writing clear, concise, and value-added audit reports.
- Presenting audit findings at the closing meeting.
- Understanding the principles of root cause analysis.
- The auditee's role in developing corrective action plans.
- Auditor responsibilities in verifying the effectiveness of corrective actions.

Unit Five: Advanced Auditing and Continual Improvement

- Auditing for business performance beyond mere compliance.
- The role of the IMS audit in the management review process.
- Techniques for remote and virtual auditing of an IMS.
- Measuring the effectiveness and maturity of the IMS.
- Identifying and communicating opportunities for continual improvement.
- Future trends in management systems and the evolution of auditing.
- Personal development planning for the IMS auditor.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?



This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

How can an internal auditor transition from a compliance-focused mindset to becoming a strategic partner who drives continual improvement across an entire integrated management system?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by moving beyond the standard procedural training for internal auditors. While many courses focus on the mechanics of auditing against individual standards, this program is architected around the strategic integration of these systems. We teach participants not just how to find non-conformities, but how to understand the synergy between quality, environmental, and safety processes to identify systemic risks and opportunities for business enhancement. The curriculum is deeply rooted in a risk-based, process-oriented philosophy, training auditors to think like business analysts who can assess the overall health and resilience of the organization. Unlike programs that offer a superficial overview, we provide in-depth, practical guidance on managing the unique complexities of an integrated audit, from planning to follow-up. The emphasis on case studies and interactive role-playing, facilitated by seasoned experts from BIG BEN Training Center, ensures that participants develop the critical thinking and communication skills necessary to present findings in a way that resonates with senior leadership. This course transforms auditors into valuable assets who contribute directly to organizational efficiency, risk mitigation, and a culture of continual improvement.