



*Training Course:
Operational Audit, Improvement Planning &
Management*

*8 - 12 July 2024
Milan (Italy)*

Training Course: Operational Audit, Improvement Planning & Management

Training Course code: MA9361 From: 8 - 12 July 2024 Venue: Milan (Italy) - Training Course Fees: 5250 € Euro

Introduction

Course Description Management focusing on initiatives and issues that impact the operating models of business activities and processes, such as environmental stewardship, operational excellence, supply chain optimization, offshoring, talent mobility, innovation, and cloud computing to name a few. Given these dynamics, internal audit is in a unique position to influence value enhancement efforts. This is achievable through Operational Auditing.

Participants will get to explore current and emerging business trends and issues across industry sectors. They will also discover that operational auditing plays an important role in today's business environment well beyond the realm of money, compliance, and traditional internal controls, and into the realm of a trusted business partner influencing management's pursuit of operational excellence. They will also learn how to employ various methods, tools, and skills to collect and analyze operational information and data, identify causes of operational issues and risk exposures, and develop solutions to enhance the operational performance of business activities, processes, and/or resources deployed across the organization.

This highly interactive and dynamic program engages participants through group sharing, focused activities, and case study-based simulations.

Course Objectives of Operational Audit, Improvement Planning & Management

- Identify how the changing business environment has influenced past trends in operational auditing.
- Examine key skill sets and knowledge essentials associated with a trusted advisor.
- Review key aspects of the project planning process that promote the successful outcome of operational audit engagements.
- Describe operations objectives and the drivers of associated risks, measures of risk events, design of operations-focused controls, and criteria to evaluate operational performance.
- Discuss the application of business process improvement methods and tools during an operational audit.
- Define the different types of benchmarking and measurement criteria and
- Explain how benchmarking methodology can be used during an operational audit.
- Discuss different reporting approaches and persuasive strategies to attain management's buy-in to results and solutions.

Target Audience of Operational Audit, Improvement Planning & Management

- Chief audit executives, audit directors, audit managers, audit team leads, with 2+ year's practical auditing experience, and who are looking to integrate operational auditing into their service offering or enhance the value of operational auditing services provided to the organization.
- Business managers are responsible for ensuring effective use and management of corporate resources, who want to evaluate and improve the operational performance of business activities, processes, and/or resources deployed.

Course Outlines of Operational Audit, Improvement Planning & Management

Day 1

Dynamics of Operational Auditing

- Determine the factors that influenced past trends in operational auditing.
- Examine operational auditing today in terms of its changing nature, and the application of alternative methods and tools vs. Traditional audit steps
- Identify operational audit opportunities across the entire organization.
- Construct a value proposition to communicate how an internal audit can be a high-impact partner in creating business value.

Value Centric Skill Sets and Knowledge

- Determine how to drive a positive change in management's mindset about the internal auditor and internal audit activity.
- Assess your current level of technical and business knowledge.
- Assess your current level in value-centric skill sets.

Day 2

Planning for Success

- Recognize the key aspects of, and differences in, planning for operational audit engagements.
- Employ different sources of information to build a business and technical knowledge during project planning.
- Prepare effectively for discussions with client management to achieve the meeting objectives.
- Create objectives that identify what the operational audit is intended to accomplish.
- Examine the relationship between, and need to align, the objectives, scope, and approach to performing the operational audit engagement.

Day 3

The Risk-Based Operational Audit

- Identify the assumptions associated with a risk-based approach to operational auditing.
- Discuss risk-based terminology to ensure a common understanding.
- Appraise alignment of operations objectives with the organization's mission and strategic objectives.
- Evaluate performance measurement criteria for operations objectives.
- Determine which operations drive value creation.
- Predict potential risk events in relation to operations objectives and goals.
- Develop risk statements.

- Develop measures to assess the impact and likelihood of potential risk events.
- Discover operations-focused controls and methods to manage risk and realize opportunities.
- Decide the appropriate tools and techniques to document operating information.
- Assess the design of operations-focused control and methods.
- Evaluate the operational performance of risk management strategies.
- Develop alternative solutions to address operating issues.
- Convince client management about the value of proposed solutions.

Day 4

The Process-Oriented Operational Audit

- Describe the application of business process improvement concepts to an operational audit.
- Outline the components of business processes. □ Assemble baseline data and information.
- Utilize process models and analysis tools to discover issues and improvement opportunities.
- Apply process improvement techniques.
- Illustrate proposed changes.
- Outline the benefits and improvements.
- Describe the importance of testing and measuring process changes.

Day 5

The Performance-Driven Operational Audit

- Explain the application of benchmarking concepts to an operational audit.
- Determine the operations to benchmark.
- Define relevant and appropriate benchmarking measurement criteria and indicators.
- Perform comparative analysis to identify performance gaps and opportunities.
- Summarize benchmarking results.
- Evaluate potential performance improvement opportunities.
- Discuss benchmarking results with client management.

Registration form on the Training Course: Operational Audit, Improvement Planning & Management

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