



ISO 45001 Lead Auditor: OH&S Management Systems Training

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Course Overview

This 10-day ISO 45001:2018 Lead Auditor training course is an advanced, in-depth program designed to develop full professional competence in planning, conducting, leading, reporting, and following up Occupational Health & Safety OH&S management system audits. The course prepares participants to perform confidently as Lead Auditors for internal, supplier, and third-party certification audits in accordance with ISO 45001:2018 and ISO 19011.

The extended 10-day format allows deeper coverage of ISO 45001 requirements, OH&S risk evaluation, legal compliance, audit program management, auditor judgment, and complex audit scenarios. Participants gain extensive hands-on practice through audit simulations, role-plays, case studies, and reporting workshops that reflect real certification audit conditions.

Target Audience

- OH&S / HSE Managers and Officers
- QHSE and Integrated Management System Professionals
- Internal, Supplier, and External Auditors
- Compliance, Risk, and Governance Professionals
- Consultants supporting ISO 45001 implementation and audits
- Managers responsible for OH&S governance and assurance

Targeted Organizational Departments

- Health, Safety, and Environment HSE
- Quality, Risk, and Compliance
- Operations and Facilities Management
- Engineering and Projects
- Corporate Governance and Assurance
- Human Resources and Worker Relations



Targeted Industries

- Construction and Infrastructure
- Manufacturing and Heavy Industry
- Utilities and Power Generation
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals
- Logistics, Transport, and Warehousing

Course Offerings

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

- Interpret ISO 45001:2018 requirements with full auditor confidence
- Apply ISO 19011 principles across complex audit scenarios
- Plan, manage, and lead OH&S audit programs
- Conduct Stage 1 and Stage 2 audits professionally
- Evaluate legal compliance and OH&S risk controls
- Collect and verify objective audit evidence
- Write clear nonconformities, OFIs, and audit reports
- Lead audit teams and manage audit communication
- Verify corrective actions and ensure audit closure

Training Methodology

This ISO 45001 Lead Auditor training applies a structured, auditor-focused learning approach. Technical sessions explain ISO 45001 clauses in depth, while workshops and simulations emphasize audit planning, interviewing, evidence evaluation, and reporting.

Mock audits, role-play exercises, group discussions, and real-world case studies are used extensively to build Lead Auditor judgment and confidence. Daily reflection sessions support learning consolidation and direct application to participants' professional audit responsibilities.

Course Toolbox

- ISO 45001 clause-by-clause audit checklists
- Audit program and audit plan templates
- Audit trail and sampling examples
- Nonconformity CAR writing models
- Audit report structure and follow-up tools

Note: Tools are not physically provided; the course focuses on understanding, interpretation, and practical application of commonly used audit tools and documentation.

Course Agenda

Day 1: Foundations of Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems

- **Topic 1:** Purpose and structure of ISO 45001:2018
- **Topic 2:** Evolution of OH&S management systems and global context
- **Topic 3:** PDCA cycle and risk-based thinking in OH&S
- **Topic 4:** Benefits of ISO 45001 for organizations and workers
- **Topic 5:** Roles and responsibilities within an OH&S management system
- **Topic 6:** Auditor mindset and professional behavior
- **Reflection & Review:** OH&S system fundamentals and auditor perspective

Day 2: Organizational Context, Leadership, and Worker Participation

- **Topic 1:** Understanding organizational context and internal/external issues
- **Topic 2:** Identifying interested parties and their OH&S expectations
- **Topic 3:** Leadership commitment and accountability requirements
- **Topic 4:** OH&S policy development and alignment
- **Topic 5:** Worker consultation and participation mechanisms
- **Topic 6:** Auditing leadership and participation effectiveness
- **Reflection & Review:** Leadership effectiveness and audit evidence



Day 3: Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment, and Legal Compliance

- **Topic 1:** Hazard identification methodologies and sources
- **Topic 2:** OH&S risk assessment techniques and prioritization
- **Topic 3:** Opportunities for OH&S improvement
- **Topic 4:** Legal and other compliance obligations
- **Topic 5:** Evaluating compliance during audits
- **Topic 6:** Auditing risk controls and hierarchy of controls
- **Reflection & Review:** Risk-based auditing challenges

Day 4: Operational Planning, Control, and Emergency Preparedness

- **Topic 1:** Operational planning and control requirements
- **Topic 2:** Managing outsourced processes and contractors
- **Topic 3:** Management of change MOC in OH&S systems
- **Topic 4:** Emergency preparedness and response planning
- **Topic 5:** Incident investigation and corrective action processes
- **Topic 6:** Auditing operational controls in high-risk environments
- **Reflection & Review:** Operational control effectiveness

Day 5: Performance Evaluation and Continual Improvement

- **Topic 1:** Monitoring, measurement, and OH&S performance indicators
- **Topic 2:** Evaluation of compliance and performance trends
- **Topic 3:** Internal audit requirements under ISO 45001
- **Topic 4:** Management review inputs and outputs
- **Topic 5:** Continual improvement models
- **Topic 6:** Evidence-based performance evaluation during audits
- **Reflection & Review:** Performance evaluation audit findings



Day 6: Auditing Principles and Audit Program Management ISO 19011

- **Topic 1:** Auditing principles and ethical conduct
- **Topic 2:** Auditor competence, impartiality, and confidentiality
- **Topic 3:** Establishing and managing an audit program
- **Topic 4:** Audit objectives, scope, and criteria
- **Topic 5:** Risk-based audit planning
- **Topic 6:** Sampling techniques and audit trails
- **Reflection & Review:** Audit program planning decisions

Day 7: Stage 1 Audit – Readiness and Documentation Review

- **Topic 1:** Purpose and scope of Stage 1 audits
- **Topic 2:** Reviewing documented information
- **Topic 3:** Assessing organizational readiness
- **Topic 4:** Identifying high-risk and weak areas
- **Topic 5:** Preparing the Stage 2 audit plan
- **Topic 6:** Reporting Stage 1 audit outcomes
- **Reflection & Review:** Stage 1 audit conclusions

Day 8: Stage 2 Audit – On-Site Audit Execution

- **Topic 1:** Conducting opening meetings
- **Topic 2:** Interview techniques and questioning skills
- **Topic 3:** Collecting and verifying audit evidence
- **Topic 4:** Managing audit trails on site
- **Topic 5:** Handling resistance and difficult audit situations
- **Topic 6:** Conducting effective closing meetings
- **Reflection & Review:** On-site audit execution challenges



Day 9: Audit Findings, Nonconformities, and Reporting

- **Topic 1:** Evaluating conformity and nonconformity
- **Topic 2:** Writing clear and objective nonconformity statements
- **Topic 3:** Classification of nonconformities major/minor
- **Topic 4:** Corrective action requests and root cause expectations
- **Topic 5:** Opportunities for improvement OFIs
- **Topic 6:** Audit report structure and content
- **Reflection & Review:** Reporting quality and consistency

Day 10: Lead Auditor Responsibilities, Follow-Up, and Certification

- **Topic 1:** Lead Auditor roles and leadership skills
- **Topic 2:** Managing audit teams and communication
- **Topic 3:** Audit follow-up and verification of corrective actions
- **Topic 4:** Maintaining auditor competence and ethics
- **Topic 5:** Certification pathways and audit experience requirements
- **Topic 6:** Final mock audit review and exam preparation
- **Reflection & Review:** Lead Auditor readiness and professional action plan

FAQ

What specific qualifications or prerequisites are needed for participants before enrolling in the course?

Participants should have prior knowledge of Occupational Health & Safety concepts, the PDCA cycle, and management system principles. Professional experience in HSE, QHSE, operations, compliance, or internal auditing is strongly recommended. The course is suitable for participants who meet, or are close to meeting, Lead Auditor certification eligibility requirements, including relevant work experience in OH&S management or auditing.

How long is each day's session, and what is the total duration of the course?

Each day is typically structured to run for approximately 6–7 hours, including breaks, workshops, and audit simulations. The total course duration spans 10 days, delivering approximately 60–70 hours of structured instruction, practice, and assessment activities.



Is this course focused more on theory or audit practice?

The course maintains a balanced approach between ISO 45001 technical understanding and practical Lead Auditor skill development. While theoretical foundations are covered to ensure correct interpretation of the standard, strong emphasis is placed on audit planning, evidence evaluation, nonconformity writing, audit reporting, and real-world audit decision-making.

How This Course Is Different from Other ISO 45001 Lead Auditor Courses

This ISO 45001:2018 Lead Auditor Training Course is designed as a corporate-grade, professional auditing program that integrates certification readiness with real operational and governance value. Unlike generic Lead Auditor courses that focus primarily on clause interpretation, this program emphasizes applied auditing judgment, leadership responsibility, and audit effectiveness.

The course connects ISO 45001 requirements, ISO 19011 auditing principles, and real certification audit scenarios into a single structured learning journey. Participants gain insight into how auditors evaluate risk, interpret evidence, determine nonconformity severity, and assess management system effectiveness—not just how clauses are written.

By focusing on both Lead Auditor certification readiness and professional audit competence, the course supports organizations in developing auditors who can confidently lead internal, supplier, and third-party OH&S audits, contribute to continual improvement, and strengthen organizational safety governance well beyond the certification process.



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