

Auditing for Performance Improvement



Audit fatigue is increasingly common in the energy industry. Large numbers of low quality audits, delivering little or no benefit, are perceived as a burden by management and workforce alike. Yet major accident investigations commonly cite weak audits as a contributing factor.

This situation persists often because those responsible for audits do not possess vital skills. Xodus Group personnel have skills, experience and techniques acquired through years of practising and learning in the field. We apply this expertise by making audits rigorous, engaging, valuable – and valued.

Xodus Group can participate in your audit programmes in a number of ways:

- › Audit programme development and review (streamlining)
- › Provision of integrated audit teams e.g health, safety, environment and operations
- › Provision of technical specialists from the multi-disciplined Xodus Group
- › Development of audit procedures and protocols
- › Auditor training.

Audits conducted by Xodus are characterised by:

- › Professional and personable planning and delivery
- › High levels of personnel and management engagement
- › A focus on real practices and behaviours, not paperwork and bureaucracy
- › Industry-leading technical expertise
- › Measurable improvements in performance.

Typical audit	Xodus audit
Potentially ill-timed and ill-defined exercise.	Thorough assessment of the feasibility conducted, including challenge of timing, objectives and scope
No pre-audit engagement with site.	At least one call with operational management on site before the audit (for engagement) followed by issuing of a briefing note.
One to one kick-off with technical specialist eg HSE adviser.	Brief opening meeting on site with operations management team (for engagement).
Majority of auditing time spent in offices looking at documents.	Majority of auditing time spent on site, observing plant, working practices, and talking to personnel.
Focus on paperwork.	Focus on actual behaviours and physical conditions (control of risks).
A lengthy list of superficial corrective actions.	A small number of high value findings based on deep root cause analysis.
A wrap up meeting with the relevant technical specialist e.g HSE Adviser.	High impact closing presentation to senior management highlighting strengths and weaknesses (root causes).
Management unaware of the audit or its findings.	Management feel accountability for change where it is needed.
Lengthy textual report.	Concise, photographic-based report.
No discernible changes at time of next audit (except in paperwork).	Measurable improvements in performance at next audit (fewer incidents, fewer non-compliances, increased efficiency).

For more information contact:

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