

Conducting combined and integrated audits

Combined and integrated audits

For clients who have implemented more management systems (QMS, EMS, OHSMS or some other) CQS offers simultaneous, i.e. combined audits of all systems being assessed. In case of clients who have connected all partial system approaches into a single management system, what is known as an integrated audit is conducted.

A combined audit is an audit during which the team of auditors, after an opening common meeting with the company's management, divides into smaller teams which assess separate management systems (QMS, EMS, OHSMS or some other).

In this way the audit is carried out in organisations where individual systems were implemented separately and each of them has its management representative who is responsible for documentation of the system functionality.

An advantage of the combined audit is performing the assessment of all management systems in a single period of time. Thanks to this, interference in the standard operation of the organisation is not so frequent.

An integrated audit (it means that a team of auditors verifies the systems simultaneously) is conducted in case of advanced clients who have implemented a single system where the elements of separate systems are functionally interconnected and integrated. The organisation is audited by 1 team of auditors, which can be completed with a technical expert, for instance for EMS, OHSMS, HACCP.

This type of audit is carried out by auditors capable of assessing at least two management systems.

Management systems integrated in practice most frequently:

- QMŠ/EMS
- QMS/EMS/HACCP
- QMS/OHSMS
- QMS/EMS/OHSMS
- QMS/EMS/HACCP/OHSMS
- QMS/ISMS/itSM

and various other combinations.

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Benefits of the combined and integrated audits for client

The combined and integrated audits:

- save time and costs to the client
- enhance awareness by the employees of the organisation being audited of a single functional management system
- increase self-confidence by the organisation's employees as well as its management thanks to the maturity of their management system

Having passed the audit successfully, the organisation will also receive, in addition to standard certificates, a silver certificate in case of a combination of two systems, a gold certificate in case of a combination of three systems, or diamant certificate, when four or more systems have been audited simultaneously.



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