

Lean and agile auditing – delivering added value from audit in an efficient way

February 4th, 2021

Lean auditing refers to the use of 'lean' principles to drive added value in audit work and improve efficiency and productivity. Lean provides tools and techniques to eliminate waste, maximize impact and increase value added activities – key for many internal audit functions.

Agile refers to associated techniques, first used in software development and now applicable to internal auditing.

This course will show you how to apply lean and agile methodologies to internal audit to enhance value add, reduce waste and become more flexible and agile.

Who should attend: heads of internal audit, internal audit managers and experienced audit staff.

What will you learn?

Upon completion you will be able to:

- Gain a fresh approach to thinking about adding value, going back to first principles
- Gain a clearer orientation to thinking about the key stakeholders' audit needs to deliver value to (between the board, senior management and those being audited)
- Considering the most value-added way of approaching the audit plan
- Thinking about productivity and efficiency from first principles
- Improving assignment planning and delivery disciplines, with improved focus on what work should be done, a better sense of how to approach testing (and knowing when to stop)
- Thinking about findings and using root cause analysis to ensure more valuable insights from audit
- Ways to drive the audit closing, reporting and follow-up processes
- Tools and techniques that help drive value and efficiency
- Develop a practical, step-by-step route map of the key areas to focus on to add value and improve efficiency

Course program

- The background to lean and why it is such a powerful methodology for driving value add and efficiency
- Developing a value-added approach to the audit planning process
- Developing practical insights into what does and does not add value to the key stakeholders of audit and practical ways to manage different views
- How to create assignment plans that focus on value add
- Driving audit assignments in a lean way, including ways to streamline testing and reporting, how to leverage existing business, compliance assurance processes and activities
- Practical advice concerning audit and data analytic tools

- Key performance indicators for internal audit that properly capture value add and avoid unnecessary work
- Other working practices in the audit team that can maximize its productivity and impact

Session timings

9.00-10.30	Session 1
10.30-10.45	<i>Break</i>
10.45-12.15	Session 2
12.15-13.15	<i>Lunch</i>
13.15-14.45	Session 3
14.45-15.00	<i>Break</i>
15.00-16.30	Session 4

About the lecturer: James Paterson is a former Chief Audit Executive for AstraZeneca PLC from 2002-2009. Prior to that: various corporate and commercial finance roles, culminating as Head of Group Financial Reporting for AstraZeneca PLC and - after working on a Masters Degree In Management - seconded into HR to be head of Global Leadership Development programs.

Set up a consulting business in 2010 providing training, development and coaching in the following key areas:

- Risk Assurance Mapping
- Lean/Agile Auditing (James is the author of Lean Auditing published by J Wiley in 2015),
- Auditing Culture,
- Root Cause Analysis for Internal Audit,
- Influencing and Political Savvy for Internal Audit

Open courses with 12 IIA institutes across Europe, including Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden and the UK. Speaker at the IIA International Conferences in 2012, 2014 and 2016; Chair of the EU IAS conference 2017 and 2018 and speaker at the US GAM conference in 2019 on lean/agile auditing.

Masters Degree in management, McGill University, Canada, specialising in organisational effectiveness and culture change. CIA qualified.

Location: online (Zoom)

Language: English

Size of a group: max 20 people

CPEs available: 7,2

Participation fee: 175 euros for IIA Estonia members, 280 euros for non members. We will send you an invoice the latest after the training.

Registration: via IIA Estonia homepage. Click on the event and register. Registration is open until January 26th, 2021.

Information: www.siseaudit.ee or by email koolitus@siseaudit.ee