

# **Construction Hazards and Risks Control**

## **Lecture Title: – Health and Safety Auditing in Construction**

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**Undergraduate Diploma in  
Occupational Health and Safety**

# Successful Leadership Case Studies

Read these Short Case Studies, and write down the outcome and benefits of having good leadership.

- North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust
- British Sugar
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Sainsbury's
- <https://www.hse.gov.uk/leadership/casestudies.htm>
- <https://osha.europa.eu/sites/default/files/OSH-leadership-refined-at-British-Sugar.pdf>



# What is an Audit?

A health and safety audit is an assessment of the health and safety standards of an organisation. It assesses your workplace policies, processes, procedures, and systems, highlighting areas for improvement.



# Why are health and safety audits important?

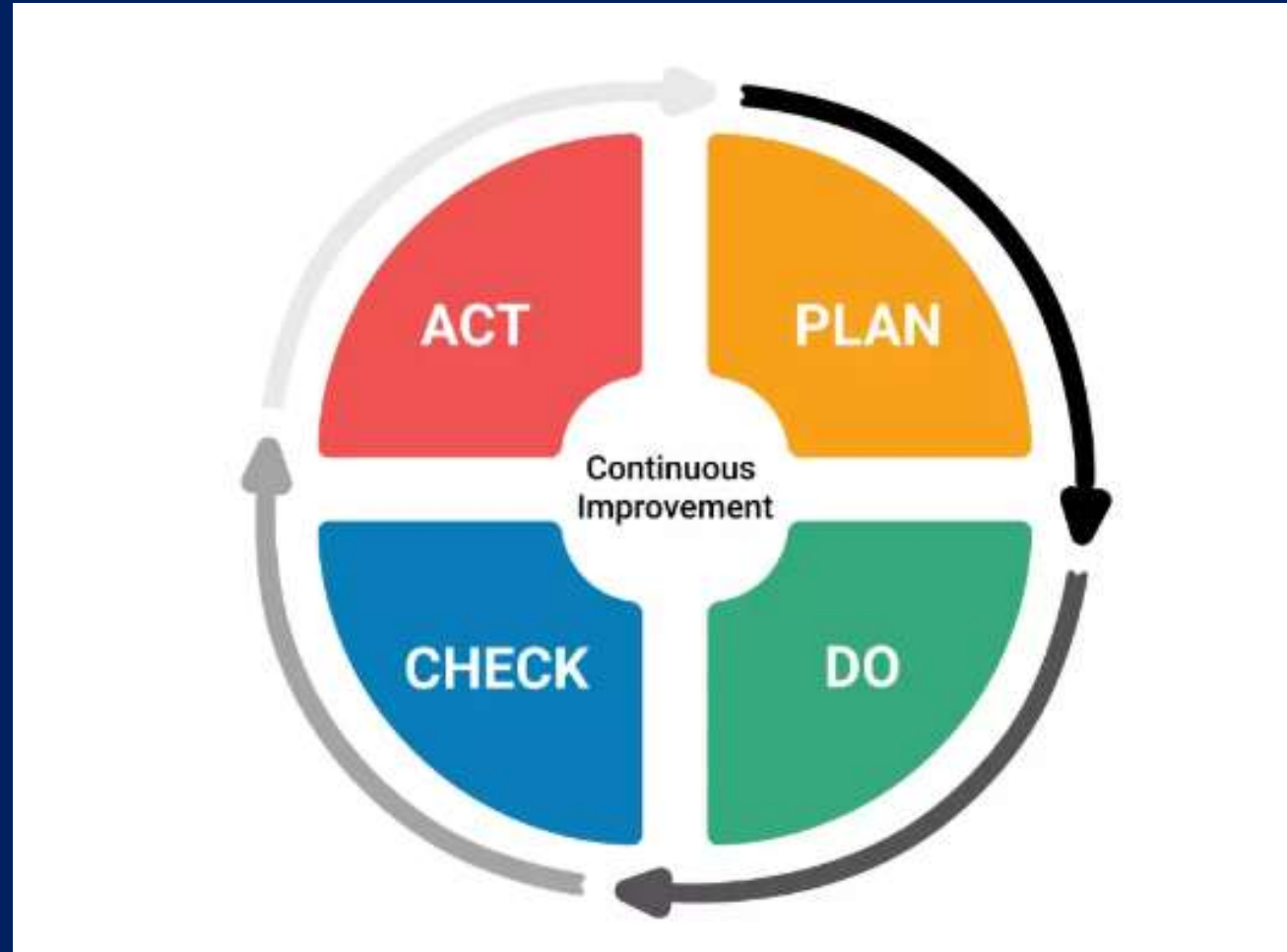
- Safety remains a primary concern in the construction sector. With hazards ranging from falls to equipment malfunctions, construction sites are inherently risky. Implementing safety inspections can mitigate these dangers and foster a safety-oriented culture. This comprehensive article will delve into the significance of safety audits, their benefits, the different types of audits, and best practices for effective implementation



# What is the difference between inspections and audits?

- Inspections involve taking action, while audits focus on verification. Inspections are generally mandatory tasks a site must perform to meet compliance requirements. Conversely, an audit is the process of confirming that these compliance obligations have been fulfilled, which includes verifying that the necessary inspections have been conducted.





# Plan, Do, Check & Act

1. Plan: Recognise an opportunity and plan a change.
2. Do: Test the change. Carry out a small-scale study.
3. Check: Review the test, analyse the results, and identify what you've learned.
4. Act: Take action based on what you learned in the study step



# Different types of Audits

- Internal Audits: Conducted by company personnel
- External Audits: Conducted by third-party organisations
- Certification Audits: Conducted by certification bod
- Compliance Audits: Focus on regulatory adherence





# Internal vs External Audits

## Internal Audits

- Conducted by employees within the organisation.
  - Focus on compliance with company policies and procedures
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- External Audits:
    - Performed by independent third-party auditors.
    - Assess adherence to industry standards and regulations



# Internal vs External Audits

## Internal

### Pros:

- Familiarity with company processes and culture.
- Cost-effective since they utilize existing staff.
- Can be conducted more frequently for ongoing improvement.

### Cons:

- Potential bias due to familiarity.
- Limited perspective on best practices outside the organisation.



# Internal vs External Audits

## External

### Pros:

- Objective assessment from an outside perspective.
- Access to industry benchmarks and expertise.
- Can enhance credibility with stakeholders..

### Cons:

- More expensive than internal audits.
- May disrupt regular operations during the audit process.



# Documents for Audits

- Previous Audits
- Legal gap analysis
- Risk Assessment register
- Risk area plan
- PPE matrix
- Training matrix
- Inspection register



# Documents

- Make sure your safety procedures are current and well-documented.
- Offer regular training sessions for everyone, including orientation for all site personnel and visitors.
- Routinely check and maintain all equipment.
- Perform internal audits to pinpoint and resolve potential issues prior to the official audit.



# Group work

- 4 Groups
- Collaboratively create a health and safety audit checklist tailored for construction sites.
- Present the checklist as a resource for audits.

Consider – Training, Machinery and legislation



# Non-Conformance and Corrective Actions

## Document the nonconformity

- Clearly document what the non-conformity is, including specific details such as location, date, and the individuals involved

## Classify the Non-Conformity

- Determine the severity of the non-conformity (e.g., minor, major, critical) based on its potential impact on health and safety.

## Prioritise

- Classify based on urgency and risk to prioritise the response.



## Communicate Findings

- Share the findings with relevant team members and management. Organise discussions with involved parties to explain the non-conformities and their implications.

## Develop Corrective Action Plans

- Create a clear plan outlining the steps needed to correct the non-conformity.
- Assign specific individuals or teams to implement corrective actions.
- Establish timelines for completion of corrective actions.





## Implement Corrective Actions

- Ensure that the corrective actions are carried out as per the plan.
- Regularly check on the status of the implementation to ensure adherence.

## Review and Verify Effectiveness

- After implementation, assess whether the corrective actions effectively resolved the non-conformity.
- Conduct follow-up audits or inspections to confirm compliance and effectiveness.



## Update Documentation and Procedures

- Update health and safety procedures or policies to prevent recurrence of similar non-conformities.
- Provide training to employees if changes in procedures are significant.

## Communicate Changes

- Inform All Stakeholders: Ensure that all relevant parties are aware of the changes made and the reasons behind them.
- Documentation: Maintain records of non-conformities, actions taken, and outcomes for future reference.

