

Lee Allford, Operations Manager European Process Safety Centre (EPSC)



The internal auditing of process safety

False Sense of Security ?





EPSC: What?

- A company member network to develop and promote best practice in the field of process safety
- Established by the EFCE in 1992
- Hosted by IChemE





EPSC: Outputs

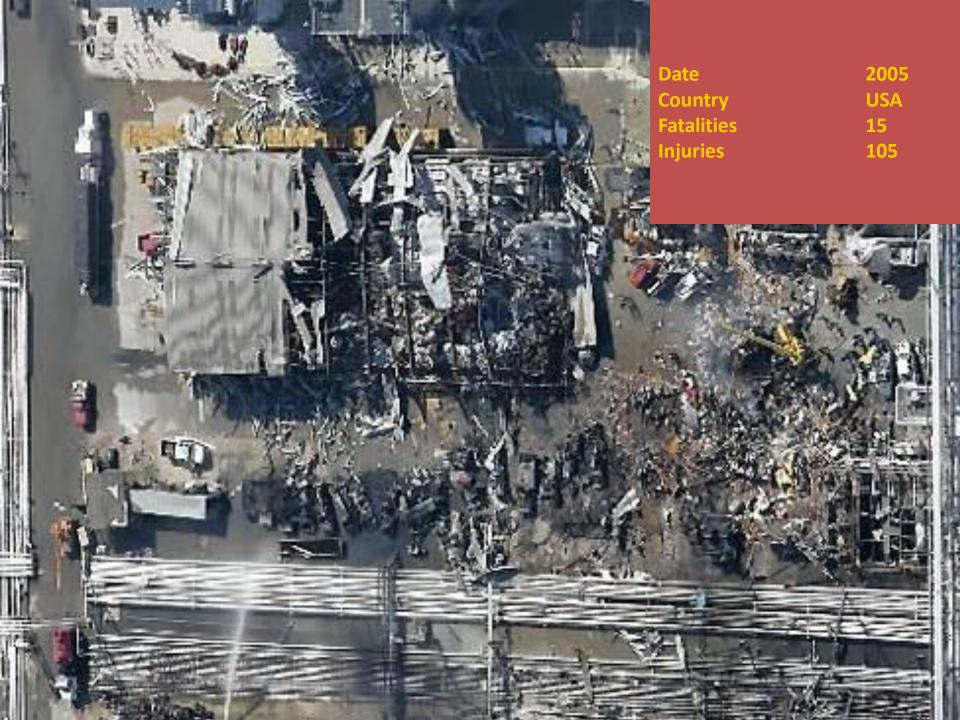
- Programme of activity for and with members
- Internal reports produced by EPSC staff or commissioned via third party
- Representation in EU working groups in safety related fields
- Publish books through IChemE mainly commissions or English translation of foreign language text (e.g. French, Swedish)



Auditing in the dock?

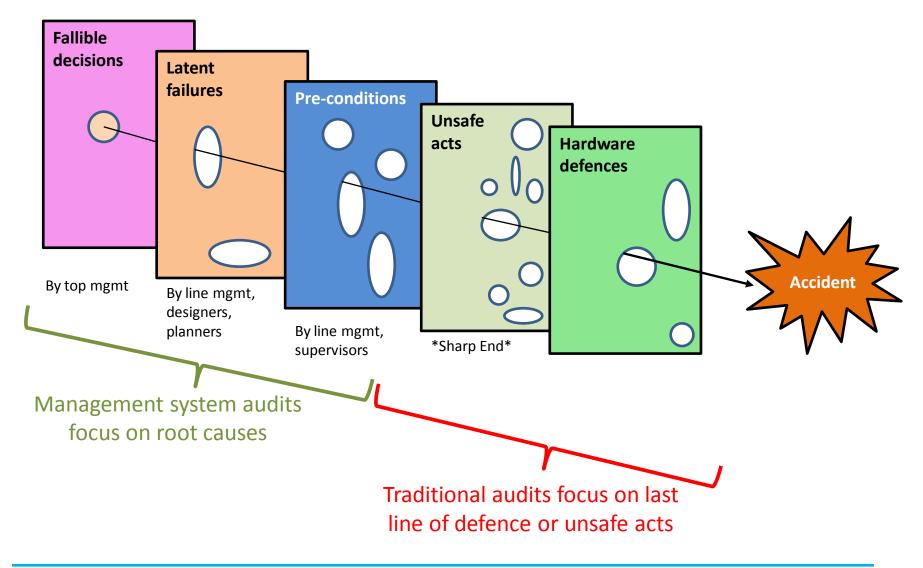






	Date Country Duration Injuries	2005 UK 3 43

Auditing the Swiss Cheese Model





Auditing Frailties

- Pre-occupation with audit scoring
- Lack of worker engagement
- Confusion of audit criteria
- Lack of auditor independence
- Proliferation of audit paperwork



Audit Choreography?





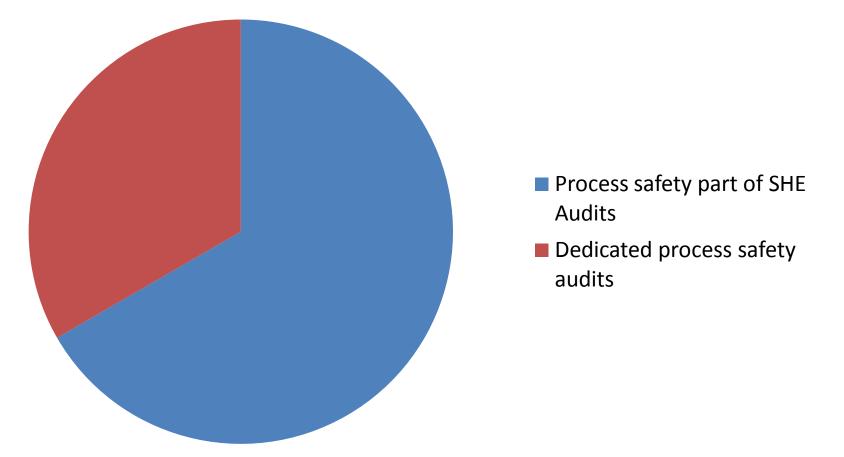
Definition

Internal auditing	External auditing		
	Customer auditing	Third party auditing	
Sometimes called	Sometimes called	E.g. for regulatory,	
first party audit	second party audit	certification and	
		insurance purposes	

Increasing auditor independence Decreasing auditor familiarity

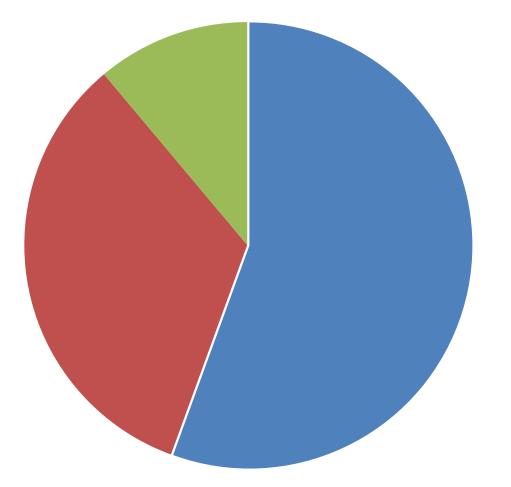


The organisation of process safety audits N=18





Audit team composition



- Internal Only, Staff from other sites
- Internal with single External Contractor
- Mainly External with Internal Specialists



Internal Auditors

ADVANTAGES

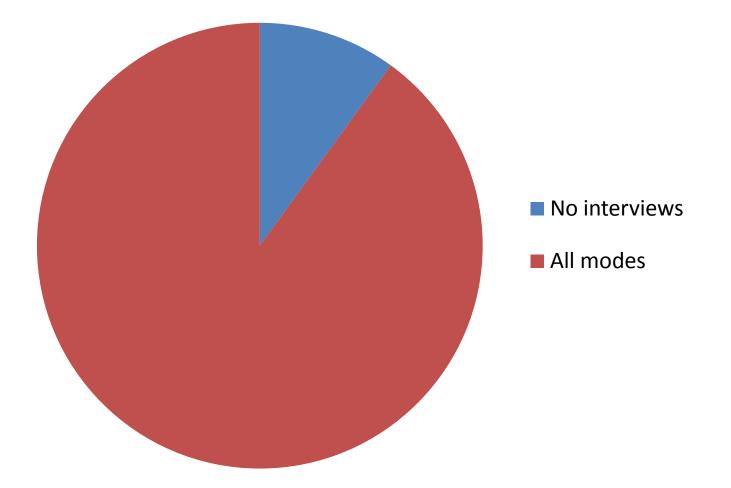
- Auditors know the business and so what can realistically be achieved
- Improves ownership of issues found
- Builds competence internally

DISADVANTAGES

- Auditors may not notice certain issues
- Auditors may not possess auditing skills and may need training
- Auditors are not independent and may be subject to internal influences

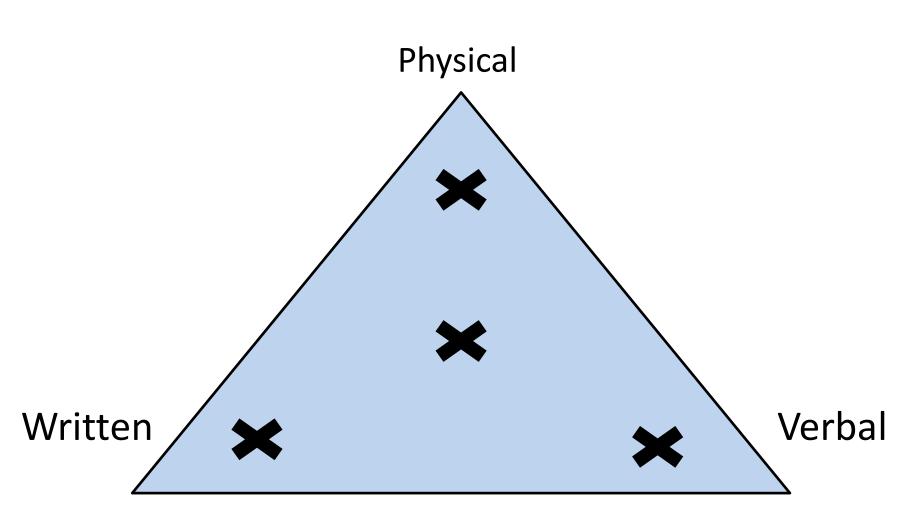


Methods of gathering audit methods



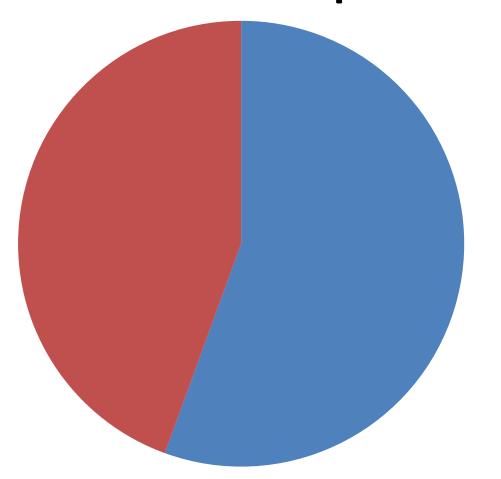


Collecting audit evidence





Benchmarking safety audits processes with peers

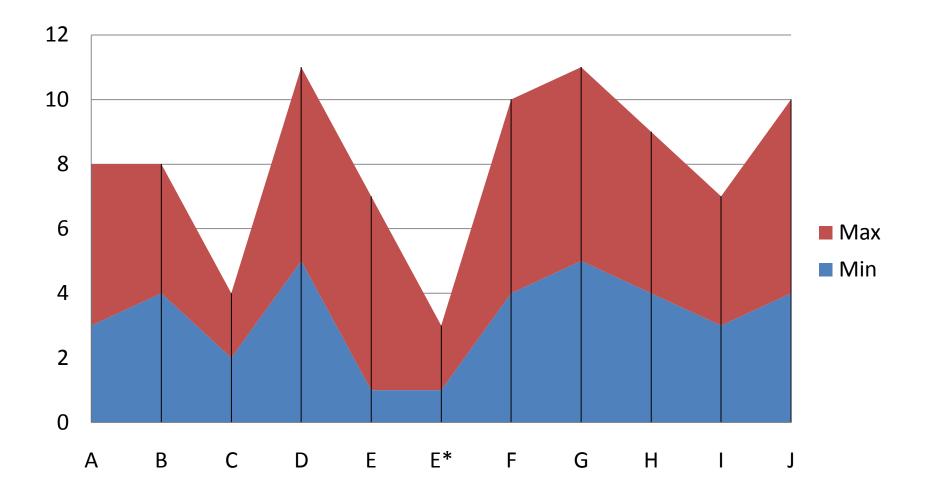


Formal benchmarking with peer companies

Benchmarking informal or not implemented

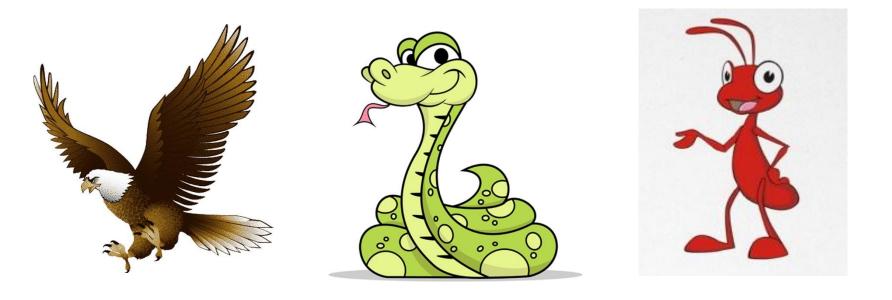


Audit team size range





Perceptions of auditors







Thank you

