

Quality and Food Safety Internal Review (Audit) – “How to Achieve Review with Impartiality”

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Why does
Quality
and Food
Safety
Internal
Review
Matter?



Consumer Confidence

- Direct impact to Consumer Health, Consumer Satisfaction, Consumer Trust



Compliance

- Maintain high standard of Quality and Food Safety in the food Industry

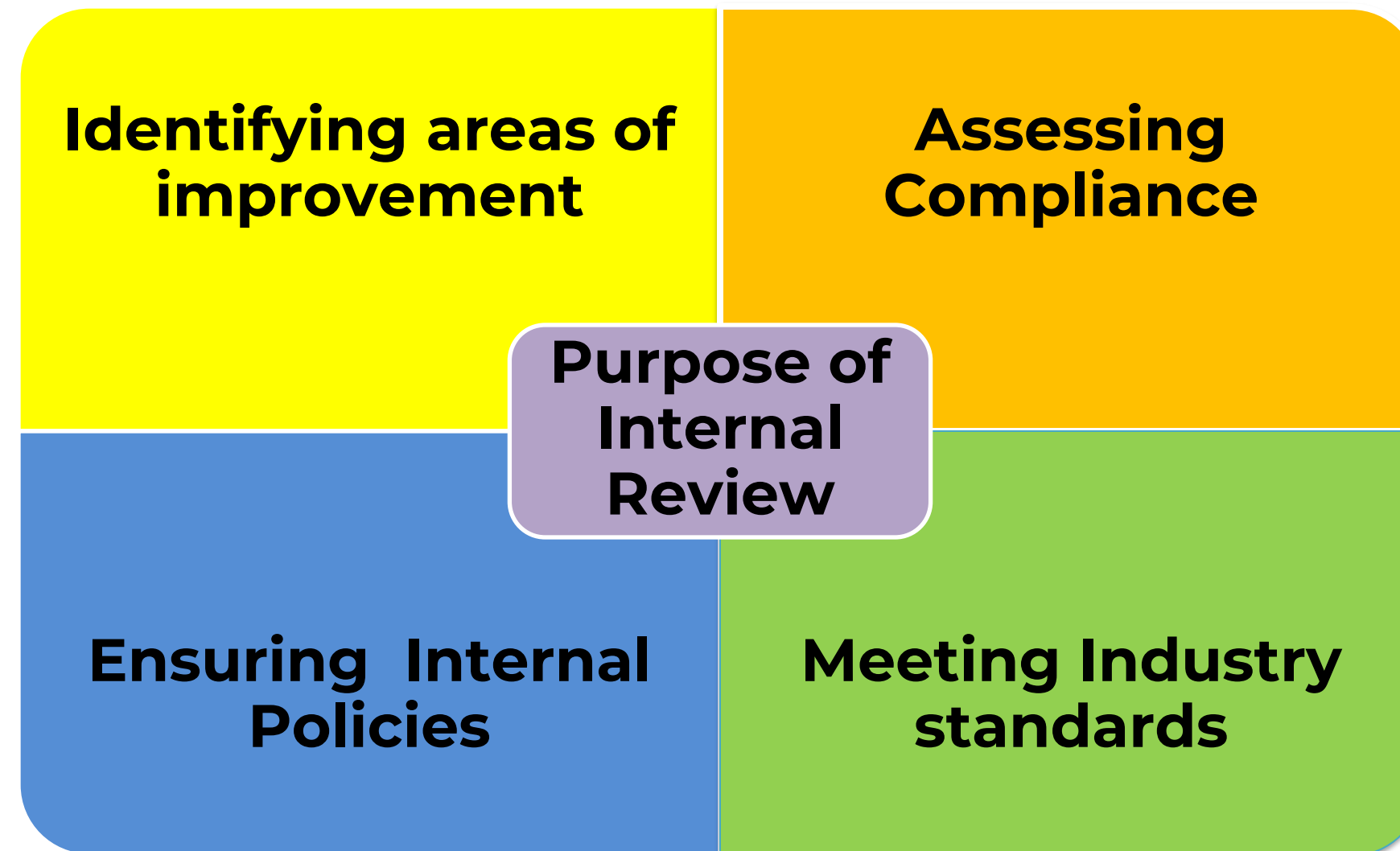


Ethical Responsibility

- Not just a regulatory requirement but also a moral and ethical obligation for food industry

Internal review (audit) process

- ❖ An internal review / audit, is a systematic examination and evaluation process conducted to assess various aspects of quality and food safety practices.
- ❖ It involves a thorough examination of processes, procedures, and controls to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, industry standards, and internal policies.



Ensuring Fairness and Accuracy in Evaluation

Why Impartiality Matters

Impartiality is a cornerstone in audit processes, essential for upholding fairness and credibility.

Importance of Impartiality:

- ❖ **Fairness:** Impartiality ensures fairness by treating all parties equally and without prejudice.
- ❖ **Accuracy:** It enhances accuracy by enabling auditors to assess information objectively, free from personal biases or external influences.
- ❖ **Reliability:** It reinforces credibility, as stakeholders trust audits conducted with impartiality to provide reliable and unbiased assessments.
- ❖ **Preventing Assumptions:** Imposing impartiality prevents assumptions, ensuring unbiased evaluations and outcomes.
- ❖ **Mitigating Over-Familiarity:** Impartiality removes personal biases, fostering fair decisions.

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Reducing Bias and Conflicts of Interest:

- ❖ **Bias Mitigation:** Impartiality minimizes the influence of personal opinions on audit judgments, tackling both conscious and unconscious biases.
- ❖ **Conflict of Interest Reduction:** Independence from audited entities helps diminish conflicts of interest, ensuring auditors prioritize consumer interests over conflicting agendas.
- ❖ **Interpretation of Standards:** Mitigating bias entails carefully assessing the intent behind standards clauses and accurately identifying failures or faults within context.

Key Steps in Audit Review Process



Key Steps in Audit Review Process

Establish Clear Criteria

- Define objective and criteria for evaluation.
- Transparent and consistent criteria guarantee both clarity in standards and fairness in decisions.

Form an Impartial and Fully Trained Review Team

- Select auditors who are not directly involved in the areas being audited.
- Rotate team members regularly to prevent familiarity bias.
- Train auditors on audit process, standards, and expectations.
- Emphasize the importance of impartiality and integrity in audits.

Standardized Audit Procedures to encourage transparency

- Develop standardized audit procedures and checklists.
- Ensure uniformity and fairness in evaluations.
- Foster an environment of transparency and open communication.
- Promote trust and accountability.

Key Steps in Audit Review Process

Document Findings Objectively and Continuous Improvement.

- Document audit findings and observations objectively.
- Support findings with evidence whenever possible.
- Regularly evaluate and improve the audit process based on feedback.

Address Conflicts of Interest and review findings independently

- Identify and address potential conflicts of interest among auditors.
- Ensure auditors recuse themselves from reviewing areas of personal interest.
- Implement a review process by an independent party or review team.
- Validate the accuracy and impartiality of audit findings.

Promote Accountability

- Hold auditors accountable for maintaining impartiality.
- Implement mechanisms for reporting concerns related to bias or misconduct.



Q&A

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS