

Smart decisions. Lasting value.™

Crowe benefit plan audits

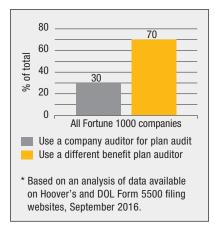
Smart decisions. Lasting value.™

Specialization, project management, technology, and/or cost savings are some of the reasons Fortune 1000 companies have unbundled their benefit plan audits from their company auditor and engaged Crowe.

Is your company still bundling the plan audits with the company auditor?

The Crowe plan audit group summary	
Number of annual plan audits	> 1,200
Number of plans audited with assets > \$100M	> 235
Number of plans audited with > 1,000 participants in plan	> 400
Number of plans we audit that were previously audited by a Big Four firm	> 260
Number of plan audit engagements with three or more audited plans	> 85
Number of states where plan audits are performed by Crowe	43

Fortune 1000 companies plan audit statistics*



Seventy percent of Fortune 1000 companies use a firm other than their company auditor to audit their benefit plans.

SEC-registered 11-K plan audit statistics**



Sixty-six percent of SEC-registered (11-K) plans are now audited by a non-Big Four firm compared to only 23% in 2004.

Emphasis on planning

We believe the planning phase is the most critical phase for an efficient audit, and that it starts with development of an audit project timeline that best meets your audit needs. Effective communication and management of the information-gathering process help improve efficiency and reduce the amount of time your organization spends to support the audit.

"Crowe is very thoughtful in their audit planning and communicates deliverables well in advance."

- Investment/Treasury Manager, \$15B public company

"Extremely knowledgeable at all levels, great planning, no surprises. We strive to have the best service providers in every area: money managers, custodians, actuary, attorney, investment consultants. I believe we have that with Crowe. They are truly specialists in the employee benefits audit area."

- Director of Retirement Programs, organization with over \$7B in plan assets



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Superior project management

Project management is a core competency – and the more complexity and number of plans you have, the more Crowe stands apart from other accounting firms. Our goal is to exchange information efficiently, minimize interruptions for your staff, and be mutually accountable for achieving audit milestone dates.

- "Extremely happy with client service, audits completed on time and within budget, always available to answer questions that come up."
- Investments manager, international law firm with more than 1,500 attorneys
- "Very professional, organized."
- Director of benefits, Fortune 100 company
- "Crowe staff is professional, responsive, and timely."
- Director, internal audit of not-for-profit organization with 8,000 participants



Use of specialized staff

Most CPA firms use auditors who are seasonal benefit plan auditors. Crowe benefit plan audit career specialists, on average, work more than 1,400 hours annually performing plan audits and have the experience to provide a more efficient audit. This also allows for greater staff continuity from year to year.

"I prefer doing business with Crowe since the firm has an actual career track for employee benefit auditors as opposed to a revolving door of new accountants that I have to train."

- Director of benefits, public company with more than 6,000 participants

"Crowe's expertise in the employee benefit audit arena is unmatched in the industry."

- Retirement plan manager, public company with more than 10,000 participants

"Professional, pleasant, experienced staff, courteous. I really like their system called CiRT which tracks the data exchanged."

- Treasury analyst, national membership organization

Experience is the difference

Use of technology

The CiRT solution is a secure, web-based audit tool designed to improve documentation gathering and communication as well as streamline project management. It allows for 24/7 information exchange, task allocation, up-to-date status reporting, work flow management, and retention of prior-year activity for easy reference.

- "Crowe has amazing technology which can make the project management process hands-off or hands-on."
- Human resources director, university with 1,400 participants
- "I like the CiRT tool. Great project planning and oversight."
- Benefits accounting manager, public company with several plans across multiple locations
- "Great team of auditors. The CiRT website is fantastic."
- Benefits manager, international law firm with more than 2,000 attorneys

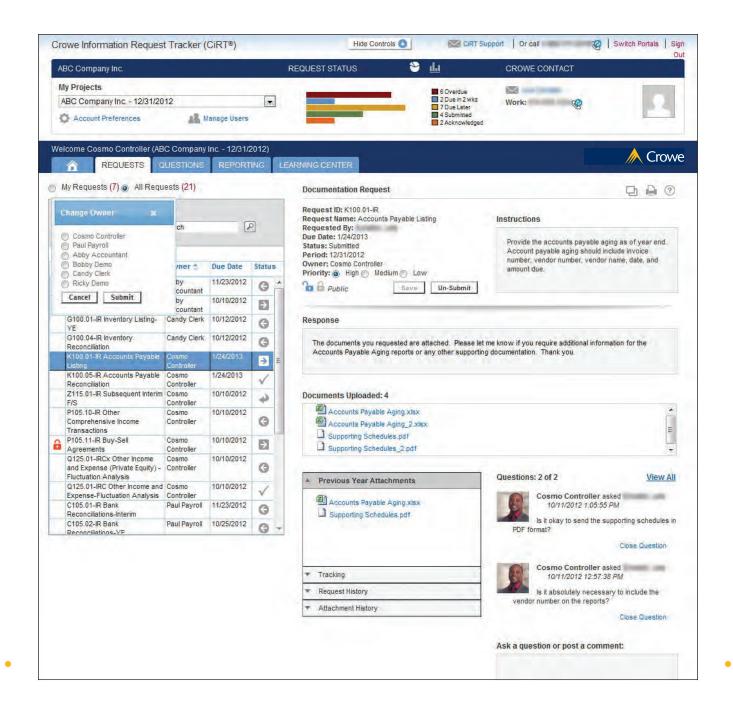
The CiRT® solution

With this innovative technology solution, clients can manage workflow through a centralized individual who can:

- Assign and delegate requests to other company personnel
- Track project activity by assigned individual, track due date, and track project status via a user friendly, easy-to-use dashboard interface
- Quickly view and monitor project progress with an at-a-glance report feature

Through a single portal, the CiRT solution allows you to gain visibility into multiple projects. That means you can expect fewer duplicate requests for information and improved consistency and efficiency.

To learn more or schedule a product demo, visit www.crowe.com/cirt.



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Learn more

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