



Quality Assessment Review

Solution Overview

Companies typically use an external quality assessment review (QAR) to evaluate an internal audit activity's conformance with The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing.

Standard No. 1312 requires companies to have an independent assessor perform an external assessment at least once every five years. However, some assessors may lack the breadth and depth of expertise to optimize internal audit activity and integrate successful industry practices.

Crowe Horwath LLP has decades of experience and can perform external assessments and independent validations of internal audit departments' compliance with the IIA standards. Our seasoned professionals also provide an independent benchmark analysis that includes qualitative and quantitative measures.

Four Benefits of a High-Impact QAR

By having an independent assessor perform a QAR, a company's internal auditors can capture the following benefits:

- **Verify** that their activities are conducted in accordance with the IIA standards;
- **Build** stakeholder confidence by evidencing management's commitment to quality, successful practices, and internal auditors' mindset for professionalism;
- **Provide** evidence to the board, management, and staff that the audit committee and the internal audit activity are concerned about the success of the organization's internal controls, ethics, governance, and risk management processes; and
- **Obtain** best-practice solutions and benchmarking for the internal audit activity.

The Crowe® Solution and Approach

Crowe internal audit professionals have years of experience gained through internal audit services for diverse and complex companies across a range of industries. Several of our internal audit leaders have previously served as chief audit executives.

We can perform a review of your internal audit activity's compliance with the standards and the IIA Code of Ethics. Our methodology incorporates the IIA's "Strongly Recommended Guidance," which includes position papers, practice advisories, and practice guides. We can provide recommendations based on best practices we have derived from providing internal audit and risk consulting services to hundreds of organizations.



The Crowe Difference

Crowe has more than 350 dedicated risk management professionals who provide internal audit services to more than 600 organizations. This extensive experience provides us with an in-depth knowledge of the needs and problems facing our clients.

- **Industry Specialization.** Because we have dedicated professionals focused on key industry issues, you will not have to train your QAR team on how your business unit operates, and you can expect feedback and insights based on other internal audit activities we see specifically within your industry.
 - **Technological Expertise.** We draw upon specialists in many disciplines and can include a technology specialist on your team.
 - **Experienced Team Leadership.** Crowe provides direct, executive-level involvement in every engagement.
 - **Commitment to the Profession.** Crowe supports the IIA at the national and local levels, provides webinars and thought leadership papers, and has national instructing experience in risk-based internal auditing for the internal audit profession.
- **Risk Consulting Recognition.** Crowe is nationally recognized for providing a wide range of risk services.
 - Crowe is recognized by the IIA as an IIA Principal Partner.
 - In a recent independent research project conducted by Forrester Research, Crowe was included in Forrester's evaluation of the top 10 risk consulting providers from among 200 peers.
 - Consulting magazine named Crowe as one of the "Best Firms to Work For" in its 2011 survey of more than 13,000 respondents representing approximately 350 firms. Crowe was ranked second in the Financial Advisory category, which included risk consulting in its classification.

Contact Information

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