ISO 22000 LEAD AUDITOR TRAINING



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Introduction

ISO 22000 Lead Auditor Training Course prepares food safety professionals to lead a full management system audit from opening meeting to certification recommendation. Participants work through the ISO 22000 requirements, HACCP and prerequisite programmes, audit principles and the ISO 19011 guidance, audit programme management, audit planning and preparation, conducting the audit, nonconformity handling, and reporting and follow-up as one connected method. The programme links the food safety risk a process carries with the audit evidence that shows the system controls it. As a result, learners gain a practical, exam-ready lead auditor method. Furthermore, the course strengthens hazard judgement, audit technique, and reporting credibility.

ISO 22000 Lead Auditor Course Objectives

- Explain the ISO 22000 structure, scope, and key requirements.
- Apply HACCP principles and prerequisite programmes within ISO 22000.
- Apply ISO 19011 audit principles, conduct, and auditor competence.
- Manage an audit programme and select audit teams.
- Plan audits with objectives, criteria, scope, and sampling.
- Conduct opening meetings, interviews, and process-based auditing.
- Gather and evaluate objective evidence against requirements.
- Identify and grade nonconformities with justification.
- Lead closing meetings and handle disagreement professionally.
- Apply reporting, corrective action follow-up, and certification practice.

Course Methodology

- Interactive sessions built on ISO 22000 audit and HACCP cases.
- Workshops on clause interpretation, audit planning, and checklists.

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- Group exercises on evidence gathering, nonconformity grading, and reporting.
- Hands-on practice with audit programmes, checklists, and case studies.
- Simulation of a full audit from opening to closing meeting.
- Facilitator coaching and structured exam preparation guidance.

Who Should Take This Course

- Food safety auditors and lead auditors.
- Food safety and quality managers.
- HACCP team leaders and members.
- Certification body auditors and technical reviewers.
- Internal auditors covering food safety management systems.
- Consultants advising on ISO 22000 implementation and certification.

ISO 22000 Lead Auditor Course Outlines

Day 1: ISO 22000 Framework and Food Safety Context

- Purpose, scope, and structure of ISO 22000.
- Food safety hazards and public health significance.
- HACCP principles and Codex Alimentarius alignment.
- Prerequisite programmes and operational PRPs.
- Context of the organisation and interested parties.
- Food safety policy, objectives, and management commitment.
- Case discussion: a recall traced to a missing control.

Day 2: Audit Principles and Programme Management

- Audit types: first, second, and third party.
- ISO 19011 audit principles and audit programme management.
- Auditor competence, personal attributes, and ethics.
- Selecting and leading audit teams.
- Audit objectives, criteria, scope, and sampling approach.
- Managing audit risk and impartiality.
- Workshop: planning an ISO 22000 audit programme.

Day 3: Audit Preparation and Conduct

- Document review and pre-audit preparation.
- Audit plans, checklists, and time allocation.
- Opening meeting purpose and conduct.
- Interviewing technique and process-based auditing.
- Evidence gathering across production, hygiene, and storage.
- Verifying hazard analysis, CCPs, and monitoring records.
- Simulation: conducting an audit of a food process.

Day 4: Findings, Nonconformities, and Reporting

- Identifying conformity, observation, and nonconformity.
- Grading major and minor nonconformities with justification.
- Writing findings with clause reference, evidence, and requirement.
- Root cause analysis and corrective action requirements.
- Verification of effectiveness and closure validation.
- Audit reports, distribution, and confidentiality.
- Exercise: drafting a nonconformity report and audit findings.

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Day 5: Closing, Follow-Up, and Certification

- Closing meeting conduct and presenting findings.
- Handling disagreement, appeals, and technical review.
- Corrective action follow-up and effectiveness verification.
- Certification, surveillance, and recertification audits.
- Accreditation requirements and scheme integrity.
- Continuous improvement of the audit programme.
- Capstone: presenting a complete ISO 22000 audit report.

Conclusion

By successfully completing ISO 22000 Lead Auditor, participants will gain a practical command of the ISO 22000 requirements, HACCP and prerequisite programmes, ISO 19011 audit principles, audit programme management, audit planning and conduct, nonconformity handling, and certification practice. They will acquire skills in hazard analysis review, evidence evaluation, nonconformity grading, and lead audit reporting that support credible food safety certification. Gentex Training Center designs the programme to help professionals lead ISO 22000 audits with confidence.

FAQs

Q1 What is the "ISO 22000 Lead Auditor" course about?

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It prepares food safety professionals to lead a full management system audit from opening meeting to certification recommendation. The course spans the ISO 22000 framework and food safety context, audit principles and programme management, audit preparation and conduct, findings, nonconformities and reporting, and closing, follow-up and certification.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "ISO 22000 Lead Auditor" course?

You gain a practical, exam-ready lead auditor method that links the food safety risk a process carries with the audit evidence that shows the system controls it. The course improves clause interpretation and audit planning, strengthens evidence gathering and process auditing, sharpens nonconformity grading and root cause review, and gives you lead audit reporting and certification practice that holds up to technical review.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "ISO 22000 Lead Auditor" course?

You will develop four core skills: ISO 22000 clause interpretation with HACCP and prerequisite programme review, audit programme management and team leadership under ISO 19011, audit planning and conduct with evidence gathering and interviewing, and nonconformity grading with reporting, follow-up and certification practice.

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Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "ISO 22000 Lead Auditor" course?

The course covers the purpose, scope and structure of ISO 22000, food safety hazards and public health significance, HACCP principles and Codex Alimentarius alignment, prerequisite programmes and operational PRPs, context of the organisation and interested parties, food safety policy, objectives and management commitment, audit types of first, second and third party, ISO 19011 audit principles and audit programme management, auditor competence, personal attributes and ethics, selecting and leading audit teams, audit objectives, criteria, scope and sampling approach, managing audit risk and impartiality, document review and pre-audit preparation, audit plans, checklists and time allocation, opening meeting purpose and conduct, interviewing technique and process-based auditing, evidence gathering across production, hygiene and storage, verifying hazard analysis, CCPs and monitoring records, identifying conformity, observation and nonconformity, grading major and minor nonconformities, writing findings with clause reference, evidence and requirement, root cause analysis and corrective action requirements, verification of effectiveness and closure validation, audit reports, distribution and confidentiality, closing meeting conduct and presenting findings, handling disagreement, appeals and technical review, corrective action follow-up and effectiveness verification, certification, surveillance and recertification audits, and accreditation requirements and scheme integrity.

Q5 How is the "ISO 22000 Lead Auditor" course applied in real-world practice?

Participants apply it to real work such as planning an ISO 22000 audit programme, preparing an audit plan and checklists, conducting a process-based audit of production and hygiene, verifying hazard analysis and CCP monitoring records, grading a nonconformity with justification, leading a closing meeting, and following up corrective action to closure. The same methods support certification, surveillance and recertification audits.