



IRMA Corrective Action Process Overview

July 2024

Standard Initial Audit Reporting Process - Overview



Initial Draft

- Draft report to site, IRMA (30 days)
- Comments from site, IRMA (30 days)
- Site decides whether to use a corrective action period



Optional Corrective Action

- Sites prepare a corrective action plan and submit to auditors
- Corrective actions verified by audit firm within 12 months
- Updated draft report to site, IRMA
- Comments from site IRMA (30 days)



Final Report

- Final report, with final achievement level sent to IRMA (15 days)
- Final edits from IRMA (15 days)
- Final report to site for redaction (7 days)
- Report is translated (as needed)
- Report published, with corrective action plan

Audit Pathways

Path 1: Without Early Corrective Action

Initial onsite audit completed, draft report (1 month after onsite audit)

Final report published

Surveillance audit 12-18 months after initial report published (no score change)

Path 2: With Early Corrective Action

Initial onsite audit completed, draft report (1 month after onsite audit)

Site elects early corrective action (up to 12 months)

Corrective actions verified by auditors, draft report (and scores) revised

Final report is published

Surveillance audit 12-18 months after final report published (no score change)

Path 3: Accelerated Surveillance

Initial onsite audit completed, draft report (1 month after onsite audit)

Final report is published

Surveillance audit ~ 12 months after initial report published, scores can be revised

New scores and achievement level published

Path 4: Conduct Full Scope Surveillance

Initial onsite audit completed, draft report (1 month after onsite audit)

Final report is published

Surveillance audit repeats full scope of initial/reverification audit 12-18 months after final report published

New scores and achievement level published

Triggers new start to the 3 year audit cycle

For more details in IRMA audit process options:



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Resources for Mines

Self-Assessment



Independent 3rd-Party Assessment



Audit-related Documents

Paths 1 & 2

- [Assessment Manual for Mines](#) (Updated Sep 2022)
- [Application Form for Independent Mine Site Assessment](#) (Updated May 2024)
- [Participation Agreement-2024-v01](#) (Archive: [2023 version](#))
- [Administration Fee Policy](#) (formerly the “Certification Fee Policy”)

Path 4

- [Assurance Committee Record of Decision](#) resolving Surveillance Audit related questions (June 23, 2022)
- [IRMA Assurance Committee Record of Decision: Financial Assurance and Reporting Revisions](#) (May 2023)

Path 3

- IRMA Assurance Committee Record of Decision: [Limited option for score and achievement level adjustment at initial surveillance audit](#) (Feb 2024, posted May 2024)

<https://responsiblemining.net/resources/#independent-3rd-party-assessment>

All sites that undergo a third-party IRMA audit and publish a report achieve at least IRMA Transparency

Sites achieving IRMA 50 or IRMA 75 must achieve at least a 50% or 75% in each of the 4 principles and critical requirements must be at least substantially met at the initial audit, and fully met by the reverification audit

Sites achieving IRMA 100 must achieve at least a 90% in each of the 4 principles, must at least substantially meet all non-critical requirements, must fully meet all critical requirements

Not an
Achievement
Level

Self-
Assessment

Mines rate themselves.

Required for mines seeking independent 3rd-party assessment.

Option to share publicly.



Auditors assess performance.



Auditors assess performance.

Mines must meet a set of **40 critical*** requirements, as well as 50 or 75% of the requirements in each of the four Principle areas of the Standard.

* minor nonconformity allowed for critical requirements if timebound corrective action plan in place.



Auditors assess performance.

Mines must meet **all*** relevant requirements.

* minor nonconformity only allowed for non-critical requirements, and only if timebound corrective action plan in place.

IRMA Achievement Levels

Improvement over time

—Mines must undergo independent, 3rd-party audit and share results publicly to be able to make public claims about reaching an achievement level—

Corrective Action Plans- Overview

Corrective action period

- “Clock” begins begins when the site receives the draft report

Initial CAP prepared

- CAP is started as the site reviews the draft
- CAP frames objectives of corrective action period

Ongoing Updates

- CAP is adapted following receipt of comments (e.g. IRMA review)
- CAP is updated to reflect progress
- CAP is updated for long-term actions
- CAP is published with report

Ongoing CAP review

- Surveillance audit
- Reverification audit