

Data Assurance – Computer-Assisted Audit Techniques (CAATs)



Consulting division of PwC helps management to make well informed decisions. The insight and independent assurance we bring provides an invaluable safeguard in today's complex operating environment.

We work with our clients in their boardrooms and their back offices, delivering business control to help them to protect and strengthen every aspect of their business from people to performance, systems to strategy, business plans to business resilience.

We draw proudly on our auditing heritage as well as our commercial experience, to rigorously evaluate our clients' governance procedures, processes, information and controls and, where necessary, recommend the best way to fix them.

Consulting offers expertise on internal audit services, internal controls optimisation, corporate governance and reporting, as well as assurance and advisory services related to security and controls of information technology systems including Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems (e.g. Oracle, SAP, Navision), Project Implementation Assurance (PIA), Computer -Assisted Audit Techniques (CAATs), Spreadsheet Integrity and IT Risk Diagnostic and Benchmarking.

Data integrity is a key concern for all businesses. Businesses and auditors constantly make decisions based on the data held within the IT systems.

As systems become more complex and fundamental to the operation and direction of the business, the importance of the underlying data and the information it generates has never been greater. Organisations need to feel confident that the information can be relied upon to make decisions, highlight opportunities and identify risks. We help our clients get comfort over their data and gain assurance that it meets their business needs.

If:

- Your business relies on reports generated by systems that are not controlled by the central IT function (e.g. spreadsheets or user configured reports).
- The quality of information generated by IT systems is not considered reliable, reflecting underlying difficulties with managing data.
- Systems are being replaced or upgraded and the complete and accurate transfer of good quality data is fundamental to the success of the implementation.
- Your business believes that it has the data to improve decision making but due to the volume, complexity or spread across systems, is not getting the maximum value from it.
- You need to use Data Analytics and/or to develop a Data Analytics team within your business.

Then PwC can help you

Data Assurance Services

We make use of Computer-Assisted Audit Techniques (CAATs) which provide a means of accessing large amounts of data in a format that can provide transparency not attainable through other auditing procedures. The use of CAATs increases audit effectiveness, improves efficiency and decreases the audit risk.

With the use of ACL (www.acl.com), a specialised software tool, our team can provide organisations with a unique and powerful combination of data access, analysis and integrated reporting. Using the ACL tool our experts can access and compare enterprise data, flat files or relational databases, spreadsheets, report files, on PCs or servers, allowing the source data to remain intact for complete data quality and integrity.

Our services include a full range of analytical tests from simple classifications and data quality checks to complex calculations. Refer below for examples of capabilities:

- Review of the underlying data to ensure it is fit for purpose (reporting, decision making, analysis).
- Identify the business impacts of poor quality data.
- Design auditable, supportable programmes to analyse and aggregate data from disparate systems and sources to assist in providing information previously hidden from the organisation.
- Review and support in respect of data migration projects.
- Analyse data more quickly and efficiently.
- Rapidly analyse transactional data in files of any size to ensure 100 percent coverage (can be used to test / re - perform system interface input or data comparison).
- Produce easy-to-understand reports.
- Identify trends, pinpoint exceptions, and highlight potential areas of concern.
- Locate errors and potential fraud by comparing and analysing files according to the end-user criteria.
- Identify control issues and ensure compliance with International Standards on Auditing.

ACL Workshop and Support Services

We provide ACL training in the form of a workshop, which can be customized to your specific needs/ business operations. With our hands-on training, your people will be able to make use of the basic ACL functionality right away and apply to their work.

We provide ACL Support Services in the form of coaching, on-the-job training, supervision, and/or development/execution of ACL automated projects using ACL scripts.

Contact us

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