



Are two job site visits on one audit trip considered one or two audits?

SSPC recently audited a QP-1 & QP-2 certified contractor on consecutive days at two different job sites in close proximity to one another. Audit findings discovered at both sites were combined and reported to the contractor as one set of findings as a result of one audit, even though the auditor visited two separate jobs.

In the process of contesting several of the audit findings, the contractor asked if SSPC would separate the findings based on the job site where they were discovered and consider the site visits two audits instead of one.

SSPC responded that sampling of the contractor's QP system based on visits to one or more job sites on the same audit trip consisted of one audit. SSPC further clarified that a visit to the contractor's place of business (office visit) and one or more job sites on the same trip was also considered "one" audit.

There have also been instances where SSPC has visited a job site, such a marine vessel, where the contractor had separate crews working at more than two areas of the vessel. Observation of all the work sites visited was considered "one" audit for the purposes of sampling the contractor's QP system at a particular point in time.

For questions or requests for clarification concerning the definition of an SSPC QP audit or other questions about program rules and SSPC auditing practice, please contact Joe Berish, Corporate Certification Specialist, at berish@sspc.org or toll free at: 1/877-281-7772, ext. 2235.