

# The Path to Audit Digitalization





## Beyond the Checklist: Driving Quality through the Digital Audit

Audits are hard, and often far less effective than we care to admit. Why is this true, especially today, when we have so many digital and technological advantages at our disposal?

Thanks to advances in data science, we are now able to identify patterns, trends, issues, and opportunities in our audits. When done well, today's audits have the potential to make organizations exceptional, helping them to move from a defensive and reactionary stance to a proactive position of strength in the marketplace. And the timing couldn't be better, as customer expectations are much higher today than ever before.

Many of us—Paper Pros and Excited Excel-ers—still use binary checklists, which forces us to reduce our complex compliance findings to the boundaries of a tiny box or cell in a spreadsheet. We might have room to attach a small note or even a photo for context, but the checklist model limits our ability to drill down further in order to truly understand the why behind each nonconformance.

As we progress along the path to digitalization, moving from Cautious Adopters to Electronic Gurus and finally becoming Digital Protagonists (although not always in that order), we open up ways to feed dynamic audit findings into a system that can help us get to the root of our quality and compliance issues and launch remediation processes to address them. Tabular calculations, standards references, iterative discussions, detailed issues and risks, and contextual data; these elements that are present in sophisticated audit platforms allow us to drive continuous improvement and impact organizational effectiveness. Beyond the checklist is where the real opportunities reside.

## About ARMATURE

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Digital Transformation. Driven by You. Since 2000, ARMATURE has been building intuitive software for many of the world's leading conformity assessment bodies, standards developing organizations, and accreditation and certification agencies. Our next-generation audit and workflow management platform supports organizations along the full spectrum of standards: those that develop them, those that enforce them, and those that apply them to create exceptional products and services. Whether you're stuck in paper and spreadsheets or using software that misses the mark, ARMATURE meets you where you are—and then takes you to new heights.