

# PROBLEMS IN ENSURING FIRE SAFETY AND THE WAYS OF ELIMINATING THEM AND THE PROSPECTS OF ESTABLISHING A FIRE AUDIT INSTITUTE

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**Annotation:** *The article describes the independent assessment of compliance with fire safety requirements of buildings and structures owned by individuals and legal entities, audit organization and their efficiency.*

**Key words:** *explosion, fire, conformity assessment, fire auditor, audit organization, conclusion, fire safety requirements.*

As a result of the reforms carried out by the head of our state in recent years, a comprehensive fire safety system was formed, which ensures reliable protection of the life and health of the population, the property of individuals and legal entities.

Despite the fact that systematic measures are being implemented in the field of fire prevention, unpleasant events related to fires occur in the household life of the population and in the activities of business entities.

On average, about 11,500 fires occur in the republic every year, and about 2,100 of them occur in enterprises and organizations. In particular, more than 10,000 fires broke out in 2023, more than 150 citizens were injured in the fires, more than 70 citizens died, and 270.4 billion sums were caused to individuals and legal entities.

As an example, on September 28 of this year, an emergency situation occurred in the warehouse of JV "INTERLOGISTICS" located at 3 Khanabad street, Sergeli district, Tashkent city. More than 150 citizens were injured in various degrees and 1 citizen died.

Today, State fire control bodies provide services to more than 300,000 facilities. On average, 300 to 350 enterprises and organizations work for one inspector, and with the rapid development of small and medium-sized businesses, the workload of state fire control inspectors is increasing.

This, in turn, requires the introduction of mechanisms for fire safety assessment of facilities involving the private sector in the implementation of some state functions of fire control in the direction of protecting the life and health of the population, the property of individuals and legal entities from fire, and increasing the effectiveness of fire prevention works. In many countries, this type of assessment mechanism is implemented through "fire audit" services.

The fire audit was analyzed in most economically developed countries of the world, including Belgium, Great Britain, Greece, Luxembourg, Portugal and the Russian Federation. Including:

In Portugal, the National Civil Protection Service has been given all the necessary powers to organize security audits under the Government's Law No. 4/2004 of 15 January 2004 on Public Administration. According to the Law No. 27 of 2006 on the "Basics of Civil Protection", the National Civil Protection Service is given the right to "require unconditional cooperation from citizens and enterprise management in checking security standards." Refusal of cooperation is determined to cause civil and criminal liability within the framework of the law;

In the Russian Federation, on June 22, 2008, the Law No. 123-FZ on "Technical Regulation of Fire Safety Requirements", the Law of the Russian Federation No. 1325 of August 30, 2020 " Об утверждении Правил оценки соответствия объектов защиты (продукции) установленным требованиям пожарной безопасности путем независимой оценки пожарного риска " government decision and the adoption of a number of by-laws related to the direction.

The norms for the implementation of "fire audit" services in the Republic of Kazakhstan are specified in the relevant articles of the Law "On Civil Protection" dated April 11, 2014, and the "Rules for conducting fire audits" were approved by the order of the Minister of Internal Affairs No. 240 dated April 3, 2017 and registered with the Ministry of Justice it became known.

Year by year demographic growth of the population, new housing estates, large production enterprises and free economic zones are being created in our republic. This, in turn, means protecting the life and health of the population, the property of individuals and legal entities from the risk of fire, radically increasing the effectiveness of fire prevention in facilities, and introducing effective control mechanisms in this direction, i.e. "Building owned by individuals and legal entities and demands the introduction of the system of independent assessment of compliance with fire safety requirements of structures.

By involving the private sector in conducting fire audits in facilities, conditions will be created for the owner to insure with the insurance company, realizing the responsibility for the safety of his enterprise. In turn, it is possible to determine the insurance premium by assessing the level of fire danger of a certain object.

At the same time, the mechanism of independent assessment of fire risk excludes the direct participation of the state fire control inspectorate in the inspections of most enterprises and organizations, as well as eliminates the decision to stop some of its parts or activities.

As a result of the introduction of the new system, a high level of fire protection of the society, a reduction in the number of victims, and a minimization of administrative obstacles to the development of entrepreneurship will be achieved,

which will allow entrepreneurs to feel the responsibility for ensuring safety independently.

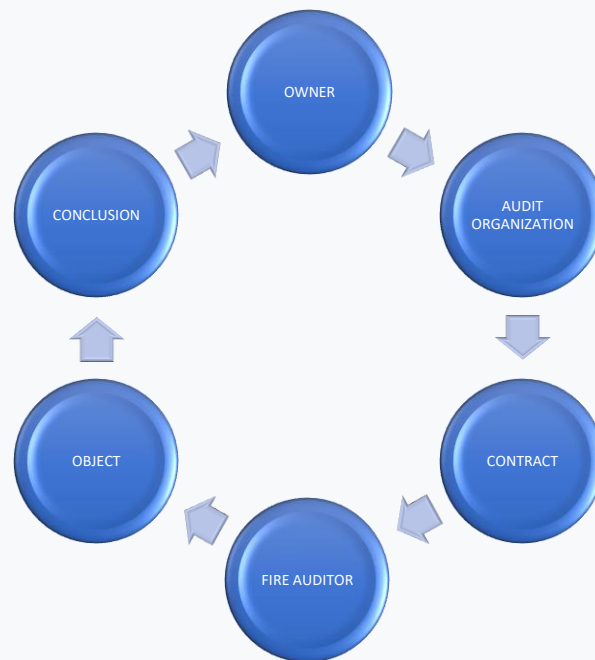


Figure 1. The procedure for obtaining a fire auditor's report

The assessment of object conformity should include:

- a) analysis of documents describing the fire risk of the object to be protected;
- b) obtaining objective information about the fire safety condition of the object to be protected, evacuation exit routes, the knowledge of workers, the occurrence, development and spread of fire, the dangerous effect on people and material assets, as well as the existence of conditions for compliance with fire safety, including determine the suitability and working condition of the fire protection systems available at the facility;
- c) to analyze the information on conducting the necessary studies, tests, calculations and expertise in accordance with the procedure established by the regulatory documents on fire safety;
- d) prepare a conclusion on the results of the conformity assessment conducted at the protected object;
- e) to develop measures (a list of requirements) to meet fire safety requirements for the object to be protected in case of non-fulfilment of fire safety requirements and compliance with the fire regime and to set deadlines for implementation;
- f) to prepare a final conclusion when the measures developed by the object to be protected are carried out in accordance with the results of the conformity assessment.

The results of the conformity assessment are formalized in the form of a conclusion or expert opinion and are presented to the owner in paper or electronic form.

To sum up, by introducing the procedure for independent assessment of the compliance of buildings and structures owned by individuals and legal entities with fire safety requirements, state fire insurance for business entities that received a positive conclusion on compliance assessment and insured their buildings and structures against fire and other risks for one year it will be possible not to carry out inspections by control bodies.

Also, state fire control bodies will have more opportunities to study the state of fire safety in public facilities and public places.

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