Path to digitalization – NAOF's experiences and practise in digital auditing

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Pisa 2019 Summer School in Public Auditing and Accountability



Content

Current situation in National Audit Office of Finland

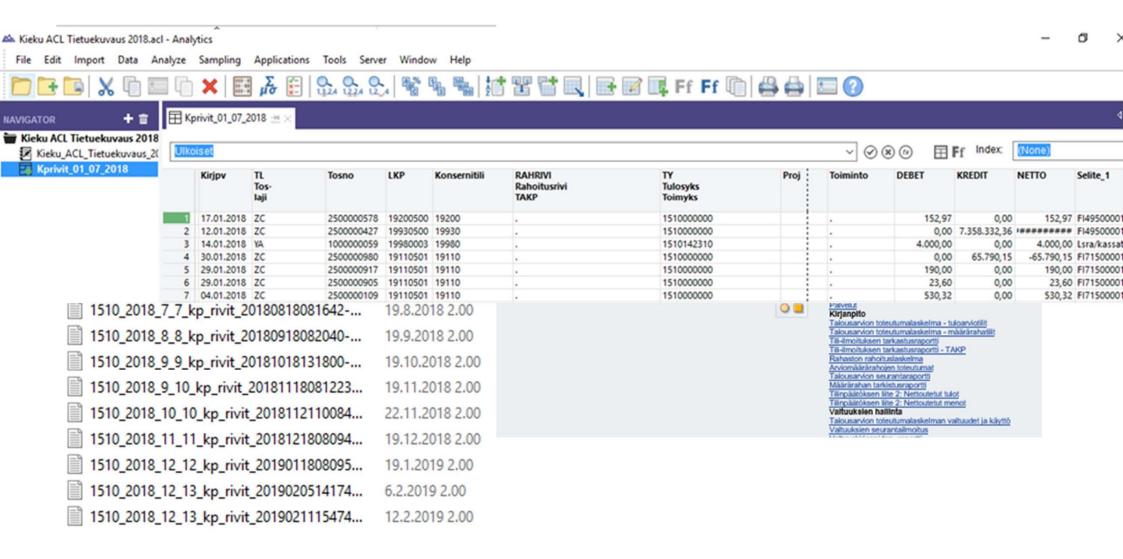
- Financial audits
- Performance audits

Developing new ways to audit

- Change of a mindset in financial audit
- Increasing the use of quantitative data in performance audit
- Plans of new tools and better usage of existing data
 - Risk Detecting Tool
 - Auditors "Google" on our intranet

Where we are now?

Financial audits (1/2)



Financial audits (2/2)

KREDIT

1.832.128,14 591.517,62 1.240.610,52 2.668

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1 record produced

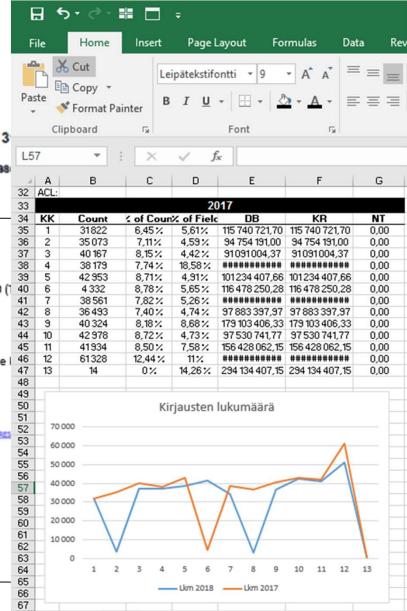
Page 1 VTV/TL: T Rihilahti

KÄYTTÖ

KIRJANPITOYKSIKÖN ACL TASE 3

TASETEKSTI Tase-eră Tas VASTAAVAA Askel 5 (sääntö 53) Hama käytännöt 3 KANSAL KÄYTTÖ Sääntö: LKP-tilien 43310000-43319999 ja 43320000-43329999 kanssa käytettävä Toimintoa 9999614000 (terveyshuolto) tai virhetoiminto 1510999999. AINEE. Ennal Sääntö ei koske maksupalkkoja. AINEE Tehty työ: Luokitellaan aineisto toiminnon mukaan säännön mukaisin LKP-tiliehdoin. Tarkastetaan, ettei ole Konee lettyjä toimintoja käytettynä. Kalust Ennal 04.01.2019 15:51:36 KÄYTT Kaytto Condition: (LKP >= "43310000" AND LKP <= "43319999") OR (LKP >= "43320000" AND LKP <= "43329999") (2668 records matched)

→ Ei havaittu kirjauksia, joilla olisi kielletty toiminto. Sääntö tehokas.



Performance audits

- More quantitative data & methods needed
- Traditionally strong focus on qualitative data & methods

Data collection method or method of analysis or approach	Percentage of all performance audits (30 reports*)
Documents etc. qualitative data	100%
Interviews	97%
Surveys	20%
Workshops	10%
Observation	0%
Qualitative content analysis	87%
Descriptive quantitative methods	53%
Statistical/econometrical methods	3%
Case study	10%

^{*}All performance audit reports published in 2016–2017 (reviews excluded). The table's ratios are likely to be good estimates for 2018 as well.

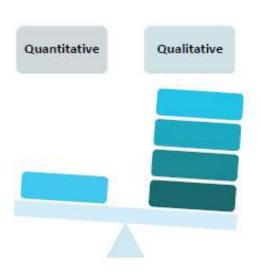
Where we want to go?

Financial audits

- From accounting unit focus to whole state focus, automatization of audit procedures
 - Ie. On budget accounting focus on the whole expenditure headings instead
 of just the part of expenditure heading an auditee has right on
 - Automated booking validation rules checking tool for all accounting units
 - New analyzing tool introductions, ie. Power BI
 - Usage of good quality data provided by new state widely used systems
- Multiple pursuits into easier documentation and same dublicable audit procedures internally, ie. new excel workbook for audit documentation introduced

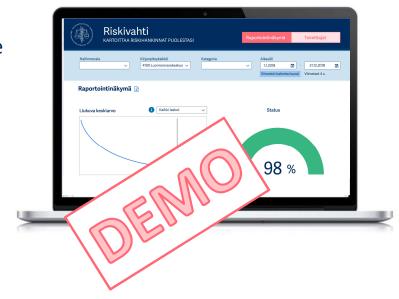
Performance audits

- How to find balance between quantitative and qualitative data?
- Our approach to achieve this balance:
 Methods and Data Analytics Team
 (MDA Team), which started in autumn 2018
- Aims at increasing the use of statistics, register data and statistical methods in performance audits
- Team provides help for example in finding data and analysing it.



What is under development? Risk Detecting Tool: advising auditors on risky procurements

- The tool has been developed with finding know-how outside the office: we partened up with Bilot, a company that specializes in machine learning. The idea of the tool came from the auditors – there was a kick-off as a workshop where auditors and coders worked together
- The tool assists auditors in planning and targeting their work: helps identify potential risk cases and visualizes the data.
- It has also possibility to learn new patterns of chained procurements and identify procurements that should have been invited to tender.
- Data: only public datasets at the present. Intent to enrich data with actual event data from ERP



What is under development? Auditors "Google"

- The development steps are still in early stage
- A text analysis demo-tool using RStudio and Elasticsearch (Thanks to inspirational Norway!)
- Open source data from the Parliament of Finland at this point
- The idea of the tool:
 - Helps the auditor to easily find information about the topic of an audit: what's been said about it in Parliament?
 - Shows the search term with its context helps to choose the relevant search results

Thank you!

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We are also on LinkedIn! ©

