

BUILDING AWARENESS: ESSENTIAL FOR THE INTERNAL AUDIT PROFESSION

May is International Internal Auditing Month. During the month of May and year-round, Internal Auditors and those associated with the profession promote internal Auditing's value.

Many professions enjoy an inherently universal understanding of their value. Most people understand the role of a doctor, for example, so a campaign designed to build awareness of what doctors do is generally not necessary. Unfortunately, this may not be true for the internal audit profession. In fact, even internal auditors' close friends and family don't understand exactly what an internal auditor does.

The aim is not only to dispel misperceptions of the profession, but also to enhance the business community's knowledge of the essential role internal auditing plays in strong organizational governance, internal control, and effective risk management. When management and boards of directors come to fully appreciate the value of internal auditing, they ensure the internal audit activity is adequately sourced and effectively utilized. Similarly, as the general public becomes more familiar with what internal auditors do, the number of individuals who consider it a viable career option rises, fueling the profession with greater talent.

Whether you are actively involved in your institutions Internal Auditing department, new to the field, part of an extensive audit team, or the sole practitioner at your organization, there's something you can do to elevate the profession.

