



## New BASE Maintenance Audit Tool Launches in 2026

BC Forest Safety Council (BCFSC), in collaboration with WorkSafeBC and the SAFE Companies Advisory Committee (SCAC), has introduced a new BASE maintenance audit tool called **EMAP (Enhanced Maintenance Audit Protocol)**. This new audit tool is designed for certain qualifying BASE sized companies to help improve Safety Management Systems and increase safety performance. For more information on EMAP, visit the BCFSC website. 📄

## First Aid Regulation Updates

November 1, 2024 has long passed. This key date was when the updated First Aid regulations came into effect and they should now be fully implemented across all workplaces. While previously completed First Aid training remains valid until it expires, First Aid kits must be checked to ensure they meet the current regulatory requirements. This also applies to First Aid assessments.

Regularly reviewing your First Aid program and equipment, as well as conducting regular drills, helps ensure readiness and regulatory compliance. Use the WorkSafeBC First Aid assessment form to see if you are meeting the new requirements. 📄

## Site Verification Audits and 2026 Targets

For 2026, BCFSC has once again set a target of 400 small company site verification visits. Site verification audits remain an important part of the SAFE Companies program, supporting smaller and growing companies by providing guidance and identifying opportunities for improvement.

BASE Gap Analysis audits will continue for growing companies, helping them strengthen their safety programs as they transition toward BASE certification. In addition, WorkSafeBC Initiated Verification Audits (WIVAs) will continue to be completed using external auditors. 📄

## 2025 Year End Results

In 2025, a total of 432 site verification and WIVA audits were completed, exceeding our target. An additional five BASE Gap Analysis audits were conducted, helping companies identify areas for improvement and close gaps as they grow.

There were 41 WorkSafeBC Initiated Verification Audits completed using external auditors. These audits, initiated by WorkSafeBC, play an important role in supporting compliance and maintaining strong safety standards. The use of external auditors adds valuable expertise and independent oversight to the audit process. 📄

## SAFE Certification Snapshot

As of the end of 2025, there were 2,697 SAFE Certified companies, demonstrating the industry's continued commitment to building and maintaining strong safety programs. To see if your company is SAFE Certified, click here. 📄

| SAFE Companies Program Results                                       | SAFE Companies Target 2025 | 2025 Actuals |
|--|----------------------------|--------------|
| Small Employer Occupational Health & Safety (SEOHS) Initial Training | 250                        | 231          |
| Individual Owner Operator (IOO) Initial Training                     | 50                         | 36           |
| Small Employer Occupational Health & Safety (SEOHS) refresher        | 200                        | 313          |
| Individual Owner Operator (IOO) Refresher Training                   | 50                         | 72           |
| Internal Auditor (Large) provided                                    | 17                         | 20           |
| External Auditor (Large) provided                                    | 1                          | 1            |
| New registrations  | 250                        | 230          |
| New certifications   | 250                        | 251          |
| Verification Audits  | 363                        | 391          |
| WIVA Audits  | 37                         | 41           |