

Russell Lawson

BA (Hons) Dip. Journ. CQP MCQI

Personal Information

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DOB: 6th November 1972

Profile

Owner of The Ideas Distillery, which works directly with all types of organisations who want to improve their management systems to ISO 9001 (quality), ISO 14001 (environment), ISO 45001 (health & safety) and ISO 27001 (data management) accreditations. We also offer a programme of support for companies looking to start their tendering journey.

As well as offering compliance ISO services, we also offer services around RISQS (for those who wish to provide goods and services on UK railways), ISO transitional support, online compliance management, and help with the ISO 27001 data management standard.

Has sat on various groups such as the Wales International Business Council, and the Leadership and Management Wales Board. Fully IRCA-accredited trained in ISO 9001, 14001, 45001 and 27001 Auditing and ISO Transition, a Chartered Quality Practitioner of the Chartered Quality Institute (CQP MCQI), Affiliate Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), PRINCE2 Project Management Practitioner qualified and PTLLS and ILM Train the Trainer certified.

Employment summary

The Ideas Distillery

May 2011 to present

Managing Director

The Ideas Distillery works directly with all types of organisations who want to improve their management systems to ISO standards. Our consultancy and advice helps our clients to embed quality, environmental and health & safety principles throughout their organisation, giving:

- customer focus - understanding needs, meeting requirements and exceeding expectations;
- continual improvement - improvement of the organisation's performance on a continual basis;
- process approach - achieving greater efficiency and effectiveness by viewing activities as processes;
- systems approach - identifying, understanding and managing interrelated processes as a whole system;
- factual approach to decision making - decision making based on the analysis of data and information; and
- mutually beneficial supplier relationships - developing lasting relationships.

As well as offering compliance ISO & OHSAS services, we also offer services around RISQS (for those who wish to provide goods and services on UK railways), ISO transitional support, online compliance management, and help with the ISO 27001 data management standard. We also offer a detailed programme of support for companies looking to start their tendering journey.

***Print and Media
Certification Ltd***

May 2019 to present

Lead Auditor - freelance

Freelance Lead Auditor for Print and Media Certification, a UKAS accredited certification body which offers ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 12647, ISO 16759 and ISO 27001 certification and other standards in the printing, publishing, paper and media industries.

***Welsh Government - Accelerated
Growth programme***

Dec 2017 to present

Business Advisor

The Accelerated Growth Programme forms part of the Welsh Government's Business Wales Entrepreneur and SME support services. The aim of the programme is to support and develop Start up and SME's within Wales that have high growth aspirations and potential.

***Valuation Tribunal for
Wales Governing Council***

Dec 2016 to present

***Welsh Government
Representative***

The Valuation Tribunal (VT) for Wales is an independent organisation that deals with appeals about Non-Domestic Rates and Council Tax. The Tribunal has four regions which are served by offices that are strategically located throughout Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government finances the Valuation Tribunal for Wales.

Leadership and Management Wales

Jan 2010 to Dec 2014

Board Member

LMW is committed to improving the leadership and management skills of people in business in Wales by providing access to the latest information, courses and research.

Wales International Business Council

Jan 2011 to July 2014

Director

WIBC creates a network that brings together the knowledge and experience we have in Wales of international trade and through this private sector initiative creates an open masterclass approach to working internationally and invites those large companies, who operate in Wales, to sign up.

Wales Social Partners Unit

Oct 2001 to Feb 2011

Director

Directorship of Assembly-funded body established as a capacity-building unit for the benefit of business organisations and Wales TUC.

**Federation of Small
Businesses**

June 1997 to Feb 2011

Head of External Affairs - Wales

To enhance the FSB's parliamentary, political and media influence at the National Assembly and Westminster by positioning and promoting FSB Wales as the authoritative voice of small businesses in Wales and as a major contributor to Welsh Economic Policy and its implementation.

Education

Batalas - 20 March 2019

IRCA Certified ISO 27001:2013 Information Security Management Systems Lead Auditor Conversion Training: 3 days

Built upon existing auditing experience to develop knowledge on information security management systems and ISO 27001:2013 requirements.

SGS Academy - 25 January 2019

IRCA Certified ISO 45001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Auditor / Lead Auditor Training Course: 5 days

Fundamental auditing principles and practices, in conformance with national and international accepted norms and regulations relating to OH&S requirements.

SGS Academy - 17 August 2018

IRCA Certified ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems Auditor / Lead Auditor Training Course: 5 days

a full understanding of the processes and techniques of EMS auditing and the requirements of ISO 14001.

SGS Academy - 26 January 2018

IRCA Certified ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems Auditor/Lead Auditor Training: 5 days

Acquired the skills to plan, conduct, report and follow up a QMS audit that establishes conformity and enhances overall organisational performance.

Advanced Certification - 30 August 2018

ISO 45001:2018 Auditor Conversion Course: 1 day

- Annex SL - High Level Structure
- Context of the organisation
- Risks and Opportunities
- Additional documented information
- Participation & Consultation

Workforce Development Wales - 6 October 2016

Integrated Management Systems Auditor training: 5 days

- Understanding the principles and mechanisms for the integration of Quality, Environmental and Health and Safety Management Systems.
- Appreciating the importance of the legislative and regulatory requirements for the business in structuring an integrated approach.
- Preparing, implementing, reporting and tracking internal audits of management systems in an integrated manner.
- Contributing to the development, improvement and integration of an organisation's management system.

Advanced Certification - 9 August 2016

Transition to ISO 9001:2015 & ISO 14001:2015: 1 day

- Annex SL - High Level Structure
- Context of the organisation
- Risks and Opportunities
- Organisational knowledge
- Change control

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Certificate, PTLLS, October 2012: 1 day

Award in Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector provides an introduction to teaching and training adults.

e-Academy

Certificate, MS Project 2007, June 2012: 1 day

Organising tasks in a work breakdown structure containing task relationships, creating and assigning resources, finalising project to implement the project plan.

e-Academy

Certificate, MS PowerPoint 2007, May 2011: 1 day

Creating, enhancing, printing presentation slides; slide transitions, custom animation, using slide masters and outline view.

Institute of Leadership and Management

Certificate, Train the Trainer, February 2011: 3 days

Using icebreakers in training sessions; setting ground rules; the training cycle; understanding learners' needs; the learning environment; learning styles and theory; developing a session plan; designing training resources; setting aims & objectives; gaining and maintaining attention during training; assessing and evaluating learners.

The University of Glamorgan

PRINCE2, Project Management, 2008: 5 days

This course help with running projects of any size in any environment to effectively deliver what is required appropriately managing the costs, timescales, quality, scope, risks and benefits, using the PRINCE2 project management method.

Open University

Professional Certificate in Management, 2001 - 2002: 12 months

A broad-based, practical introduction to the key ideas, techniques and competencies needed to manage effectively and productively in all functional areas of modern organisations.

Birkbeck, U. of London

CIPR Diploma in Public Relations, 2002: 12 months

Advanced understanding of professional practice, including PR strategy and planning, content management, media and engagement, measurement and evaluation, and PR leadership. All underpinned by reference to ethics and code of conduct.

University of Central Lancashire

Postgraduate Diploma in Newspaper Journalism, 1995 - 1996: 12 months

Core reporting and technical skills needed to operate as a journalist, including essentials of law as it impacts on journalists, the ethics of journalism, and the workings of central and local government.

The University of Glamorgan

Communication Studies BA (Hons), Communications, 1991 - 1994: 3 years

The study of the media and cultural industries and their roles in modern society, and an understanding of the historical and cultural bases of the study of the media and cultural industries and their roles in modern society.