**The Court of Accounts of France**

# Strategy

Knowledge management is at the core of the Court of Account of France’s global strategy for improvement of audit quality. However, they did not formalize their efforts in that direction in a written strategy paper. They have decided to focus on the means and tools necessary to advance in that direction, by starting to build a few tools and processes.

# Organisation

The Court of Accounts of France is approximately twice the size of the European Court of Auditors.

Knowledge management is led by a “Centre d’appui metier” of approximately 60 staff members: 20 IT/IS specialists, 25 librarians and 15 auditors. This centre is directly answerable to the Presidency.

# Communities of practice

The Court of Accounts of France recently started Communities of Practice. They are led by the Head of Sector of the topic concerned. They use a SharePoint site which gives access to news and general documents. They receive a strong support from librarians.

For the moment, the SharePoint sites are open only to the members of the Community of Practice. In the future, anybody could request access to the site by requesting it to the Head of Sector.

The Communities of Practice sites could also be fed by documents posted by other auditors who do not belong to the community. The posting should be as user-friendly as possible. The Head of Sector would be made aware of the upload; S/he can decide to keep or delete the document and can complete the metadata associated.



# SKILLS database

The Court of Accounts of France uses for the moment three directories:

* One with basic administrative information (such as office number, phone number, etc.)
* One with biographies (CV-like) of staff of the central Court of Accounts
* One with biographies of the regional Courts of Accounts

They plan to consolidate these three directories in one single skill database (probably by using the interface MyProfile of SharePoint).

In order to facilitate the searches in this skills database, they classify the main information in four categories:

* Sector (e.g. agriculture, energy)
* Function (e.g. IS, public procurement)
* Job
* Type of organisation (e.g. Ministry of Environment, city hall…)

The selection of key words would be done mainly through multiple selections in dropdown lists. The staff could also enter free text – A central person would then track duplicate entries and enrich the metadata thesaurus.



# Trainings

All trainings documents (e.g. PowerPoint presentations) are accessible by anybody. Trainings are also videotaped – The videos are also accessible by anybody.

# Contacts

* Barbara Falk, Secrétaire Générale Adjointe, métiers et organisation - BFalk@ccomptes.fr
* Bertrand Beauviche , directeur du pôle méthodes du CAM (centre d’Appui métier) – bbeauviche@ccomptes.fr
* Patricia Amarger, directrice du pôle données et assistance maitrise d’ouvrage des systèmes d’information du CAM - pamarger@ccomptes.fr
* Stéphane Gaillard, magistrat, auditeur à la 7°chambre – sgaillard@ccomptes.fr
* Loulla Puisais-Jauvin, rapporteur européen à la 5°chambre – lpuisaisjauvin@ccomptes.fr