WORKSHEET 3.14

Follow-up, and the Correction That Was an Engineering Job

Subchapter 3.14 · case in the book: Valparaíso

Take three findings your property closed last year and, for each one, write down what physically happened on the day it was marked closed. If the answer is that an approval was given, a work order was raised or a paper was signed, then what was closed was a record. Now go and look at the number the finding was about, for the four months after that date, and see whether it stayed where it was put.

This worksheet turns the tools of the subchapter into a form you can fill in. The texts come from the book; the empty columns are for your own property. Adapt it before use: an unadapted checklist is exactly what the book warns against.

Practical application: what to do in your property

Step (from the book)	Done?	What we found / owner
Read the finding register from the beginning, not from the last cycle.		
Record corrections as corrections, and corrective actions as corrective actions.		
When a correction is applied, note the date, the value and the circuit, and set a reminder for the end of the next season.		
On that date, look at the number and record whether it held.		
Add one column counting how many times an action has entered a capital plan and not survived it.		
Propose an interim measure alongside the structural one, costed separately, with what it does not cover and when it ends.		
Use three closure states: effective, interim, open with a count.		
At follow-up, ask for the number on the affected circuit for four months after closure, and nothing else.		

These steps are the book's method, not requirements of ISO 50001. Evidence can take whatever form suits the property; a separate document is needed only where an applicable requirement, or the property's own system, makes it necessary.

Verification Pact: what is believed, tested against the standard

What is commonly believed	What actually holds	Our position
«We fixed it and the consumption fell within a fortnight.»	That is a correction, and its visible success is exactly what makes it easy to record as something more.	

What is commonly believed	What actually holds	Our position
«The finding was closed and the effect confirmed in the next month's data.»	One month is shorter than the season that will reverse it. Look again at four months.	
«The same issue came up again this year.»	Check whether it is the same one. An annual audit interval and a seasonal half-life will produce this indefinitely.	
«The corrective action is in the capital plan.»	For the third time. Nothing in the register counts that, so the third deferral reads like the first.	
«We cannot do anything until the plant is replaced.»	An interim measure with a stated end date will usually hold most of it and costs nothing.	
«The work order was raised, so the finding is closed.»	A record was closed. The standard asks for the effectiveness of the action to be reviewed.	

Common mistakes: a self-check

Mistake (from the book)	Present here?	Action / owner
Recording a correction in the space reserved for a corrective action.		
Treating the immediate movement of the number as evidence that the cause was addressed.		
Confirming effectiveness one month later, when the reversal takes a season.		
Raising the same finding annually without knowing it is the same finding.		
Failing to count deferrals, so that the third loss looks like the first.		
Presenting only the structural answer, and losing the interim benefit with the deferral.		
Closing against a work order, an approval or a completion certificate.		
Refusing to close anything until the number holds, until the property stops raising findings.		

Operative synthesis

- **A correction removes today's nonconformity and a corrective action removes its cause, and in this discipline the correction is unusually seductive because it works within a fortnight and shows up in the next monthly report. A property that records the first in the space meant for the second will accumulate a register of resolved problems and a plant that never changes.**
- **The instrument that exposes it costs nothing: measure the half-life of your corrections. Note the date and the value when one is applied, look again at the end of the following season, and**

record whether it held. A half-life shorter than the audit interval explains, by itself, why the same finding appears every year and is recorded every year as new.

- **Two more numbers finish the job. A count of how many times an action has entered a capital plan and not survived it, so that a third deferral does not read like a first. And three closure states instead of two, so that a property faced with a structural fix three years away is not forced to choose between a dishonest closure and a register nobody trusts.**
- **In Valparaíso every act was correct. An engineer locked a boiler out, an engineer unlocked it at half past six on a winter morning, a heritage obligation took a year's capital, a street consent took another. What nobody did in three years was propose the thing that costs nothing and holds for three hundred and forty-eight days of the year, because the register had only ever contained the expensive answer.**
- **The next subchapter closes the chapter by handing it on. The internal audit is one of the inputs the management review must consider, and in most properties it arrives as a list of findings that nobody in the room is able to act on.**

Action plan for our property

Action	Owner	Due	How we will know it worked

Source: Francesco Dore, The Helm and the Lens, Volume 4b «The Lens», subchapter 3.14. Edizioni Effedore, 2026. Clause references are paraphrased; this sheet does not reproduce the text of ISO 50001, ISO 50003 or ISO/IEC 17021-1. It is not legal advice: energy law is that of the place where the property operates.