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Report on

2014 Inspection of ZBS Group LLP
(Headquartered in Plainview, New York)

Issued by the

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board

July 2, 2015

THIS IS A PUBLIC VERSION OF A PCAOB INSPECTION REPORT

PORTIONS OF THE COMPLETE REPORT ARE OMITTED
FROM THIS DOCUMENT IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH
SECTIONS 104(g)(2) AND 105(b)(5)(A)
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002



2014 INSPECTION OF ZBS GROUP LLP

Preface

In 2014, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB" or "the Board") conducted an inspection of the registered public accounting firm ZBS Group LLP ("the Firm") pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("the Act").

Inspections are designed and performed to provide a basis for assessing the degree of compliance by a firm with applicable requirements related to auditing issuers. For a description of the procedures the Board's inspectors may perform to fulfill this responsibility, see Part I.C of this report (which also contains additional information concerning PCAOB inspections generally). Overall, the inspection process included reviews of portions of selected issuer audits completed by the Firm. These reviews were intended to identify whether deficiencies existed in those portions of the inspected audits, and whether such deficiencies indicated defects or potential defects in the Firm's system of quality control over audits. In addition, the inspection included a review of policies and procedures related to certain quality control processes of the Firm that could be expected to affect audit quality.

The Board is issuing this report in accordance with the requirements of the Act. The Board is releasing to the public Part I of the report and portions of Part IV of the report. Part IV of the report consists of the Firm's comments, if any, on a draft of the report. If the nonpublic portions of the report discuss criticisms of or potential defects in the firm's system of quality control, those discussions also could eventually be made public, but only to the extent the firm fails to address the criticisms to the Board's satisfaction within 12 months of the issuance of the report.

PROFILE OF THE FIRM¹

Number of offices	1 (Plainview, New York)
Ownership structure	Limited liability partnership
Number of partners	2
Number of professional staff ²	2
Number of issuer audit clients	7
Other names used in audit reports	ZS Consulting Group LLP ³

¹ The information presented here is as understood by the inspection team, generally as of the outset of the inspection, based on the Firm's self-reporting and the inspection team's review of certain information. Additional information, including additional detail on audit reports issued by the Firm, is available in the Firm's filings with the Board, available at http://pcaobus.org/Registration/rasr/Pages/RASR_Search.aspx.

² The number of partners and professional staff is provided here as an indication of the size of the Firm, and does not necessarily represent the number of the Firm's professionals who participate in audits of issuers.

³ The Firm filed a special report on PCAOB Form 3 describing a change in its legal name from ZS Consulting Group LLP to ZBS Group LLP, effective December 18, 2012.

PART I

INSPECTION PROCEDURES AND CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS

Members of the Board's inspection staff ("the inspection team") conducted primary procedures for the inspection from October 6, 2014 to October 9, 2014.⁴

A. Review of Audit Engagements

The inspection procedures included a review of portions of two issuer audits performed by the Firm. The inspection team identified matters that it considered to be deficiencies in the performance of the work it reviewed.

The description of the deficiency in Part I.A of this report includes, at the end of the description of the deficiency, references to specific paragraphs of the auditing standards that relate to that deficiency. The text of those paragraphs is set forth in Appendix A to this report. The references in this sub-Part include only standards that primarily relate to the deficiency; they do not present a comprehensive list of every auditing standard that applies to the deficiency. Further, certain broadly applicable aspects of the auditing standards that may be relevant to a deficiency, such as provisions requiring due professional care, including the exercise of professional skepticism; the accumulation of sufficient appropriate audit evidence; and the performance of procedures that address risks, are not included in any references to the auditing standards in this sub-Part, unless the lack of compliance with these standards is the primary reason for the deficiency. These broadly applicable provisions are described in Part I.B of this report.

One of the deficiencies identified was of such significance that it appeared to the inspection team that the Firm, at the time it issued its audit report, had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion that the financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable

⁴ For this purpose, "primary procedures" include field work, other review of audit work papers, and the evaluation of the Firm's quality control policies and procedures through review of documentation and interviews of Firm personnel. Primary procedures do not include (1) inspection planning, which is performed prior to primary procedures, and (2) inspection follow-up procedures, wrap-up, analysis of results, and the preparation of the inspection report, which extend beyond the primary procedures.

financial reporting framework. In other words, in this audit, the auditor issued an opinion without satisfying its fundamental obligation to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements were free of material misstatement.

The fact that one or more deficiencies reaches this level of significance does not necessarily indicate that the financial statements are misstated. It is often not possible for the inspection team, based only on the information available from the auditor, to reach a conclusion on those points.

Whether or not associated with a disclosed financial reporting misstatement, an auditor's failure to obtain the reasonable assurance that the auditor is required to obtain is a serious matter. It is a failure to accomplish the essential purpose of the audit, and it means that, based on the audit work performed, the audit opinion should not have been issued.⁵

The audit deficiency that reached this level of significance is described below—

Issuer A

the failure to perform sufficient procedures to test the existence and valuation of assets acquired and to test the valuation of purchase consideration, including the failures to evaluate a related party's involvement and to identify risks of material misstatement at the account and assertion level (AS No. 12, paragraph 59; AS No. 13, paragraphs 8 and 36; AU 328, paragraphs .03 and .23; AU 334, paragraphs .09 and .10).

⁵ Inclusion in an inspection report does not mean that the deficiency remained unaddressed after the inspection team brought it to the Firm's attention. Depending upon the circumstances, compliance with PCAOB standards may require the Firm to perform additional audit procedures, or to inform a client of the need for changes to its financial statements or reporting on internal control, or to take steps to prevent reliance on its previously expressed audit opinions. The Board expects that firms will comply with these standards, and the inspections staff may include in its procedures monitoring or assessing a firm's compliance.

B. Auditing Standards

The deficiency described above could relate to several applicable provisions of the standards that govern the conduct of audits, including both the paragraphs of the standards that are cited at the end of the description of the deficiency included in Part I.A of this report and one or more of the specific paragraphs discussed below.

Many audit deficiencies involve a lack of due professional care. AU 230, *Due Professional Care in the Performance of Work* ("AU 230"), paragraphs .02, .05, and .06, requires the independent auditor to plan and perform his or her work with due professional care and sets forth aspects of that requirement. AU 230, paragraphs .07 through .09, and Auditing Standard ("AS") No. 13, *The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement* ("AS No. 13"), paragraph 7, specify that due professional care requires the exercise of professional skepticism. These standards state that professional skepticism is an attitude that includes a questioning mind and a critical assessment of the appropriateness and sufficiency of audit evidence.

AS No. 13, paragraphs 3, 5, and 8, requires the auditor to design and implement audit responses that address the risks of material misstatement, and AS No. 15, *Audit Evidence* ("AS No. 15"), paragraph 4, requires the auditor to plan and perform audit procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a reasonable basis for the audit opinion. Sufficiency is the measure of the quantity of audit evidence, and the quantity needed is affected by the risk of material misstatement (in the audit of financial statements) and the quality of the audit evidence obtained. The appropriateness of evidence is measured by its quality; to be appropriate, evidence must be both relevant and reliable in support of the related conclusions.

The table below lists the specific auditing standards that are referenced for the deficiency included in Part I.A of this report. See the description of the deficiency in Part I.A for identification of the specific paragraphs, in addition to those noted above, that relate to that deficiency. Standards discussed above are cited again in the table only if the particular deficiency relates to aspects of the standard that are not discussed above.

PCAOB Auditing Standards	Issuer
AS No. 12, <i>Identifying and Assessing Risks of Material Misstatement</i>	A

PCAOB Auditing Standards	Issuer
AS No. 13, <i>The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement</i>	A
AU 328, <i>Auditing Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures</i>	A
AU 334, <i>Related Parties</i>	A

C. Information Concerning PCAOB Inspections Generally Applicable to Triennially Inspected Firms

Board inspections include reviews of certain portions of selected audit work performed by the inspected firm and reviews of certain aspects of the firm's quality control system. The inspections are designed to identify deficiencies in audits and defects or potential defects in the firm's system of quality control related to the firm's audits. The focus on deficiencies, defects, and potential defects necessarily carries through to reports on inspections and, accordingly, Board inspection reports are not intended to serve as balanced report cards or overall rating tools. Further, the inclusion in an inspection report of certain deficiencies, defects, and potential defects should not be construed as an indication that the Board has made any determination about other aspects of the inspected firm's systems, policies, procedures, practices, or conduct not included within the report.

C.1. Reviews of Audit Work

Inspections include reviews of portions of selected audits of financial statements and, where applicable, audits of internal control over financial reporting ("ICFR"). For these audits, the inspection team selects certain portions of the audits for inspection, and it reviews the engagement team's work papers and interviews engagement personnel regarding those portions. If the inspection team identifies a potential issue that it is unable to resolve through discussion with the firm and any review of additional work papers or other documentation, the inspection team ordinarily provides the firm with a written comment form on the matter and the firm is allowed the opportunity to provide a written response to the comment form. If the response does not resolve the inspection team's concerns, the matter is considered a deficiency and is evaluated for inclusion in the inspection report.

The inspection team selects the audits, and the specific portions of those audits, that it will review, and the inspected firm is not allowed an opportunity to limit or influence the selections. Audit deficiencies that the inspection team may identify include a firm's failure to identify, or to address appropriately, financial statement misstatements, including failures to comply with disclosure requirements,⁶ as well as a firm's failures to perform, or to perform sufficiently, certain necessary audit procedures. The inspection may not involve the review of all of a firm's audits, nor is it designed to identify every deficiency in the reviewed audits. Accordingly, a Board inspection report should not be understood to provide any assurance that a firm's audit work, or the relevant issuers' financial statements or reporting on ICFR, are free of any deficiencies not specifically described in an inspection report.

In some cases, the conclusion that a firm did not perform a procedure may be based on the absence of documentation and the absence of persuasive other evidence, even if the firm claimed to have performed the procedure. AS No. 3, *Audit Documentation* ("AS No. 3"), provides that, in various circumstances including PCAOB inspections, a firm that has not adequately documented that it performed a procedure, obtained evidence, or reached an appropriate conclusion, must demonstrate with persuasive other evidence that it did so, and that oral assertions and explanations alone do not constitute persuasive other evidence. In reaching its conclusions, the inspection team considers whether audit documentation or any persuasive other evidence that a firm might provide to the inspection team supports a firm's contention that it performed a procedure, obtained evidence, or reached an appropriate conclusion. In the case of every matter cited in the public portion of a final inspection report, the inspection team has carefully considered any contention by the firm that it did so but just did not document its work, and the inspection team has concluded that the available evidence does not support the contention that the firm sufficiently performed the necessary work.

⁶ When it comes to the Board's attention that an issuer's financial statements appear not to present fairly, in a material respect, the financial position, results of operations, or cash flows of the issuer in conformity with applicable accounting principles, the Board's practice is to report that information to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "the Commission"), which has jurisdiction to determine proper accounting in issuers' financial statements. Any description in this report of financial statement misstatements or failures to comply with SEC disclosure requirements should not be understood as an indication that the SEC has considered or made any determination regarding these issues unless otherwise expressly stated.

Identified deficiencies in the audit work that exceed a significance threshold (which is described in Part I.A of the inspection report) are summarized in the public portion of the inspection report.⁷

The Board cautions against extrapolating from the results presented in the public portion of a report to broader conclusions about the frequency of deficiencies throughout the firm's practice. Individual audits and areas of inspection focus are most often selected on a risk-weighted basis and not randomly. Areas of focus vary among selected audits, but often involve audit work on the most difficult or inherently uncertain areas of financial statements. Thus, the audit work is generally selected for inspection based on factors that, in the inspection team's view, heighten the possibility that auditing deficiencies are present, rather than through a process intended to identify a representative sample.

C.2. Review of a Firm's Quality Control System

QC 20, *System of Quality Control for a CPA Firm's Accounting and Auditing Practice*, provides that an auditing firm has a responsibility to ensure that its personnel comply with the applicable professional standards. This standard specifies that a firm's system of quality control should encompass the following elements: (1) independence, integrity, and objectivity; (2) personnel management; (3) acceptance and continuance of issuer audit engagements; (4) engagement performance; and (5) monitoring.

The inspection team's assessment of a firm's quality control system is derived both from the results of its procedures specifically focused on the firm's quality control policies and procedures, and also from inferences that can be drawn from deficiencies in the performance of individual audits. Audit deficiencies, whether alone or when aggregated, may indicate areas where a firm's system has failed to provide reasonable assurance of quality in the performance of audits. Even deficiencies that do not result in an insufficiently supported audit opinion may indicate a defect or potential defect in a

⁷ The discussion in this report of any deficiency observed in a particular audit reflects information reported to the Board by the inspection team and does not reflect any determination by the Board as to whether the Firm has engaged in any conduct for which it could be sanctioned through the Board's disciplinary process. In addition, any references in this report to violations or potential violations of law, rules, or professional standards are not a result of an adversarial adjudicative process and do not constitute conclusive findings for purposes of imposing legal liability.

firm's quality control system.⁸ If identified deficiencies, when accumulated and evaluated, indicate defects or potential defects in the firm's system of quality control, the nonpublic portion of this report would include a discussion of those issues. When evaluating whether identified deficiencies in individual audits indicate a defect or potential defect in a firm's system of quality control, the inspection team considers the nature, significance, and frequency of deficiencies;⁹ related firm methodology, guidance, and practices; and possible root causes.

Inspections also include a review of certain of the firm's practices, policies, and processes related to audit quality, which constitute a part of the firm's quality control system. This review addresses practices, policies, and procedures concerning audit performance, training, compliance with independence standards, client acceptance and retention, and the establishment of policies and procedures.

END OF PART I

⁸ Not every audit deficiency suggests a defect or potential defect in a firm's quality control system.

⁹ An evaluation of the frequency of a type of deficiency may include consideration of how often the inspection team reviewed audit work that presented the opportunity for similar deficiencies to occur. In some cases, even a type of deficiency that is observed infrequently in a particular inspection may, because of some combination of its nature, its significance, and the frequency with which it has been observed in previous inspections of the firm, be cause for concern about a quality control defect or potential defect.



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July 2, 2015
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PORTIONS OF THE REST OF THIS REPORT ARE NONPUBLIC AND ARE OMITTED
FROM THIS PUBLIC DOCUMENT

PART II

* * * *

B. Issues Related to Quality Controls

The inspection of the Firm included consideration of aspects of the Firm's system of quality control.¹⁰

Audit Performance

A firm's system of quality control should provide reasonable assurance that the work performed on an audit engagement will meet applicable professional standards and regulatory requirements. On the basis of the information reported by the inspection team, including the audit performance deficiency described in Part II.A (and summarized in Part I.A) and any other deficiencies identified below, the Board has concerns that the Firm's system of quality control fails to provide such reasonable assurance in at least the following respects –

a. Testing Appropriate to the Audit

The Firm's system of quality control appears not to provide sufficient assurance that the Firm will conduct all testing appropriate to a particular audit. As discussed above, in one of the audits reviewed, the inspection team identified a significant deficiency related to the Firm's testing of an asset acquisition. The inspection team attempted to identify apparent or likely causes of this deficiency. Based on review of the work papers and discussions with the engagement personnel, it appeared to the inspection team that the deficiency was attributable, at least in part, to the engagement personnel having approached this aspect of the audit without due care, including without professional skepticism. This information provides cause for concern regarding the Firm's application of due care, including professional skepticism, with respect to auditing an asset acquisition. [Issuer A]

¹⁰ This report's description of quality control issues is based on the inspection team's observations during the primary inspection procedures. Any changes or improvements that the Firm may have made in its system of quality control since that time may not be reflected in this report, but will be taken into account by the Board during the 12-month remediation process following the issuance of this report.

b. Engagement Quality Review

In light of the audit performance deficiency described in Part II.A (and summarized in Part I.A), questions exist about the effectiveness of the Firm's system of quality control with respect to the execution of engagement quality reviews in compliance with PCAOB Auditing Standard No. 7, *Engagement Quality Review* ("AS No. 7"). An engagement quality review performed with due care in compliance with AS No. 7 should have detected, and resulted in the Firm addressing, the deficiency described in Part II.A. [Issuer A]

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PART IV

RESPONSE OF THE FIRM TO DRAFT INSPECTION REPORT

Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7214(f), and PCAOB Rule 4007(a), the Firm provided a written response to a draft of this report. Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), the Firm's response, minus any portion granted confidential treatment, is attached hereto and made part of this final inspection report.¹¹

¹¹ The Board does not make public any of a firm's comments that address a nonpublic portion of the report unless a firm specifically requests otherwise. In some cases, the result may be that none of a firm's response is made publicly available. In addition, pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7214(f), and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), if a firm requests, and the Board grants, confidential treatment for any of the firm's comments on a draft report, the Board does not include those comments in the final report at all. The Board routinely grants confidential treatment, if requested, for any portion of a firm's response that addresses any point in the draft that the Board omits from, or any inaccurate statement in the draft that the Board corrects in, the final report.

From:

05/07/2015 15:50

#267 P.001/004



ZBS GROUP LLP

Certified Public Accountants and Advisors

May 7, 2015

PUBLIC

Ms. Helen A. Munter
Director
Division of Registration and Inspections
Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
1666 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Response to Draft Report on the Inspection of ZBS Group LLP.

Dear Ms. Munter:

ZBS Group LLP ("the Firm") appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB") draft report on the inspection of the firm, dated April 7, 2015.

We fully support the mission and inspection process of the PCAOB and appreciate their staff for the courtesy extended to us and the professional way they conducted their work.

We have provided separately our detailed responses to the issues discussed in part II of the draft inspection report.

Sincerely

ZBS Group LLP

255 Executive Drive, Suite 400 Plainview, New York 11803
Tel: (516) 394-3344 Fax: (516) 342-6273
www.zbscpas.com



ZBS GROUP LLP

Certified Public Accountants and Advisors

May 7, 2015

NON-PUBLIC

Ms. Helen A. Munter
Director
Division of Registration and Inspections
Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
1666 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Response to Draft Report on the Inspection of ZBS Group LLP.

Dear Ms. Munter:

ZBS Group LLP ("the Firm") appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB") draft report on the inspection of the firm, dated April 7, 2015.

The following are the firm's comments to the PCAOB inspection team's findings:

General Comment,

The inspection team found deficiency in only one audit engagement. Biozoom, Inc. During the time Biozoom audit was performed, we had just acquired an automated audit software system which was not fully implemented. We were still in the early stages of learning the system and as such the audit was performed using mostly paper audit procedures and guides. Since then, the system has been fully implemented and operational and is now being used on all audits performed by the firm.

We now fully utilize SMART practice aids during the audit process. This system helps us document every stage of the audit process. If we miss any step the system alerts us and does not allow us to finalize the audit until all required procedures are performed. Throughout the audit engagement all findings are addressed with the audit team to ensure that all audit procedures and documentation conform with professional standards.

In addition, A new Engagement Quality Reviewer has join our audit team. This significantly improved our quality control process as evident in second engagement the inspection team reviewed and found no deficiency.

REDACTED. Comments on Non-public Aspects of Report

From:

05/07/2015 15:51

#267 P.003/004

REDACTED. Comments on Non-public Aspects of Report

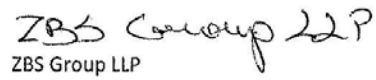
From:

05/07/2015 15:52

#267 P.004/004

We are committed to continuously improving our audit quality. We thank the inspection team for their comments and for affording us the opportunity to implement corrections.

Sincerely,


ZBS Group LLP

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APPENDIX A

AUDITING STANDARD REFERENCED IN PART I

This Appendix provides the text of the auditing standard paragraphs that are referenced in Part I.A of this report. Footnotes that are included in this Appendix, and any other Notes, are from the original auditing standards that are referenced. While this Appendix contains the specific portions of the relevant standards cited with respect to the deficiencies in Part I.A of this report, other portions of the standards (including those described in Part I.B of this report) may provide additional context, descriptions, related requirements, or explanations; the complete standards are available on the PCAOB's website at <http://pcaobus.org/STANDARDS/Pages/default.aspx>.

AS No. 12, <i>Identifying and Assessing Risks of Material Misstatement</i>		
Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement		
AS No. 12.59	<p>The auditor should identify and assess the risks of material misstatement at the financial statement level and the assertion level. In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement, the auditor should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify risks of misstatement using information obtained from performing risk assessment procedures (as discussed in paragraphs 4–58) and considering the characteristics of the accounts and disclosures in the financial statements. <p>Note: Factors relevant to identifying fraud risks are discussed in paragraphs 65–69 of this standard.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Evaluate whether the identified risks relate pervasively to the financial statements as a whole and potentially affect many assertions. c. Evaluate the types of potential misstatements that could result from the identified risks and the accounts, disclosures, and assertions that could be affected. <p>Note: In identifying and assessing risks at the assertion level, the auditor should evaluate how risks at the financial statement level could affect risks of misstatement at the assertion level.</p>	Issuer A

	<p>d. Assess the likelihood of misstatement, including the possibility of multiple misstatements, and the magnitude of potential misstatement to assess the possibility that the risk could result in material misstatement of the financial statements.</p> <p>Note: In assessing the likelihood and magnitude of potential misstatement, the auditor may take into account the planned degree of reliance on controls selected to test.³²</p> <p>e. Identify significant accounts and disclosures³³ and their relevant assertions³⁴ (paragraphs 60–64 of this standard).</p> <p>Note: The determination of whether an account or disclosure is significant or whether an assertion is a relevant assertion is based on inherent risk, without regard to the effect of controls.</p> <p>f. Determine whether any of the identified and assessed risks of material misstatement are significant risks (paragraphs 70–71 of this standard).</p>	
<p>Footnotes to AS No. 12.59</p> <p>³² Paragraphs 16–35 of Auditing Standard No. 13.</p> <p>³³ Paragraph A10 of Auditing Standard No. 5 states:</p> <p>An account or disclosure is a significant account or disclosure if there is a reasonable possibility that the account or disclosure could contain a misstatement that, individually or when aggregated with others, has a material effect on the financial statements,</p>		

considering the risks of both overstatement and understatement. The determination of whether an account or disclosure is significant is based on inherent risk, without regard to the effect of controls.

³⁴ Paragraph A9 of Auditing Standard No. 5 states:

A relevant assertion is a financial statement assertion that has a reasonable possibility of containing a misstatement or misstatements that would cause the financial statements to be materially misstated. The determination of whether an assertion is a relevant assertion is based on inherent risk, without regard to the effect of controls.

AS No. 13, *The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement*

Responses Involving the Nature, Timing and Extent of Audit Procedures		
AS No. 13.8	The auditor should design and perform audit procedures in a manner that addresses the assessed risks of material misstatement for each relevant assertion of each significant account and disclosure.	Issuer A
Substantive Procedures		
AS No. 13.36	The auditor should perform substantive procedures for each relevant assertion of each significant account and disclosure, regardless of the assessed level of control risk.	Issuer A

AU 328, Auditing Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures		
Introduction		
AU 328.03	<p>The auditor should obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide reasonable assurance that fair value measurements and disclosures are in conformity with GAAP. GAAP requires that certain items be measured at fair value. Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement of Financial Accounting Concepts No. 7, Using Cash Flow Information and Present Value in Accounting Measurements, defines the fair value of an asset (liability) as "the amount at which that asset (or liability) could be bought (or incurred) or sold (or settled) in a current transaction between willing parties, that is, other than in a forced or liquidation sale."¹ Although GAAP may not prescribe the method for measuring the fair value of an item, it expresses a preference for the use of observable market prices to make that determination. In the absence of observable market prices, GAAP requires fair value to be based on the best information available in the circumstances.</p>	Issuer A
<p><u>Footnote to AU 328.03</u></p> <p>¹ Generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) contain various definitions of fair value. However, all of the definitions reflect the concepts in the definition that appears in Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Statement of Financial Accounting Concepts No. 7, Using Cash Flow Information and Present Value in Accounting Measurements. For example, Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement of Governmental Accounting Standards No. 31, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Certain Investments and for External Investment Pools, defines fair value as "the amount at which an investment could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale."</p>		

Testing the Entity's Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures		
AU 328.23	Based on the auditor's assessment of the risk of material misstatement, the auditor should test the entity's fair value measurements and disclosures. Because of the wide range of possible fair value measurements, from relatively simple to complex, and the varying levels of risk of material misstatement associated with the process for determining fair values, the auditor's planned audit procedures can vary significantly in nature, timing, and extent. For example, substantive tests of the fair value measurements may involve (a) testing management's significant assumptions, the valuation model, and the underlying data (see paragraphs .26 through .39), (b) developing independent fair value estimates for corroborative purposes (see paragraph .40), or (c) reviewing subsequent events and transactions (see paragraphs .41 and .42).	Issuer A
AU 334, <i>Related Parties</i>		
Examining Identified Related Party Transactions		
AU 334.09	After identifying related party transactions, the auditor should apply the procedures he considers necessary to obtain satisfaction concerning the purpose, nature, and extent of these transactions and their effect on the financial statements. The procedures should be directed toward obtaining and evaluating sufficient appropriate evidential matter and should extend beyond inquiry of management.	Issuer A

	<p>Procedures that should be considered include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Obtain an understanding of the business purpose of the transaction⁶ b. Examine invoices, executed copies of agreements, contracts, and other pertinent documents, such as receiving reports and shipping documents. c. Determine whether the transaction has been approved by the board of directors or other appropriate officials. d. Test for reasonableness the compilation of amounts to be disclosed, or considered for disclosure, in the financial statements. e. Arrange for the audits of intercompany account balances to be performed as of concurrent dates, even if the fiscal years differ, and for the examination of specified, important, and representative related party transactions by the auditors for each of the parties, with appropriate exchange of relevant information. f. Inspect or confirm and obtain satisfaction concerning the transferability and value of collateral. 	
<p><u>Footnote to AU 334.09</u></p> <p>⁶ Until the auditor understands the business sense of material transactions,</p>		

he cannot complete his audit. If he lacks sufficient specialized knowledge to understand a particular transaction, he should consult with persons who do have the requisite knowledge.

AU 334.10	<p>When necessary to fully understand a particular transaction, the following procedures, which might not otherwise be deemed necessary to comply with generally accepted auditing standards, should be considered.⁷</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Confirm transaction amount and terms, including guarantees and other significant data, with the other party or parties to the transaction. b. Inspect evidence in possession of the other party or parties to the transaction. c. Confirm or discuss significant information with intermediaries, such as banks, guarantors, agents, or attorneys, to obtain a better understanding of the transaction. d. Refer to financial publications, trade journals, credit agencies, and other information sources when there is reason to believe that unfamiliar customers, suppliers, or other business enterprises with which material amounts of business have been transacted may lack substance. e. With respect to material uncollected balances, guarantees, and other obligations, obtain information about the financial capability of the other party or parties to the transaction. Such information may be obtained 	Issuer A
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	from audited financial statements, unaudited financial statements, income tax returns, and reports issued by regulatory agencies, taxing authorities, financial publications, or credit agencies. The auditor should decide on the degree of assurance required and the extent to which available information provides such assurance.	
<u>Footnote to AU 334.10</u> ⁷ Arrangements for certain procedures should be made or approved by appropriate client officials.		