Contents

Chapter 1 Introduction ................................................................................................................. 4
  Objectives of the projects and assignments included in this workbook .................................. 4
  Commitment required by students to make this Workbook a success ...................................... 5

Chapter 2 Understanding a business ............................................................................................ 6

Chapter 3 Information Technology in Business (INF2004F) .......................................................... 11
  Summary of course details ......................................................................................................... 11
  Key knowledge areas .................................................................................................................. 11
  Course Objectives ..................................................................................................................... 11
  IT and Accounting Information Systems .................................................................................... 12
  Information Security standards .................................................................................................... 16
  Cloud computing in a South African business context ............................................................... 17

Chapter 4 Systems and Controls .................................................................................................. 20
  Financial Accounting and Reporting Cycle ............................................................................... 22
  Example: Revenue Cycle .......................................................................................................... 24
  Example: Expenditure Cycle ....................................................................................................... 25
  Example: Payroll Cycle .............................................................................................................. 27
  Financial Reporting in Business ............................................................................................... 27

Control of Financial Information Systems: (ACC2018S) ............................................................... 31
  Course Outline ......................................................................................................................... 31
  Aims of the course ..................................................................................................................... 32

Chapter 5 Corporate Governance (ACC2018S) ........................................................................... 33
  Introduction ............................................................................................................................... 33
  Objectives/Outcomes ............................................................................................................... 33
  Corporate Governance – Legislation ....................................................................................... 33
  Companies Act, No 71 of 2008 ................................................................................................. 33
  Sarbanes Oxley Act .................................................................................................................. 36
  The Public Finance Management Act ....................................................................................... 37
  Auditors and Internal Audit ....................................................................................................... 38
  Auditing ................................................................................................................................... 38
  SAICA’s Guidance on Corporate Governance .......................................................................... 40
  Corporate Governance ............................................................................................................. 40
  Guidance for directors - the role of internal audit ................................................................. 40
  Guidance for Directors - Reporting on Internal Control ....................................................... 43
  Ethics ....................................................................................................................................... 48
Chapter 6 Systems of Internal Control (ACC2018S) ................................................................. 49
1 Introduction ........................................................................................................................................ 49
   1.1 Lecture outline for ACC2018S Module 2 .................................................................................. 50
   1.2 Summary of Types of Questions in the Overall Systems and Controls Module ....................... 51
2 Internal Control Objectives ............................................................................................................. 54
3 Internal Control Components .......................................................................................................... 56
   3.1 Financial Information Systems ................................................................................................. 57
      3.1.1 Computerised Systems ..................................................................................................... 57
      3.1.2 Stages from point of computerisation ............................................................................. 61
      3.1.3 IT Framework .................................................................................................................. 63
3.2 Control Environment .................................................................................................................... 66
3.3 Risk Assessments ......................................................................................................................... 66
   3.3.1 Overview ............................................................................................................................... 66
   3.3.2 Fraud and Error summary .................................................................................................... 68
   3.3.3 Likelihood of risk ................................................................................................................ 69
   3.3.4 Risks and benefits of computerised systems ...................................................................... 71
   3.3.5 Addressing Risk ............................................................................................................... 72
3.4 Control Activities .......................................................................................................................... 75
   3.4.1 Principles ............................................................................................................................. 75
   3.4.3 Application controls .......................................................................................................... 77
   3.4.3 Categorisation of control activities .................................................................................... 83
   3.4.4 General IT controls .......................................................................................................... 92
3.5 Monitoring ..................................................................................................................................... 105
3.6 Use of Third Parties .................................................................................................................... 106

Chapter 7 Case study .......................................................................................................................... 109
Setting up the Company using Pastel ............................................................................................. 109
   Company Parameters .................................................................................................................... 110
   Revenue Cycle ............................................................................................................................... 110
   Expenditure Cycle ......................................................................................................................... 111
Master files ......................................................................................................................................... 111
   Supplier master files ................................................................................................................... 112
   Customer master files ................................................................................................................. 112
   Inventory master files .................................................................................................................. 113
Getting the Company started .......................................................................................................... 114
Entering Opening Balances .............................................................................................................. 115
   Trial Balance ............................................................................................................................... 115
   Supplier Age Analysis ............................................................................................................... 115
   Customer Age Analysis .............................................................................................................. 115
   Inventory Valuation .................................................................................................................... 116
Operating the Company .......................................................... 116
Assignments............................................................................. 117
Appendix A: Source Documents ................................................ 1
Appendix B: Additional Reading................................................ 1
Appendix C: IT Processing Methods .......................................... 1
Appendix D: Chapter 4 Questions and Application ...................... 1
Appendix E: Quick References.................................................. 1

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| Legend: |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| ![Lightning bolt](image) | Point to take note of |
| ![Question mark](image) | Exercise to be done in class |
| ![Baby question mark](image) | Exercise to be done in your own time |
Chapter 1 Introduction

The aims of the projects supported by this Workbook are to gain a better understanding of the business activities and controls in a computerised financial information system that are used in operating a business and to illustrate how the principles taught in Information Technology in Business (INF2004F); Financial Reporting II (ACC2012W) and Control of Financial Information Systems (ACC2018S) are all important in the successful operation of any business to meet the internal control objectives.

Objectives of the projects and assignments included in this workbook

The projects and assignments in this workbook are designed to ensure that you are able to:

- Integrate and apply knowledge taught in three different courses;
- Demonstrate an understanding of business and accounting systems;
- Gain an understanding of business activities and controls in a business environment;
- Define, identify and apply the objectives and principles of internal control to the design of both manual and computerised financial information systems;
- Understand the need for reliable financial information, access to such information, and the protection of such information;
- Describe and evaluate the governance structure of an entity;
- Identify the risks and benefits of a specified financial information system environment;
- Identify the weaknesses in a specified financial information system and propose appropriate recommendations.
- Apply your knowledge of IFRS to ensure that the transactions are correctly recorded and balances are correctly recognised;
- Use a computerised accounting package to open a set of accounts for a new company, process basic journal entries to the general ledger of the company, make use of basic subsidiary ledgers, and produce a trial balance;
- Produce part of a set of financial statements for the company, by printing the statements of financial position and comprehensive income supplied by the software package;
Commitment required by students to make this Workbook a success

Whichever career you follow in the future you will probably be using business systems and controls and any managerial/ownership position will involve you designing, monitoring, evaluating, improving or correcting a part of, or an entire system.

You are subconsciously developing and using this ability when you review your personal administration e.g. paying restaurant bills, payment of household accounts, applying for tax refunds (hopefully) etc.

Ways to use this workbook to assist you in developing these skills and abilities:
1. You must take responsibility for your own learning and participate in and contribute to the questions raised in this workbook and in lectures and tutorials.
2. Reflect on the what, why, where and how while participating in everyday activities like queuing to buy movie tickets, ordering pizzas via your cell phone, paying your varsity fees, buying groceries at the supermarket, using internet banking, and sharing information on “Facebook”.
3. Identify related aspects or developments in the popular press on a regular basis e.g. business impact of King III, fraud and security breaches and possible solutions that impact on the business operations.
4. Do the assignments, objective tests and other assessments from first principles.
5. Attend and reflect on lectures during which we will develop the key concepts to apply in finding your solution to the assignments, tutorials and objective tests.
Chapter 2 Understanding a business

Objectives/ outcomes of this chapter:
- Obtain an awareness of the types of businesses and companies in South Africa
- Obtain an awareness of some of the basic functions of a business
- Obtain an awareness of the links between your undergraduate courses — specifically the courses using this workbook: Information Technology in Business (INF2004F), Financial Reporting 2 (ACC2012W) and Control of Financial Information Systems (ACC2018S)

What is the Bigger Picture?
This Workbook and the close relationship between the three courses noted above, has been specifically co-ordinated to help you see the links in these three courses in terms of the key functions these courses aim to teach you about business management and reporting. When you are managing a business you need to be aware not only of the financial reporting requirements (ACC2012W) but very importantly of how to manage and control your business effectively (ACC20128S). This is where information systems play a vital role in the capturing, processing and control of information in the business (INF2004F) for both management decisions (internal reporting) and investor decisions (external reporting).

Through the use of this Workbook across the three courses involved we would hope that you can start to see the Bigger Picture of running your own business one day, and all the responsibilities and elements that this will involve.

Aims of a Business
The objective of any business is widely regarded as being to maximise the wealth of its owners. This objective equally applies to companies, close corporations, partnerships and sole traders. You may also argue that the objective of a business is to take care of its employees, protect the environment or operate responsibly within the wider social context, protecting public interest wherever possible. Normally a business must achieve all of its main objectives to maximise owners’ wealth.

Starting a Business
When any prospective entrepreneur and business owner is looking to start a new business there are many issues that need to be considered and addressed.

You, as the entrepreneur, need to identify a “gap” in the market that you believe you can fill – something that you identify as needed by the general public, or a specific group of individuals or companies, which you have the necessary skills to provide.

Once you have identified a gap you need to conduct research to determine if you can take advantage of it — will your idea of a product or service be viable? Will the market respond positively to your new venture? Are there skilled people available that can help you in providing the necessary services, or can new people be trained? Is there competition that can result in your new venture failing?

These questions, and many more, need to be answered by you as a prospective entrepreneur and a business plan needs to be drawn up. All of these questions are essentially business risks that need to be addressed in the business plan. When you are confident in your product or service you will need to start the process of formally registering your business and also finding funding that will make your new business viable.
Types of Entities
When starting a business or buying a business, you need to choose the type of business entity that is most suitable for the type of operation, size and level of liability that you as owner are willing to take:

- Sole proprietor
- Partnership
- Company
- Close Corporation

You would have learnt about some of these kinds of entities in Financial Reporting 1 (ACC1011S or ACC1111S).

Laws and Regulations
All companies and close corporations are required to be registered with the Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office (“CIPRO”) and can only start operating once the registration process is complete. The process includes things like reserving a unique name for the company which is not too similar to existing companies’ names, and which is not offensive in any way, and also completing forms which include all the details of the company and its shareholders or members. These legal processes require a comprehension and application of business and, in the case of companies, company law. You will learn more about these applicable laws in Business Law I (CML1004), Business Law II (CML 2010) and Company Law (CML2001).

| The new Companies Act, 2008, allows for the following types of companies: |
| A company may be classified as a profit company, or a non-profit company. |
| Profit companies are further classified as: |
| - State-owned company (‘SOC’) |
| - Private company (‘Proprietary Limited’) |
| - Personal liability company (‘Incorporated’) |
| - Public company (‘Limited’) |

In this workbook we will continue to focus on the private company as a business entity.

Financing a Business
Funding of your business can either be obtained through a financial institution, or you can use your own funds. Once a company is established it can also use private equity funding or offer shares to the public to raise funds to expand on its existing business. Most new ventures use a combination of the shareholders own funds and lending. In order to borrow any funds a business plan will need to be presented which will assure the potential lender that your business is a viable investment. You learn about financing a business in courses such as Corporate Financial Management (ACC2024F) and Finance I (BUS2019S).

Effective Management and Control of your Business
Once all of this is complete, and your new company is registered, you become the business owner and shareholder and your business can start with its operations. However, it is advisable to properly set up systems and controls within a company before operations begin. By setting up the systems and controls when your business is small, you will be putting the correct structures in place to ensure that your business can grow into a medium to large sized company. The typical structure of a medium to large business is illustrated in Diagram 2.3 – Typical Medium / Large Business Organisation.
As you complete your degree and prepare yourself to take your place in the workplace as a manager or entrepreneur, you will learn many things. This Workbook focuses on three courses which will help you gain some of the knowledge that you need:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INF2004F</th>
<th>ACC2012W</th>
<th>ACC2018S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology in Business</td>
<td>Financial Reporting 2</td>
<td>Control of Financial Information Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Introduction to Pastel Accounting</td>
<td>• IFRS principles</td>
<td>• Management and control of financial information systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• IT and the Accountant</td>
<td>• Preparation of financial statements, that are decision useful for the users of those financial statements</td>
<td>• Evaluation of risks and benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Software Acquisition and Process Modelling</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Corporate governance issues (also ACC3022H)</td>
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<td>• Computer Crime and Security</td>
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<td>• Data modelling and Business Intelligence</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Business Processes and Enterprise software</td>
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</table>

Consider the following diagrams which illustrate some of the links between concepts taught in INF2004F, ACC2012W and ACC2018S.

**Diagram 2.1 – Business Cycles & Financial Reporting 2**

This diagram illustrates how the various business cycles are connected and flow from one to the next. Imagine a transaction starting at the “purchases” cycle and follow this transaction through the business. At each stage consider the accounting principles you have learnt in ACC2012W. Consider further the three key questions which are addressed by the courses using this Workbook at the bottom of this diagram.

ACC2012W: Why and how do we classify and report these transactions?

INF2004F: How do we capture, process and report all these transactions?

ACC2018S: How do we ensure controls are in place and the business runs as it should?
Diagram 2.2 – The Accounting Life Cycle

This diagram represents the Accounting Life Cycle.

Transactions start at the “initiation” stage and end after “processing” when they are reported internally (management reports) or externally (annual financial statements).

You will learn more about the Accounting Life Cycle in ACC2018S.
Each aspect of a business is dealt with in a separate part of your studies, but they will all come together in the running of a successful business.
Chapter 3 Information Technology in Business (INF2004F)

Summary of course details

Key knowledge areas

INF2004F covers the following knowledge areas:

- The impact of IT on financial practitioners
- Business processes and their management
- IT controls, crime and security
- Internet technologies and e-commerce
- Systems planning, development & acquisition
- Introduction to Excel
- Introduction to Pastel Accounting
- Spread-sheet design, modelling and audit
- Data structures, information requirements & business intelligence
- IT strategy and management issues

Course Objectives

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- Develop professional skills and awareness of ethical behaviour;
- Understand the development and evaluation of strategy, risk management and governance;
- Explain the standards for Accounting and external reporting;
- Describe the requirements and evaluation of Auditing and assurance;
- Understand how to develop and improve management decision making and control;
- Discuss how to use process models to document business processes;
- Understand the process for acquiring or developing and management of application software;
- Apply the theoretical knowledge and prepare a business case for real business environment;
- Use a computerised accounting package (Pastel) to process accounting information;
- Apply best practice principles to the design, development and audit of financial spreadsheets (Excel);
IT and Accounting Information Systems

Information Technology and Accounting Information Systems are related. The benefits of using IT in Accounting Information Systems are automation, information organisation and communication. A combination of these affects the development of Computer Applications Architecture. Applications Architecture involves the process of ensuring the suite of organisations applications work together as a composite application according to the goals and objectives of the organisation.

Ethics and code of conduct:

Ethics are important for Accounting and Auditing professionals. For example, The South African Institute of Charted Accountants (SAICA) has adapted ethical standards from other international bodies to provide guidelines on code of conduct for South African professionals. The bodies include:

- International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA)
- International Federation of Accountants’ (IFAC)
- Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA)
Business processes

A business process is an interrelated set of tasks that involves data organisational units and logistical time sequence. A key distinct feature of business processes is that they are not limited to a single business functional area. For example, The Porter value chain model organise different business processes to add value to a product. The model highlights business process such as services, marketing and sales, inbound logistics, outbound logistics etc.

Exercise in class

Identify Information Technology Systems that may be applied in support primary processes. How can the suggested IT system add value to the organisation?
eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL)

XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language) is an established standard-based way to communicate business and financial information. It is an extension of eXtensible Markup Language (XML). XBRL is a way of tagging data within financial statements – similar to the use of bar codes on retail products. The tags allow computer software to extract and analyse data across many financial statements. Below are is a summary of advantages and risks for using XBRL.

**Advantages**
- Eliminates manual transfer of data, resulting in few errors
- Expedites real-time preparation of financial information
- Allows quick generation of customised reports
- XBRL is independent of computer platforms and software application
- XBRL taxonomy is free and available for use
- Support continuous auditing

**Risks**
- Possible error in the assignment of tags
- Wrong use of XBRL taxonomy is possible

---

**Exercise in class**

The use of XBRL in South Africa has been introduced in 2007 may be ideal in institutions like SARS (South Africa Revenue Services) which handle large volumes of financial data related to corporate tax. Discuss the opportunities and challenges of introducing XBRL (data contents for corporate tax) in South African organisations. Assuming that the data will be submitted to SARS for corporate tax.
Data processing using Pastel will cover the following topics:

- Create a new company
- Create General Ledger Accounts
- Create Supplier Accounts
- Create Customer Accounts
- Create Inventory Information
- Backup and restore data
- Process Supplier Purchases
- Use Trial Balance
- Conduct Supplier Age Analysis
- Using Customer Age Analysis
- Bank Reconciliation
- Year-end transactions
- View reports

Data analysis using Microsoft Excel will include the following topics:

- Basic functions e.g. SUM(), AVERAGE() and COUNT()
- Absolute referencing
- Create and edit charts
- Cell formatting (fonts, borders, fill colour and merging cells)
- Use VLOOKUP()
- Create Pivot charts
- Financial functions available in Excel
- Create a macro,
- Use the Scenario Manager,
- Create one-variable Data Table
- Use Goal Seeking

Pastel Certification:

Do you know that you can sit obtain Pastel Certification? Certification has the following advantages:

- A Pastel certification is a globally accepted means of assessing an essential set of abilities
- When employees are confident using Pastel, they will deliver a significant return on investment back to their employer
- A Pastel certificate is evidence that an employee is competent enough to perform the tasks assigned to him/her
- Certification shows the determination and ability of an employee to complete a task
Information Security standards

Businesses are increasing pressed to comply to standards relating to internal control and information security. There are different international standards for information security such as ISO/IEC 27000 and COBIT framework. One of the challenges for many organisations is application of the standards because of the different environment which the organisations operate. For example ISO/IEC 2700 has 5,000 controls which are under 12 general categories. COBIT framework defines a set of best practices which can be categorised into four domains:

- Plan and organise
- Acquire and implement
- Deliver and support
- Monitor and Evaluate

Each of the domains breaks down into high level support, resulting into 34 high level objectives. The high level objectives are further broken down into individual controls.

Exercise in class

Discuss the challenges of implementing COBIT in medium or small organisations in South Africa and what could be the solution to ensure that these organisations may comply to standards relating to internal control and information security?

Acronyms:

ISO – International Standards Organisation
COBIT – Control Objectives for Information and Related Technology
COSO – Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission
Cloud computing is making headlines and South African businesses and organisations are starting to look for ways to integrate it into their operations. Part of this recent growth in interest could be attributed to its cost-effectiveness in that application development, maintenance, data storage and IT infrastructure in the cloud are in the hands of the third party service providers and the service is completely scalable according to an organisation’s needs.

“One of the main concerns raised about migrating to the cloud is data security. We advise clients to take a holistic view of security, keeping it in mind with relation to the business process being migrated. To keep security concerns under control we usually recommend that clients migrate low risk applications to the cloud until such a time that the experience has proved itself safe. Ironically security if often better in the cloud than in many in-house managed environments, primarily as a result of the focus cloud service providers afford to it, given that is it seen as a major “trade barrier”,“ said Robbie Quercia, Technology director, Deloitte.

“It is somewhat ironic that most organisations have concerns around the potential security risks posed by cloud computing when their employees are using cloud applications such as gmail and Facebook or Linkedin from their desktops without any major problems. The reality is that most enterprises have already put their faith in the cloud! And we can help them refine their processes and maximise their budgets by adopting the cloud in a structured way and layering security to ensure that all confidential data remains that way,” said Quercia.

The location of data and where transactions are taking place also raise tax and legal compliance issues for organisations. In the South African context, there might also be exchange control implications for e-commerce transactions. According to Billy Joubert, Tax Director at Deloitte, one of the salient issues is that, by switching to a cloud computing option, IT expenditure may move from capital expenditure to operating expenditure on the balance sheet, which obviously changes the tax implications. An additional point is that the selection of a cloud computing solution within a multi-national group may well affect the transfer pricing implications of IT charges which flow within the group. It is necessary to consider all potential tax implications. For example, place of supply may well be an issue for VAT purposes.

“While clients largely relinquish control over the IT elements they move to the cloud, the primary advantage of cloud computing relates to its perfect scalability; it is paid for on a purely on-demand basis. Because this creates complete transparency of costs, companies might initially be surprised to see what their IT is actually costing but in the longer term we are convinced that cloud computing will represent considerable savings to clients,” added Quercia. “In the case of data warehousing and business intelligence information, cloud computing is the most logical solution for many organisations because it provides low cost storage and very high computing capacity that will probably only be required on a monthly cycle,“ he said.

Further benefits of Cloud Computing include:
- Shared resources
- Shared development costs on business applications
- New functionality can be up and running in a matter of days
- Can be likened to multi-tenant office block where organisation only pays for space and services it uses
- No maintenance, upgrades or new installation costs
- Pay as you go model allows total flexibility
- Applications are all customised to individual organisation
- Reduced time to market for new applications
“While bandwidth might prove to be a challenge locally, we have one client which has a dedicated internet connection to the US to support its cloud computing. This has allowed them to take full advantage of the cost savings made possible by shared IT infrastructure and applications,” concluded Quercia.


**Exercise in class**

Is South Africa ready for Accounting Information Systems in the Cloud? Discuss the challenges and opportunities for cloud computing in small business organisations?

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**SA loses R662m to cyber crime**


The most common attack methods in SA are still phishing, abuse of system privileges and malicious code infections, says Wolfpack Information Risk’s Craig Rosewarne. South Africa lost R2.65 billion to cyber-crime from January 2011 to August 2012, as cyber-crime continues to enjoy exponential growth rates. This was one of the major takeouts from the South African Cyber Threat Barometer 2012/13 report, which was conducted by local research firm Wolfpack Information Risk.

Presenting the findings of the report in Johannesburg last week, Craig Rosewarne, MD of Wolfpack Information Risk, pointed out that, of the R2.65 billion lost, about 75% was recovered. “Based on the government’s average recovery rate of 75% and similar case study recoveries, the estimated loss figure would be approximately R662.5 million,” Rosewarne pointed out. He also revealed that it is difficult to come up with a definitive figure that reflects the losses due to several factors.

“A large percentage of the incidents are not being reported to law enforcement or government agencies. Of the cases reported, an even smaller percentage actually make it to the courts, where successful prosecutions take place, and information is made available to the public domain.”

He also pointed out that cyber-crime cases are diluted with common law cases, and in most cases, prosecuted accordingly due to lax penalties on cyber laws such as the Electronics Communication Act versus heavier sentences obtained using common law. “Lack of cross-industry collaboration and even intelligence sharing across key government agencies once again obscures the figure,” Rosewarne noted.

According to the report, government suffered the biggest losses, losing R1.5 billion in the period. The telecommunications sector came second, losing R1 billion, while the financial services sector lost R150 million.

“Bank customers, according to Sabric, reported related losses of R92.4 million in approximately 10 000 incidents reported industry-wide,” Rosewarne pointed out. “A consecutive loss estimate based on other known incidents makes up the balance. With no other industry stats, this is considered to be the minimum loss for the sector.” He also noted that cyber-crime is generally on the rise in SA. In its 2012 Norton Cybercrime Report, Symantec claimed that there are 556 million victims of cyber-crime every year in SA. This is equal to 1.5 million victims every day, or 18 victims per second, Rosewarne explained.
He also noted that, according to Symantec, one in every 436.1 e-mails was considered malicious and carried a virus. On the other hand, one in every 340.9 e-mails contained malware attacks, marking a 0.023% decrease from June to July 2012. Some 2 189 malicious Web sites were blocked per day, an increase of 4.0% since June. The report also states that, according to the 11th United Nations Congress of crime prevention and criminal justice, the South African government acknowledged that 341 organised crime groups are known to be operating locally.

Denial of service attacks, economic fraud and theft of confidential information were cited as main concerns for SA in the South African Cyber Threat Barometer 2012/13 report. Top cyber services targeted are Internet banking, e-commerce sites and social media sites. “Criminals are typically mainly after log-in details, bank or credit card information, and personally identifiable information,” Rosewarne explained. “The most common attack methods are still phishing, the abuse of system privileges and malicious code infections.”

Inadequate maintenance, monitoring and analysis of security audit logs have been cited as the most common vulnerability in most sectors in SA, the reports also notes. It also cites user awareness as a serious issue, adding that some organisations are apathetic and only do the minimum to ensure compliance, while smaller businesses may have the perception that information security only applies to larger organisations. The report also identifies the lack of a functional Computer Security Incident Response Team in SA as a major problem, as there is no centralised source of information to provide a clear view of cyber-crime in the country.

It also urges the country to establish a National Cyber Security Training Academy to help address the need for information security professionals at the national level. “Cyber security skills in SA are definitely in short supply, with digital forensic skills topping the list in all the sectors in SA. The second most scarce cyber security skill in SA are experienced incident handlers, who are able to respond to a variety of computer security incidents, such as unauthorised data access, inappropriate system usage, malicious code infections and denial of service attacks,” Rosewarne explained.

In conclusion, he noted that government cannot combat cyber-crime alone and key partnerships across multi-industries in SA, the African continent as well as internationally, are vital to SA’s success going forward.


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**Exercise in class**

What could be the role of Accounting and Auditing professionals in addressing the problems of cyber-crimes in South Africa?
Chapter 4 Systems and Controls

Objectives/outcomes of this chapter:

- Obtain an awareness of the links between business cycles (ACC2018S) and accounting for inventory, revenue and PPE (ACC2012W).

All companies face risks in the operation of their business. These range from risks that their products will not sell, to the risk that transactions won’t be recorded correctly. Companies take risks to reap rewards, but these risks must be managed to achieve a level of risk acceptable to the company.

Overall business risks are managed by management, and in a bigger company, by the board of directors. These arise from the questions that you had to ask yourself before starting your company:

- Will your idea of a product or service be viable?
- Will the market respond positively to your new venture?
- Are there skilled people available that can help you in providing the necessary services, or can new people be trained?
- Is there competition that can result in your new venture failing?

Managing these risks forms part of the corporate governance of a company.

In this workbook we will be focusing on the risks that relate to suppliers, products and services (the expenditure cycle) and customers (the revenue cycle).

These risks include (but are certainly not limited to):

- the risk that transactions aren’t recorded correctly;
- products aren’t purchased at the best price;
- interest is charged by creditors due to late payment of their accounts;
- inventory is stolen due to lax security;
- or customers are charged the incorrect prices or are offered credit where they shouldn’t be.

In order to manage these risks, the management of a company need to put in place systems and controls, or processes. The purpose of systems and controls is to prevent, detect and correct problems that arise. Systems and controls apply to all business cycles (refer to Diagram 1.1 - Typical Medium / Large Business Organisation). The focus of this Workbook is the Revenue, Expenditure and Payroll cycles. These are not the only cycles that can exist in a business, for example a manufacturing company will also have a production cycle. The financial accounting and reporting cycle forms an overlay to the operational cycles.

ISA 315.A92 (Revised) (2012 SAICA Handbook) identifies that business processes are designed to:

- Develop, purchase, produce, sell and distribute an entity’s products and services;
- Ensure compliance with laws and regulations; and
- Record information, including accounting and financial reporting information.
Systems and controls are essential to the functioning of any business. The following are some examples of system failures:

**FIFA Scandals**

**Enron**  
“Demise of audit firm Arthur Andersen”

**Barings Bank**  
Nick Leeson  
“Rogue Trader”

**Fidentia**  
Arthur Brown

**Parmalat**  
Ongoing

**Home Affairs**  
“SA passport holders now require visas to Britain until processes are sorted out”

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**REMEMBER:** There is a reason why a picture of an iceberg has been chosen. What do you think it is?

**REMEMBER:** The above examples have had a major impact at a global, national and personal level. You are not expected to know the details but are encouraged to google the key words for further information.

**Exercise in class**

As a class let’s think of some other examples
Financial Accounting and Reporting Cycle

Within each cycle/system there is financial information that needs to be recorded, as well as information relating to products, customers, suppliers and employees, among other things. For each of these pieces of information there will be documents to support what is recorded. The recording of all of this information forms the financial accounting and reporting cycle. This cycle is in fact an information system that results in the production of financial statements.

In order to ensure reliable reporting to the users of financial information (including investors, employees, lenders and creditors) it is essential that the information reflected on the supporting documents is correctly reflected in the records of the company. In order to ensure this, controls are put in place to ensure that the information recorded and processed is reliable, which is often referred to as having integrity, which means it is valid, accurate and complete.

A valid transaction represents a real transaction that has taken place, for example the customer did actually receive the goods or service. If a transaction is recorded accurately, the details of the transaction are all correct, for example on a sales invoice the price and quantity of goods delivered, the calculations and any additional amounts added or subtracted (like VAT or discounts) are appropriate. Completeness implies that all the goods delivered or services performed are recorded timeously in the company’s books.

Each of the business cycles (expenditure, revenue and payroll) is driven by business activities. These business activities fall into four categories: the initiation of a transaction, the execution of the transaction, the recording of the transaction and the processing of the transaction to produce the financial and management accounts.

Each of these business activities will require supporting documentation, but in this modern age, these documents can be in either electronic or hard copy (paper) format. Where documents are electronic, a company needs to have additional controls in place to ensure that they are valid, accurate and complete, due to the increased susceptibility towards tampering.

ISA 315.A89 (Revised) (2012 SAICA Handbook) refers to the following as objectives of a financial reporting system:

- Initiate, record, process and report entity transactions (as well as events and conditions) and to maintain accountability for the related assets, liabilities and equity;
- Resolve incorrect processing of transactions, for example, automated suspense files and procedures followed to clear suspense items on a timely basis;
- Process and account for system overrides or bypasses to controls;
- Transfer information relevant to financial reporting for events and conditions other than transactions, such as depreciation and amortisation of assets and changes in the recoverability of accounts receivables; and
- Ensure information required to be disclosed by the applicable financial reporting framework is accumulated, recorded, processed, summarised and appropriately reported in the financial statements.

Refer to Diagram 4.1 - The Basic Financial Accounting and Reporting Cycle, for an overall look at the most common documents required, and the flow of information for the financial records of the company.
Diagram 4.1 - The Basic Financial Accounting and Reporting Cycle
Example: Revenue Cycle

To better understand the processes and systems described above, we will examine the revenue cycle. The revenue cycle represents all the events that occur in the selling of a company’s product or service.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>INITIATE</th>
<th>EXECUTE</th>
<th>RECORD</th>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ordering of goods or services by customer</td>
<td>Delivery of goods or performing of services</td>
<td>Preparing and issuing an invoice</td>
<td>Information becomes part of financial and management accounting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUPPORTING INFORMATION FLOW (either electronic or hard copy)</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>Delivery note</td>
<td>Sales invoice</td>
<td>Sales Journal (record sale)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Debtors Ledger (post balance to debtors account)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General Ledger (post every aspect of transaction:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sales a/c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VAT a/c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Debtors control a/c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commission a/c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bank a/c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IFRS UPDATE:

Revenue arises from the following transactions and events:
- Sale of goods (whether purchased for resale, or produced by the entity for the purpose of sale);
- The rendering of services;
- Construction contracts in which the entity is the contractor;
- The use by others of the entity assets yielding interest, royalties or dividends.

Revenue should be recognised when the risks and rewards of ownership have transferred.

Revenue should be measured at:
The gross inflows of economic benefits received and receivable by the entity, i.e. excluding VAT
The fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

IAS18, Revenue, and IFRS for SMEs, Section 23, Revenue
**Example: Expenditure Cycle**

The same principles apply to the expenditure cycle. The expenditure cycle represents all the events that occur in the purchasing of inventory and all other expenses that are incurred by a company.

The information flow is slightly different for items purchased by the company, for example inventory and stationery, and services that are consumed by the company and charged later.

For purchases (for e.g. inventory, stationery, etc):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>INITIATE</th>
<th>EXECUTE</th>
<th>RECORD</th>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ordering of inventory, stationery or other item</td>
<td>Receiving of ordered goods</td>
<td>Receiving the invoice</td>
<td>Information becomes part of financial and management accounting system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting Information Flow** (either electronic or hard copy)

- Purchase requisition and Purchase order
- Goods received note
- Suppliers invoice

For services consumed (for e.g. rental, telephone, etc):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>INITIATE</th>
<th>EXECUTE</th>
<th>RECORD</th>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sign a contract detailing conditions of service</td>
<td>Use service</td>
<td>Receiving the invoice</td>
<td>Information becomes part of financial and management accounting system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supporting Information Flow** (either electronic or hard copy)

- Contract
- Records kept by supplier
- Suppliers invoice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase Journal (record purchase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors Ledger (post balance to creditors account)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Ledger (post every aspect of transaction: Purchases a/c, Stationery a/c, Non-current assets a/c (etc), VAT a/c, Creditors control a/c, Bank a/c)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purchase Journal (record invoice received)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors Ledger (post balance to creditors account)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Ledger (post every aspect of transaction: Water a/c, Electricity a/c, Telephone a/c (etc), VAT a/c, Creditors control a/c, Bank a/c)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IFRS UPDATE:

Inventories are ASSETS that are held for sale in the ordinary course of business, in the process of production for such sale, or in the form of materials or supplies to be consumed in the production process or in the rendering of services.

Inventory should be recognised when the risks and rewards of ownership have transferred.

Inventory should be measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell.

IAS2, and IFRS for SMEs Section 13, Inventories

Items of Property, Plant and Equipment (‘PPE’) are NON-CURRENT ASSETS that are held over a period of time (normally longer than a reporting period) for use in order to produce or supply goods or services.

PPE should be recognised when the asset definition and recognition criteria are met. That is essentially when future economic benefits relating to the item are probable and a cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Depreciation is charged periodically over the life of the item as it is consumed through use.

PPE can be accounted for on two bases:

- The cost model (historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment)
- The revaluation model (valuation amount less accumulated depreciation and impairment)

IAS16, and IFRS for SMEs Section 17, Property, Plant and Equipment
Example: Payroll Cycle

The payroll cycle represents the hiring and firing of staff, the recording of time worked and the eventual payment to staff of their salaries or wages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>INITIATE</th>
<th>EXECUTE</th>
<th>RECORD</th>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiring of staff</td>
<td>Time worked by staff</td>
<td>Issuing monthly (salaries) or weekly (wages) payslips</td>
<td>Information becomes part of financial and management accounting system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SUPPORTING INFORMATION FLOW (either electronic or hard copy)

| Employment contract | Job time tickets Employee clock cards Salaried employees time summaries | Payslip | Payroll Creditors Ledger (post balance to creditors account e.g. SARS) General Ledger (post every aspect of transaction: Salaries a/c Wages a/c Creditors control a/c Bank a/c) |

In the case study in Chapter 5 you will have the opportunity to see many of these documents. The case study does however focus on the recording and processing of financial information, with little emphasis on the initiation and execution. Don't forget that in a real business situation there would be nothing to record if transactions aren’t first initiated and executed.

Financial Reporting in Business

Management uses the documents from the business cycles discussed earlier in this chapter to process information for both management reporting and financial reporting purposes. Let us know consider the application of some financial reporting principles for the revenue and expenditure cycles from a financial accountant’s perspective.

Review your Financial Reporting 2 (ACC2012W) notes relating to the following sections and attempt the quiz questions below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Prescribed Chapter (Financial Accounting: GAAP Principles)</th>
<th>Section (IFRS for SMEs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>Chapter 17</td>
<td>Section 23 Revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>Chapter 7</td>
<td>Section 13 Inventories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
<td>Section 17 Property, Plant and Equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Question 4.1**

*Select the most correct statement.*

Thabo invoices a customer for a large order of equipment. The order will only be delivered to the customer at a later stage. Delivery has been delayed at the request of the customer and stored per instructions received from the customer. Thabo recognises revenue when the customer takes control, provided:

- (a) It is probable that delivery will be made.
- (b) The item is on hand, identified and ready for delivery to the customer at the time the sale is recognised.
- (c) The customer specifically acknowledges the deferred delivery instructions.
- (d) The usual payment terms apply.
- (e) All of the above.

**Question 4.2**

*For each of the following answer true or false.*

- (a) An entity should not recognise revenue from the sale of goods if it retains significant risks and rewards of ownership of goods sold. 
- (b) An entity must recognise revenue from the rendering of services using the percentage of completion method, even if it cannot estimate the outcome of the transaction reliably.
- (c) An entity must not recognise revenue from a construction contract using the percentage of completion method if it cannot estimate the outcome of a contract reliably.

**Question 4.3**

Shiny Shoes (Pty) Ltd (‘Shiny Shoes’) is a company that sells mens’ and ladies’ shoes. On 5 February, they received a shipment of inventory consisting of ten pairs of ladies’ shoes. The cost of the inventory was R3 990 (incl. VAT). The company also had to pay import duties of R350.

- (a) At what cost will Shiny Shoes recognise the shoes on 5 February in their accounting records?

- (b) Prepare the journal entries to record this transaction.
Question 4.4
Select the most correct statement(s).
The cost of inventories does not include:
☐ (a) Salaries of administration staff.
☐ (b) The salary of the factory manager.
☐ (c) Storage costs during the production process before a further production stage and selling costs.
☐ (d) Abnormal amounts of wasted material and selling costs.
☐ (e) Insurance costs paid on the factory building.

Question 4.5
Property, plant and equipment ('PPE') are defined as:
☐ (a) Tangible asset held to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both.
☐ (b) Tangible asset held or use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes, and expected to be used during more than one reporting period.
☐ (c) Tangible asset held for sale in the ordinary course of business.
☐ (d) All of the above (a) – (c).
☐ (e) None of the above.

Question 4.6
On 1 January 2011 Company X (Pty) Ltd acquired a building for R500 000. At 31 December 2011 management:
- assessed the building’s useful life as 40 years from the date of acquisition
- assessed the building’s residual value as R50 000
- assessed the entity will consume the building’s future economic benefits evenly over 40 years from the date of acquisition, and
- assessed the fair value of the building as R515 000.

The building is being occupied by the entity’s sales and administrative staff. The building is measured using the cost model.

The entity should measure the carrying amount of the building on 31 December 2011 at:

☐ (a) R438 750
☐ (b) R477 500
☐ (c) R488 750
☐ (d) R515 000
☐ (e) R503 375

Thinking about business cycles and financial reporting
Now that you have completed the questions above – discuss the following questions with a friend or classmate relating in particular to Questions 3.1, 3.3 and 3.6:

- WHICH documents would be used in the transactions?
- HOW would the documents fit into the accounting life cycle (think: initiate, execute, record, process)?
- HOW would these transactions be presented and disclosed in the ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (think: IFRS for SMEs requirements)?
Typical Medium / Large Business Organisation

Objectives
Internal Controls

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MANAGEMENT

INTERNAL AUDIT

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

I.T. FUNCTIONS
Telecommunications
System Software
Programmes
Security
Development
Data

CYCLES AND SYSTEMS

REVENUE
Sales and
Receipts

EXPENDITURE
Purchases and
Payments

PAYROLL
Salaries and
Wages

HUMAN RESOURCES

MARKETING

PRODUCTION

Outsource
ISP

Cloud
computing

Diagram 4.1 - Typical Medium / Large Business Organisation
Control of Financial Information Systems: (ACC2018S)

Course Outline

Introduction

Corporate Governance Module 1 (Workbook Chapter 5)

1.1 “The Big picture”
1.2 Ethical responsibilities
1.3 King III and legislation
1.4 Auditors and internal audit
1.5 Directors’ responsibilities concerning internal control

Systems and Controls Module 2 (Workbook Chapter 6)

2.1 Financial Information Systems
2.2 Control Environment.
2.3 Risk Assessment
2.4 Control Activities
2.5 Monitoring
2.6 Use of Third Parties

Business Cycles Module 3

3.1 Revenue Cycle
3.2 Expenditure Cycle
3.3 Inventory Cycle
3.4 Finance Cycle
3.5 Evaluation Techniques

Testing of Controls Module 4

4.1 Principles
4.2 Manual Environments
4.3 Computer Environments

General

5.1 Workshops/Revision
Aims of the course

On successful completion of the above, you will have an understanding of the principles and rationale of Control of Financial Information Systems and the ability to solve practical problems.

- More specifically, you should be able to:
  - Demonstrate an understanding of Corporate Governance and a specific understanding of the responsibilities of management concerning:
    - Internal controls
    - The role of internal audit
  - Explain, apply and evaluate matters relating to business ethics and the professional environment.
  - Define accounting systems and internal control;
  - Explain and apply the relevant principles set out in ISA 315 - “Understanding the Entity and its Environment”.
  - Explain the principles of sound systems of accounting and controls in both manual and computerised environments.
  - Design systems of accounting and control by outlining the main features and components for both manual and computerised environments.
  - Identify risks and benefits of a specified financial information system.
  - Recommend improvements to address specified risks.
  - Monitor a given system by evaluating and testing controls.
  - Demonstrate sound logic and written communication skills.
Chapter 5 Corporate Governance  
(ACC2018S)

Introduction

Objectives/Outcomes

By the end of this module (lectures and tutorials you should be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of Corporate Governance and a specific understanding of the responsibilities of management concerning:
  - Internal control
  - The role of internal audit
- To explain, apply and evaluate matters relating to business ethics and the professional environment.

Prescribed Reading


2. SAICA Code of Professional Conduct Part A (Issued November 2010)
Or visit SAICA’s website, and navigate to Technical Information, Members Handbook, Ethics and select “Code of Professional Conduct”

Corporate Governance – Legislation

Companies Act, No 71 of 2008

1. The implementation of new Companies Act (No 71 of 2008) is imminent. It is the result of the corporate law reform in South Africa, which involved a complete review of the Companies Act. This Act aims at strengthening corporate governance in South Africa. In some cases it gives legal backing to the recommendations included in the King Report.

2. Students should be aware of the following:

2.1 Types of companies

A company can be a profit company or a non-profit company.

A profit company is incorporated for the purpose of financial gain for its shareholders.

A non-profit company (NPC) is incorporated for public benefit and its income and property are not distributable to its incorporators.

A profit company can be:
- A state-owned company (SOC Ltd) [s8(2)(a) and s11(3)(c)(iv)];
- A private company (Pty Ltd) [s8(2)(b) and s11(3)(c)(ii)];
- A personal liability company (Inc) [s8(2)(c) and s11(3)(c)(i)]; or
- A public company (Ltd) [s8(2)(d) and s11(3)(c)(ii)].
2.2 Audit committees [s94]

Public companies and state-owned companies must have an audit committee [s94(2)]:
- Appointed by the shareholders annually at the AGM [s94(2)];
- With at least 3 members [s94(2)];
- All of whom are non-executive directors [s94(4)].

Unless the company is a subsidiary of a company with an audit committee, which also performs this function for the subsidiary company [s94(2)(a)].

The audit committee must (Section 94(7)):
- Nominate an external auditor who is independent of the company [s94(7)(a) read with s90(2)(c)];
- Determine auditor’s fees and terms of engagement; [s94(7)(b)]
- Ensure that the appointment of the auditor is in compliance with relevant legislation [s94(7)(c)];
- Determine the nature and extent of any non-audit services to be provided by the auditor [s94(7)(d)];
- Pre-approve any proposed agreement with the auditor for the provision of non-audit services [s94(7)(e)];
- Report in the annual financial statements on the function of the audit committee, its satisfaction with the independence of the auditor and offer comment on the appropriateness of the financial statements, accounting practices and internal financial control of the company [s94(7)(f)];
- Receive and deal with any complaints relating to accounting practices, internal audit, auditing of the financial statements and internal financial controls [s94(7)(g)];
- Make submissions to the board regarding accounting policies, financial control, records and reporting [s94(7)(h)];
- Perform other functions (determined by the board) including the development and implementation of a policy and plan for a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes within the company [s94(7)(i)].

2.3 External audits

Annual financial statements of public companies must be audited [s30(2)(a)].

Annual financial statements of companies other than public companies must be audited if regulations deem it to be desirable in the public interest, based on the company’s:
- Annual turnover [s30(2)(b)(i)(aa)];
- The size of its workforce [s30(2)(b)(i)(bb)]; or
- The nature and extent of its activities [s30(2)(b)(i)(cc)].

The financial statements of other companies must either be voluntarily audited or subject to independent review [s30(2)(b)(ii)]. Private companies will be exempt from this requirement if:
- One person holds or has all the beneficial interest in all the securities issued by the company [s30(2)(b)(ii)(bb)(AA)]; or
- Every person who is a holder or has a beneficial interest in securities issued by the company is also a director of the company, except if there is only one director and that director is a disqualified person [s30(2)(b)(ii)(bb)(BB)].
2.4 External auditor

Concerning the external auditor for a public company or a state-owned company (Sections 90 - 93):

- An external auditor must be appointed annually at the AGM [s90(1)];
- The name of the individual auditor within the firm appointed must be specified (Section 44(1) of the Auditing Profession Act) [s90(3)];
- An individual (audit partner) may not serve as auditor for more than 5 consecutive years [s92(1)];
- Where an individual auditor has served for 2 consecutive years and then ceases to fill the role, at least 2 financial years must pass prior to reappointment [s92(2)];
- The auditor may not be a director or employee of the company (s90(2)(b)(i)-(iii));
- The auditor may not perform any services that would place the auditor in a conflict of interest position (e.g. bookkeeping, accounting, internal audit or tax advisory services, which may be subject to audit) [s93(3) and s90(2)(b)(iv)]; and
- The auditor may not perform secretarial duties for the company being audited [s90(2)(b)(iv)];
- The auditor must be acceptable to the company’s audit committee as being independent [s90(2)(c)].

2.5 Financial Statements

Financial statements of public companies must comply with financial reporting standards (e.g. South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) or IFRS) [s29(1)(a)].

2.6 Company secretary

A public company or state-owned company must (Section 86):

- Appoint a company secretary;
- With the relevant knowledge or experience.

A company secretary is accountable to the company’s board [s88(1)].

The company secretary must (Section 88(2)(a)-(g)):

- Provide the directors of the company with guidance as to their duties, responsibilities and powers;
- Ensure the directors are aware of any laws relevant to the company;
- Report any non-compliance with the Memorandum of Incorporation, rules of the company or the Companies Act to the directors;
- Ensure that the minutes of all shareholders’ meetings, directors’ meetings and other meetings are properly recorded;
- Certify in the financial statements that company has lodged all required returns and notices with the Registrar and that these appear to be true and correct;
- Ensure that a copy of the financial statements is sent to every person entitled thereto; and
- Carry out the functions of a person designated in the annual return to be responsible for the transparency, accountability and integrity of the company.
2.7 **Business rescue [s128-137]**

The board of directors may resolve to begin business rescue procedures if it has reasonable grounds to believe that (Section 129):

- The company is financially distressed; and
- There appears to be reasonable prospect of rescuing the company.

Business rescue is not possible where liquidation proceedings have already been initiated [s129(2)(a)].

The company must advise all “affected persons” (i.e. shareholders, creditors, trade unions representing employees and employees not represented by trade unions – see s129(1)(a)) [s129(3)(a)] and appoint a business rescue practitioner to oversee the business rescue proceedings [s129(3)(b)]. Affected persons may apply to the court to set aside the board’s resolution.

An affected person may also apply to the court at any time to place a company under supervision and commence business rescue proceedings (Section 131), but not if the company has already adopted a “business rescue” resolution.

The business practitioner must prepare a business rescue plan [s152] for adoption at a creditors’ meeting (Section 151).

During business rescue, the continued functioning of the company is facilitated, while the interests of shareholders, creditors and employees, are protected (Section 134 – 137).

There is a general moratorium on legal proceedings against the company during business rescue proceedings (Section 133).

2.8 **Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) [s166]**

ADR may be used as an alternative to more traditional dispute resolution processes, such as referral to a court.

ADR includes resolution by mediation, conciliation or arbitration.

**Sarbanes Oxley Act**

1. Sarbanes Oxley refers to American legislation prompted by corporate collapses such as Enron and WorldCom and the financial scandals surrounding other companies such as Xerox and Tyco.

2. The Act is administered by the USA Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) and applies to ‘SEC Registrants’, being all companies listed on USA Stock Exchanges and their subsidiaries.

3. The Act is relevant to South Africa because of the large number of South African companies controlled by USA companies who would thus be regarded as ‘SEC Registrants’.

4. Students should be aware of the following:

4.1 Management of SEC registrant companies are required to certify:

- the correctness of the quarterly and annual reports; and
- that internal controls are effective.
4.2 Concerning audit committees, the Act specifies that:
   - Audit committees are directly responsible for appointment, compensation and oversight of auditors.
   - Audit committee membership is limited to independent directors.
   - All audit committees should include a financial expert as a member.
   - The name of the financial expert should be disclosed.

4.3 The Act prohibits loans to directors.

4.4 Concerning the external auditors, the Act:
   - Prohibits the provision of certain services by the entity’s auditors.
   - Accounting services
   - Valuations material to the audit
   - Management decision making
   - Expert services involving management decisions
   - Broking / investment banking
   - Legal services material to the accounts
   - Financial information systems
   - Internal audit
   - Tax without audit committee approval
   - Requires audit partner rotation every five years.
   - Specifies a “cooling-off” period of one-year before a client may appoint ex-employee of the auditors.

**The Public Finance Management Act**

1. The PFMA is included in the SAICA Legislation Handbook.

2. The objectives of the Act are to:
   2.1 regulate financial management in the national and provincial governments,
   2.2 ensure that all revenue, expenditure, assets and liabilities of those governments are managed effectively and efficiently, and
   2.3 provide for the responsibilities of persons entrusted with financial management in those governments.

3. Candidates should read and familiarise themselves with the following sections of the PFMA:
   - Appointment and responsibilities of accounting officers – Sec 36 and 38-40
   - Accounting authorities for public entities – Sec 49 – 51
   - External auditors – Sec 58 – 62
   - Audit committees – Sec 77
   - Accounting Standards Board – Sec 87 – 91
Auditors and Internal Audit

Auditing

Auditing constitutes a part of all the activities of the professional accountant. Auditing is defined as;

‘the independent examination of financial information of any entity, whether profit-orientated or not, and irrespective of its size or legal form, when such an examination is conducted with a view to expressing an opinion thereon.’

However, the meaning of the word has become more generic in nature as the audit process is being applied to other areas of financial and business activities. At present auditing literature covers the following major branches.

- independent (or external) auditing;
- internal auditing;
- operational auditing;
- management auditing;
- comprehensive auditing; and
- governmental auditing (termed auditing in the public sector).

In South Africa, only persons registered in terms of the Auditing Profession Act may practise as independent auditors. ‘Auditors’ in the other five branches need no specific statutory qualification. They also differ in respect of responsibilities and independence of the person undertaking the audit.

The need for auditors

Stakeholders require assurance that the financial statements prepared by entities contain reliable information. An audit does not only ensure the fair presentation of the financial information audited, but also pays an important role to protect the interest of the members and creditors.

An audit increases the credibility of the financial statements and plays an important role in the capital markets of the world

Criteria for a profession

A profession is distinguished by the characteristics of its members. The Code of Professional Conduct of SAICA emphasises the following:

- Mastering of a particular intellectual skill, acquired by training and education.
- Acceptance of duties to society as a whole in addition to duties to the client or employer.
- An outlook which is objective.
- Rendering professional services to a high standard of conduct and performance.

The differing responsibilities of the auditor and management

As directors of a company are regarded in law as acting in a fiduciary capacity in relation to the property under their control, it is they who are responsible for the prevention and detection of fraud and errors. This responsibility may be fulfilled by management in a combination of different ways, such as by:

- installing an effective accounting system;
- instituting and operating an appropriate system of internal controls, including authorisation controls,
segregation of duties and physical controls over assets; and
- in larger companies, establishing an internal audit function and appointing an audit committee.

The auditor’s responsibility is to plan and perform audit work and evaluate audit findings in such a way that there is a reasonable expectation of detecting material misstatements that result from fraud and error, and that distort fair presentation of financial statements. The auditor has no responsibility to prevent fraud or error.

As an audit is subject to the inherent limitations of the effectiveness of internal control and the use of selective testing, it provides reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that material misstatements will be detected. Further, fraud usually involves attempts to conceal material misstatement, such as collusion, forgery, deliberate failure to record transactions or intentional misrepresentations made to the auditor. As a result, a properly executed audit may not necessarily detect material misstatements arising from fraud and error. The subsequent discovery, therefore, of material misstatements in the financial statements may not in itself be proof that there has been inadequate planning, performance or inappropriate judgement by the auditor.

Internal auditing

Management has the responsibility for adopting sound accounting practices, for maintaining an adequate and effective system of accounting records, for the safeguarding of assets and to develop a system of checking procedures which will ensure the production of proper financial statements. In large organisations it is sometimes considered necessary to employ a person (or group of persons) to check whether the systems and control procedures designed and introduced by management are properly adhered to and carried out. This person is normally referred to as an internal auditor. Initially internal auditors were concerned with the following aspects;
- evaluation of all internal systems and procedures;
- checking compliance with laid down internal control policies and procedures;
- ensuring that the assets of the enterprise were protected; and
- performing special investigations.

Over the years management realised that these employees could, as a result of the knowledge gained during their duties, also make a useful contribution by ‘auditing’ and evaluating the enterprise’s management systems and operational functions. The latter two branches of auditing are commonly referred to as ‘operational auditing’ and ‘management auditing’.
SAICA’s Guidance on Corporate Governance

In the 1990’s, the SA Institute of Chartered Accountants published the following Guides in the Corporate Governance Series:

- Guidance for Directors: Reporting on Internal Control
- Guidance for Directors: The Role of Internal Audit

Although these guides are no longer in publication, the underlying principles are still relevant and have been summarised below.

Corporate Governance

Guidance for directors - the role of internal audit

1. The objective of internal audit is to assist the board and management in the effective discharge of their responsibilities by performing independent analyses and appraisals, and providing recommendations, objective counsel and information concerning the activities reviewed.

2. The role of the internal audit function is to support the board and management in identifying and managing risks and thereby enabling them to manage the organisation effectively.

   This is achieved by;
   - enhancing their understanding of risk management and the underlying concepts
   - providing objective feedback on the quality of organisational controls and performance

3. The following are key characteristics of an effective internal audit function;
   - professional proficiency
   - independence, achieved through;
   - organisational status; and
   - objectivity.

4. The following areas need to be considered when setting up the internal audit function;
   - the positioning of the internal audit function within the organisation to ensure independence from areas audited;
   - the relationship with the board and management;
   - the establishment of an internal audit charter, or other similar document, which should;
     - establish the function’s position within the organisation;
     - authorise access to records, personnel and physical properties relevant to the performance of internal audits; and
     - define the scope of the internal audit activities.
   - centralisation vs. decentralisation. A wide range of factors may have a bearing on this decision, including;
     - the organisation's philosophy on centralised or decentralised management;
     - the importance of internal audit independence from operational units;
     - the quality of internal audit staff and its leadership;
     - the number of operational units and the extent of their geographical spread; and
     - the cost of travel and accommodation of internal audit staff.
o outsourcing.
   An internal audit service can be provided from within the organisation or by an outside service
   provider. The decision to in- or outsource the internal audit function should be based on
   commercial considerations and is based on providing the required quality internal audit service at
   a competitive price;
   o leadership and management are critical to the success of any internal audit function; and
   o the audit committee should play a key role in this regard.

5. Lines of communication:
   The head of internal audit should have direct and regular communication with the board and
   management.

6. The organisation’s risk profile and the annual audit plan should be discussed with operational
   management.

7. To ensure professional proficiency, the internal audit function should;
   o hire staff that are technically proficient and have a suitable educational background;
   o possess or should obtain the knowledge, skills and disciplines needed to carry out its audit
     responsibilities; and
   o provide assurance that internal audits are properly supervised.

8. The internal auditor should;
   o possess the knowledge, skills and disciplines essential to perform internal audit work;
   o be skilled in dealing with people and in communicating effectively;
   o maintain competence through continuing professional education; and
   o exercise due professional care in performing internal audits.

The scope of internal audit work

1. Reviewing the reliability and integrity of financial and operating information.
2. Reviewing the systems established.
3. Reviewing the means of safeguarding assets.
4. Appraising the economic and efficient management of the organisation.
5. Reviewing operations or programmes.
6. The internal audit opinion will be on whether or not the internal controls provide reasonable assurance
   that the established objectives will be achieved.

7. Audit work should include:
   o planning the audit;
   o examining and evaluating information;
   o communicating results; and
   o follow-up actions.
Management of the internal audit function

1. A necessary ingredient for an effective internal audit function is the existence of written policies and procedures.

2. The head of internal audit should ensure that;
   - the audit coverage of risk areas in the organisation is planned;
   - policies and procedures to guide the audit staff are implemented;
   - the quality of work is of an appropriate level;
   - staff performance is monitored and managed; and
   - the function is effective in fulfilling its responsibilities.

3. The quality and effectiveness of the internal audit function can be enhanced by external reviews, e.g. a review performed by a relevant division of the organisation's statutory auditors.

Benefits of establishing an effective internal audit function

1. Contributing to an organisation's performance by assisting management in improving the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of their operational units.

2. Assisting the board and management in identifying internal control weaknesses and inefficiencies.

3. Improving the quality of the management process by assisting management in improving performance management skills.
   These skills include;
   - setting objectives for their units;
   - identifying risks;
   - assessing the probability of risks occurring and their seriousness should they occur;
   - designing appropriate internal controls;
   - assessing the quality of internal controls; and
   - assessing actual performance.

4. Assisting management in solving problems by performing consulting assignments.

5. Enhancing the prevention and detection of fraud.

Principal differences between the internal and statutory audit functions

1. Independence:
   Internal auditors operate as part of the organisation they serve.

2. Accountability:
   Internal auditors are accountable to the organisation that they serve.

3. Responsibility:
   The internal audit function is established by the organisation that it serves.

4. Scope:
   The scope of internal audit appraisal depends on the limits, if any, set upon it by the board and/or management.

5. The concept of materiality:
   For the internal auditor, materiality is the magnitude of a risk's impact on the achievement of an organisation's overall performance objectives.
   These objectives are not limited to the financial and accounting domain of an organisation.
6. The concept of control:

The most fundamental difference between internal and statutory auditors is in their approach to internal controls.

The internal audit function provides the board and management with assurance regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of an organisation's internal controls.

The statutory auditor provides the shareholders with assurance that the financial statements are fairly presented.

7. The concept of risk:

The internal audit function focuses on activities that have a significant impact on an organisation's established objectives.

The statutory auditor focuses on the risk of material misstatement in financial information.

The relationship between the internal and statutory auditors

1. The head of internal audit should regularly evaluate the level of co-ordination between the internal and statutory auditors.

2. A sufficient number of meetings between the internal and statutory auditors should be held to ensure appropriate co-ordination of audit work, minimise duplicate audit efforts, ensure that audit activities are efficient and timely, and ensure that the scope of the planned audit work is appropriate.

Guidance for Directors - Reporting on Internal Control


2. A system of internal control is put in place to keep the company on course towards profitability goals and the achievement of its mission, and to minimise surprises along the way.

3. A system of internal control enables management to deal with rapidly changing economic and competitive environments, shifting customer demands and priorities, and restructuring for future growth.

4. A sound system of internal control provides management with reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of objectives concerning:
   - economy, efficiency and effectiveness of operations;
   - internal financial controls; and
   - compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

5. Operational controls, which address the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of operations, include controls to ensure:
   - the efficient use of a company’s assets and other resources;
   - the timely supply of pertinent data;
   - that the risk of environmental pollution is limited; and
   - that all transactions in foreign currencies are properly authorised.

6. Internal financial controls address:
   - the safeguarding of assets against unauthorised use or disposition; and
   - the maintenance of proper accounting records and the reliability of financial information used within the business or for publication.
7. Internal financial controls do not address efficiency, value for money, and legal and regulatory compliance issues.

8. Examples of internal financial controls would include controls that;
   o prevent financial loss due to the theft of recorded assets;
   o ensure that the financial consequences of laws and regulations are properly reflected in the financial statements of the company;
   o ensure that the environmental liability arising from the company's activities are properly recorded; and
   o ensure that all foreign exposures are appropriately covered by forward cover contracts, and that the underlying assets and liabilities are recorded at the correct exchange rate.

9. Internal control incorporates the following fundamental concepts;
   o internal control is a process. It is a means to an end, not an end in itself;
   o internal control is effected by people;
   o internal control provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance; and
   o internal control is geared to the achievement of objectives in a number of separate but overlapping categories.

10. Although internal controls provide reasonable assurance, a system of internal control cannot ensure a company's success, or even its survival; and cannot ensure the reliability of financial reporting and compliance with laws and regulations.

   Controls are affected by limitations inherent in all internal control systems. These include;
   o the realities that judgements in decision-making can be faulty;
   o that breakdowns can occur because of error;
   o controls can be circumvented by the collusion of two or more people; and
   o management has the ability to override the system.

11. Limitations also include:
   o management's usual requirement that the cost of internal control does not exceed the expected benefit to be derived;
   o the tendency for internal controls to be directed at routine transactions rather than non-routine transactions;
   o the potential for human error due to carelessness, distraction, mistakes of judgement and the misunderstanding of instructions;
   o the possibility of circumvention of internal controls through the collusion of a member of management or of an employee with parties outside or inside the company;
   o the possibility that a person responsible for exercising an internal control could abuse that responsibility; and
   o the possibility that procedures may become inadequate due to changes in conditions and, therefore, compliance with procedures may deteriorate.
Implementation of a system of internal control and monitoring its effectiveness

**Directors’ responsibilities**

1. The board of directors is ultimately responsible for all aspects of the system of internal control.

2. The main functions of the board are;
   - to direct the company both as to structure and strategy;
   - to ensure that the executive management implements the company's strategy; and
   - to ensure that the company has an adequate system of internal control, both operational and financial.

**Auditors’ responsibilities**

3. As the objective of an audit is to express an opinion, the system of internal control is not the responsibility of the external auditors.

4. The auditor is only concerned with those policies and procedures within the accounting and internal financial controls that are relevant to the financial statement assertions.

5. An understanding of internal control will enable the auditor to;
   - identify the types of potential material misstatements that could occur in the financial statements;
   - consider the factors that affect the risk of material misstatements; and
   - design appropriate audit procedures.

6. It is possible, for the external auditors to obtain all assurance from substantive procedures.

7. Although external auditors are outside the company's system of internal control, they often contribute to the achievement of control aims by suggesting improvements to the internal financial controls as a useful by-product of the audit.

**Internal auditors’ role**

8. Internal auditors are also not ultimately responsible for the system of internal controls. However, they contribute to the on-going effectiveness of controls through;
   - reviews of the design and operation of the accounting system and related internal financial controls;
   - examinations of the financial and operating information systems;
   - reviews of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of operations and the functioning of non-financial controls;
   - reviews of the implementation of corporate policies, plans and procedures; and
   - the performance of special investigations.

**Reporting on the system of internal control or on internal financial controls**

1. The code requires directors to report in the company's annual report on the maintenance of adequate accounting records and an effective system of internal control.

2. In South Africa, directors should, as a minimum, report on the internal financial controls. However, directors are encouraged to report on all internal controls, as directors’ responsibilities are not limited to internal financial controls.

3. The following are guidelines to assist with the interpretation of "effective":
   - "Effectiveness" of the system of internal control should always be interpreted in terms of its appropriateness to the business concerned, and is therefore a matter for judgement.
   - It is important not to give the impression that the system of internal control is an assurance that nothing can go wrong.
4. The main steps that directors could follow to assess the effectiveness of the system of internal control or the internal financial controls, would be to;
   - set the objective of the assessment;
   - determine the scope of the assessment, whether all internal controls or only internal financial controls;
   - develop a detailed action plan, which;
     - identifies and records key business risks;
     - identifies controls currently in place over these respective key business risks;
     - assigns responsibility for the testing of each control;
     - considers reports of the internal and external auditors; and
     - ensures that recommendations are implemented as appropriate.
   - execute the plan;
   - evaluate and conclude on findings; and
   - prepare an appropriate report.

5. Concerning major breakdowns in the system of internal control:
   - The directors' statement should include an indication that to the best of their knowledge there has been no major breakdown during the year.
   - Major breakdowns are defined as those weaknesses in the system of internal control identified during the year that resulted in material losses, contingencies or uncertainties, which have been disclosed in the financial statements or the auditor's report.

6. The directors' statement should cover the period of the financial statements, and should also take account of material post balance sheet events.

7. The directors' statement may be included in the Directors' Report.

   In this case, the external auditors express an opinion on the annual financial statements which include the Directors' Report. In terms of the Companies Act, the auditor has to be satisfied that the statements made by the directors in their report do not conflict with a fair interpretation or distort the meaning of the annual financial statements and accompanying notes.

8. The directors' statement may be included elsewhere in the annual report.

   In this case, the external auditors have a responsibility in terms of ISA 720 to review the other information in the report.

9. The directors' statement should include;
   - an acknowledgement by the directors that they are responsible for the company's system of internal control;
   - an explanation that such a system can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance against material misstatements or loss;
   - a description of the key procedures that the directors have established to provide effective internal financial control;
   - confirmation that the directors have reviewed the system of internal control; and
   - information about major breakdowns in the system of internal control (See 5. above).

10. Where the directors state their opinion on the effectiveness of the system of internal control, it is sufficient if they report on the basis of negative assurance.

11. The directors should liaise with the external auditors to enable the auditors to obtain appropriate evidence to support any assurance that they will be expected to provide regarding the directors' statement.

46
Criteria to consider in assessing the effectiveness of the system of internal control

1. In assessing the adequacy of the system of internal control, the directors should consider;
   - the control environment;
   - risks and control objectives;
   - the adequacy of information and communication within the business;
   - control procedures; and
   - monitoring and corrective action.

2. In assessing the adequacy of the **control environment** the directors should consider whether there is;
   - a commitment by directors, management and employees to competence and integrity;
   - communication of ethical values and control consciousness to managers and employees;
   - an appropriate organisational structure within which business can be planned, executed, controlled and monitored;
   - prompt communication, without fear of reprisal, of mistakes, or bad news, to people who need to know;
   - appropriate delegation of authority with accountability, which has regard to acceptable levels of risk;
   - a clear understanding on their part as to what they are accountable for, and their authority and responsibility; and
   - a professional approach to financial reporting.

3. In the identification and evaluation of **risks and control objectives**, the directors should consider;
   - the procedures to ensure that key business risks are identified by directors in a timely manner;
   - the procedures to determine the likelihood of risks crystallising, and determine the significance of their consequent financial impact on the business;
   - the procedures in place to establish the priorities for the allocation of resources available for control;
   - whether clear control objectives are set and communicated;
   - whether there are procedures and processes to ensure achievement of the objectives of the directors;
   - whether the actions of the directors are co-ordinated within the organisation;
   - whether the design and effectiveness of control activities is periodically assessed;

4. Concerning the adequacy of **information and communication** within the business, the directors should consider;
   - the performance indicators used by the directors to monitor the key business and financial activities and risks;
   - the adequacy of information systems to provide on-going identification and capture of relevant, reliable and up-to-date financial and other information from internal and external sources; and
   - the adequacy of systems to communicate relevant information to the right people at the right frequency and time?

5. Concerning **control procedures**, the directors should consider whether they have established and monitor;
   - procedures to ensure complete and accurate accounting for financial transactions;
   - appropriate authorisation limits for transactions to limit the company's/group's exposures reasonably;
   - procedures to ensure the reliability of data processing and information reports generated;
   - controls that limit exposure to loss of assets/records, or to fraud (e.g. physical controls, segregation of duties);
6. Concerning **monitoring and corrective action**, the directors should consider the adequacy of;
   - monitoring processes to provide reasonable assurance to the board that there are appropriate control procedures in place for all the company's/group's financially significant activities;
   - procedures to identify change in the business or its environment that may require changes to the system of internal control;
   - formal procedures for reporting weaknesses, and for ensuring appropriate corrective action; and
   - the provision of adequate support for public statements by the directors on internal control or internal financial controls.

**Ethics**

All recognised professions are aware of a growing public feeling concerning a perceived lack of sound business ethics in South Africa.

Thus the recognised professions have placed increased emphasis on improved awareness of their respective Codes of Conduct and improved enforcement of the Codes.

The importance of ethics is also highlighted by the inclusion of specific recommendations in the King Report.

The Code of Professional Conduct published by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) is a most comprehensive Code applicable to Commerce, and has been adopted by accounting professionals other than Chartered Accountants. For these reasons, we have chosen the SAICA Code as the basis for the teaching of Ethics within this Course.

Whilst certain paragraphs do relate principally to persons who offer accounting and related services to the public, the general applicability, to business, of the vast majority of the provisions included in the Code, is self-evident.

The Parts of the Code relevant to this course are:

Part A – General application of the Code;
Part C – Professional accountants in business;
Chapter 6 Systems of Internal Control (ACC2018S)

Chapter 4 will form the basis of the module “Computerised Systems and Controls” covered in ACC2018S, and will be worked through in lectures.

1 Introduction

OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES

By the end of this module you should be able to:

- Define, identify and apply the objectives and principles of internal control to the design of both manual and computerised financial information systems.
- Identify the risks and benefits of a specified financial information system environment.
- Identify the weaknesses in a specified financial information system and propose appropriate recommendations.

To be able to do this we need to be able to answer the following questions:

| Section 2 | what (objectives) has gone or could go wrong in any system of recording, be it your test or exam marks, details on your ID or accounting entries in the general ledger, |
| Section 3.3 | why (cause/risk) it went wrong |
| Sections 3.1 and 4 | where (information systems) it went wrong and |
| Sections 3.2, 3.4 and 3.5 | how (control environment/control activities/monitoring) to reduce or prevent the chances of it happening and/or identify or detect if it has happened and where necessary correct the situation. |

Whichever career you follow in the future you will probably be using a system and any managerial/ownership position will involve you designing, monitoring, evaluating, improving or correcting a part of, or a whole system.

This ability is subconsciously used when you review your personal administration like restaurant bills, payment of accounts, tax refunds (hopefully) etc.

PREScribed READING


RECOMMENDED READING

- Information Systems/Technology sections in:
  - Accountancy SA
  - Business Press, FM Campus, Daily/Weekend Newspapers, Time Magazine, Newsweek
- www.isaca.org
- http://www.zaypay.com/

49
1.1 Lecture outline for ACC2018S Module 2

1. Introduction
   - Example to illustrate the objective of the module “R1 million to spend”
   - Examples to illustrate the relevance of the module: Public Failures “Is African Cyber Crime on the Rise?”

Determine contract objectives.
Review examples of exam/test questions
Identify the relevance of the module to the CFIS/Commerce syllabus
- Example: Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd purchase invoice
- Exercise: Restaurant Bill

2. Internal control objectives
   - Determine the purpose of internal control
   - Determine the internal control objectives as they relate to financial accounting systems
     - Example: Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd purchase invoice
     - Exercise: Restaurant Bill

3. Internal Control Components.
   Overview of the Internal Control Components
   3.1 Explanation of what is meant by a financial information system
   - Exercise: Identify business activities within a business
   - Example: Identify both expenditure and revenue cycles within a leather handbags and luggage company
   - Draw up a framework for a computerised financial information system from the macro view to a detailed example of a revenue cycle
   - Identify the key computer aspects that are relevant to a financial information system
   - Examples of:
     1. Client Server
     2. Online batch processing
     3. Online uploading downloading
     4. Online memo processing
     5. Masterfile update
   - Done in INF2004F or equivalent

3.2 Control environment
   Identify relevant areas

3.3 Risks
   Overview: Examples of different types of risks from popular publications
   Determine the types of risks in a financial information system
   Determine the source of risks

Develop a framework to address risk
   - Example: Determine risks related to certain objectives i.r.o. Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd
   - Example: Identify controls to address the above risks using common sense

Determine the limitations of internal control

3.4 Control activities

3.4.1 Derive the principles of internal control from common sense solution to the example in 3.3.
   Expand on the principles of internal control into general and specific controls
   Detail the controls within each of the areas using practical examples

3.4.2 Determine different ways to categorise controls
   - Example: Sorting the washing
   - Example: IT Dependence
   - Example: Management Focus
   - Example: Sink analogy
   - Apply internal controls to a given scenario using a past exam question

3.4.3 Identification of the application controls relating to the computerised processing stages of an application
   - Example: Customer Master update controls for Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd.
   - Example: Edit/validation checks: Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd.

3.4.4 Determine the relevance and categories of general IT controls
   - Example: Marks processing
   - For each category of general IT controls 3.4.4 a - e address the risk of fraud and error by suggesting possible controls to prevent and /detect and correct the risk.
   - Example: Identify access controls from a video clip.

3.5 Monitoring
   - Example: Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd.

3.6 Impact of use of third parties/ outsourcing/service bureaux
   - Determine associated risks and benefits
   - Example: Identify possible controls for Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd. outsourcing their payroll
1.2 Summary of Types of Questions in the Overall Systems and Controls Module

This module is about developing a way of thinking from a few basic principles and not a collection of content so...

If you are feeling that you can’t find the solutions to your tutorials in your notes or textbooks you are not alone nor are you any different from past students at this time of the academic year.

All the content you need is from your relevant Undergraduate lectures in INF 2004, Information Technology in Business, Financial Reporting and the current lectures. Please note Jackson and Stent is prescribed as your main reference and should you need any revision or clarification in an area you should refer to it and/or chat to your friends, your tutor or your lecturers.

A tutorial or exam example could require you to apply the basic systems concepts to the control over passwords in an organization. Please note that the academics have nowhere to look up the answers to the questions, we just have to apply the basic principles. In addition you are expected to integrate your knowledge from your other courses where applicable.

This isn’t easy but it is a skill that is necessary in whichever career you hope to follow and the only way to develop this skill is to think about the issues guided by tutorial questions and then to write out the solutions blind to develop the ability to sort out and write down your thoughts in a logical and concise manner. This ability cannot be obtained through lectures and it is probably the ability that will most impact on your future progress at University and in your career.

Use the following guideline when answering questions or reviewing feedback.

- Identify what is required by the question
  - which focus:
    - executive summary (what the Board of Directors would be interested in)
  - or
    - operational detail (what the clerical staff would need for instructions)
- Consider the overall framework you are going to use – key words e.g.
  - initiation stage
  - prevent controls
  - management perspective
  - problems related to fraud but not error
- Write out sufficient detail
  - who?
  - for what?
  - when?

Poor solution “check the invoice”
Good solution – inspect, a sample of sales invoices for the period under review for the sales manager’s signature.

Each test/exam has a spread of questions or parts of questions so even if you pass the paper overall it is important to review your performance on individual parts of questions to ensure you can answer questions on both knowledge and its application. Your career will require you to be able to explain your knowledge and convince others of your stance and to apply that knowledge in new situations where there will be no guidance apart from basic principles.
In this course there are two broad areas of questions:

1. **Risks/Benefits Of Various Computerised Environments**
   Including some on
   - Management’s/Internal audits point of view i.e. all internal control objectives
   - Focus on a single risk e.g. fraud or unauthorized access
   - Focus on a single objective e.g. confidentiality or validity (overstatement possibilities of wages)
   - Asking you to identify additional risks.

2. **Identifying Weaknesses In A System And Recommending Controls**
   These tend to require more detailed procedures answers and often require you to “spot the gaps” (find out what is missing) e.g. identify additional controls.

Questions include those focused on
- Frameworks for control
- A particular **objective** e.g. Overstatement of wages
- A particular **system** e.g. Accounts receivable
- A particular **stage** e.g. Price list amendments
- A particular **area of control** e.g. Application or General IT controls or both, Webtrust, Issuing Pins,
  Digital money
- A particular **type of control** e.g. automated or manual
- A particular **focus of control** e.g. prevent or detect and correct or management.

Therefore look for these key words in the requirement of the question.

If the required just said “controls” then the thought process should be: “Does this refer to all the control components or just control activities?”

If it is just control activities then “Are general IT and application controls relevant in this situation?”

The controls you give should show the examiner that you are aware of the range available by giving **prevent** and **detect** controls and these will include those that review/reconcile computer output, **manual dependent** controls, **manual independent** controls including reconciling pre computer info to post computer info, physical custody, allocation of functions according to segregation of duty principles etc and **automated** controls. (controls that you could ask a programmer to include in the computer programme, eg Pastel)

**Examples of tutorial/test /exam question requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Identify the internal financial control objectives for (a) the revenue cycle or (b) just the invoicing module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Explain to management why it is not possible to prevent all fraud and error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Advise management of the risks and benefits to the business if they were to implement a new payment system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Identify all the controls that should be in place to prevent errors and irregularities in the integrity of the sales system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Identify the risks that could arise from outsourcing the processing function and the possible consequences for the business.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

52
OCT 2008 Q2
YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:
Identify the possible controls over the integrity of the sales that take place at the physical stores to prevent fraud and error. (13)
Identify how the various internal control components should have been applied by Books For All (Pty) Ltd to adequately safeguard the customers’ personal information. (12)

SEPT 2009 Q2
YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:
Prepare a memorandum to management in which you;
List the internal control objectives in respect of the ordering module of the online sales system for African Music. Ignore issues relating to the integrity of information. (9)
Identify the internal controls relating to the accuracy of the data input by the customer to prevent errors prior to processing the transaction. (7)
Identify eight issues relating to the internal control objectives which need to be included in the Outsourcing contract. Ignore issues relating to the integrity of information. (8)

NOV 2009 Q2
YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:
Prepare a report for Cleardata to:
Identify the internal control objectives for the ordering activity of Cleardata’s online sales module. (8)
Describe, for each objective, one control that should be in place to prevent fraud or error occurring and one control that should be in place to detect whether or not fraud or error has occurred. (16)

SUPP JAN 2009 Q2
YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:
Draft a memorandum to the board of directors dealing with the following:
The changes in general IT controls that should be implemented as part of the new online system. (11)
IGNORE CONTROLS RELATING TO ACCESS TO HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND DATA.
The input controls which should be implemented in order to prevent data capture errors in the new online system. (11)
IGNORE CONTROLS RELATING TO ACCESS TO HARDWARE, SOFTWARE AND DATA.

The table below illustrates how to address the most common key words in the requirements of questions that are distinct but inter-related.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>RISKS (WEAKNESSES)</th>
<th>CONSEQUENCES</th>
<th>CONTROLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor solution</td>
<td>Check price</td>
<td>Price not checked</td>
<td>Price not checked</td>
<td>Check price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good solution</td>
<td>Price is ACCURATELY reflected on invoice</td>
<td>Price used could be INCORRECT</td>
<td>Customers don’t return to the shop</td>
<td>• Independent check of invoice price to price list or standing data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Price used could be Too HIGH</td>
<td>Lose out on potential profits</td>
<td>• Review GP%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Too LOW</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Use of edit checks e.g. range check</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Automate price eg bar code</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

53
2 Internal Control Objectives

Objectives are the key to this course (ACC2018S) and to developing a way of thinking/framework. The objectives will be used to identify risks and benefits which in turn will determine the business consequences and the need for controls.

Integrity/Financial Reporting
- Validity
- Accuracy
- Completeness

Operational/Efficiency & Effectiveness & Economy
- Effectiveness: In terms of strategy
- Efficiency: Performance
  ▶ Confidentiality
  ▶ Availability
- Economy: Profitability
- Safeguarding resources
- Sustainability

Compliance with legislation
- General: Laws applicable to all business
- Specific: Laws applicable to given business e.g. Leather Creations
- Internal: Laws within Leather Creations
- Tax laws: Refer to www.sars.gov.za to see a list of all the different tax types a company must comply with

The key objective relating to financial reporting is integrity.

Exercise in class

Develop the components of integrity using a supplier’s invoice from the ‘Pastel project’. Refer to the Appendix A, page 7

| Integrity |  
|-----------|---
| Valid |  
| Accurate |  
| Complete |  
Exercise in class

Apply the integrity objective to the restaurant bill below.

Exercise in your own time

Go to http://www.gucci.com/us/category/f/handbags. Look at the website. Identify issues that relate to the operational objectives or legislative compliance.
3 Internal Control Components

**Exercise in class**

What is the **objective** of the **internal control components**?

Key Issues to be addressed under each of the individual control components that follow.

(Refer ISA 315 Appendix 1)

**Control Environment (3.2)**
- Sets the tone
- Affects entire business

**Risk Assessment (3.3)**
- Possibility of Fraud and Error
- Affected by “business” & extent of “Computerisation”
- Apply at an overall business level or at an individual application level e.g. revenue cycle, payroll cycle.

**Control Activities (3.4)**
- Principles SPRUP
- Can be selected according to various different categories
  - Prevent / detect & correct
  - Automated / manual dependent / manual independent
  - Management/ operational
- Levels
  - Application controls
  - General IT controls

**Information Systems & Communication (3.1)**
- Supports business Activities
  - Initiate, execute, record / process, custody
  - Include Third Parties
  - At point of computerisation
    - Input
    - Processing
    - Files (program, transaction, masterfile, standing data)
    - Output

**Monitoring (3.5)**
- Financial Information systems

3.1 Financial Information Systems

3.1.1 Computerised Systems

In a computerised environment similar business activities need to happen, but a computer system is used to record and process all or part of the information instead of it being done manually. Most companies today use a computerised system. These systems can vary from:

- information recorded in spreadsheets;
- standardised off the shelf customised accounting packages that will do all the recording and processing and will also generate all the documents that are issued by the company (eg. Pastel for Leather Creations);
- completely computerised systems

The decision of what type of system to use will depend on the situation of the company. Refer to your INF2004F or equivalent knowledge for more information on making these decisions.

**REMEMBER: Business activities drive everything.**

To assist you we will recall the business activities necessary to manufacture leather handbags and luggage see below.

---

**Exercise in your own time**

Think of the business activities that a company has to have to result in you being able to purchase your favourite item of clothing / sporting equipment / cell phone.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure:</th>
<th>INITIATE</th>
<th>EXECUTE</th>
<th>RECORD</th>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td>Ordering of inventory, stationery or other item</td>
<td>Receiving of ordered goods</td>
<td>Receiving the invoice</td>
<td>Information becomes part of financial and management accounting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORTING INFORMATION FLOW</strong> (either electronic or hard copy)</td>
<td>Purchase requisition and Purchase order</td>
<td>Goods received note</td>
<td>Suppliers invoice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue:</th>
<th>INITIATE</th>
<th>EXECUTE</th>
<th>RECORD</th>
<th>PROCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUSINESS ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td>Ordering of goods or services by customer</td>
<td>Delivery of goods or performing of services</td>
<td>Preparing and issuing an invoice</td>
<td>Information becomes part of financial and management accounting system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORTING INFORMATION FLOW</strong> (either electronic or hard copy)</td>
<td>Order</td>
<td>Delivery note</td>
<td>Sales invoice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Sales Journal (record sale)
- Debtors Ledger (post balance to debtors account)
- General Ledger (post every aspect of transaction: Sales a/c, VAT a/c, Debtors control a/c, Commission a/c, Bank a/c)
Thank you for visiting www.leatherimpressions.com. We hope our revamped site will be a valuable tool in assisting our retailers get access to the latest styles, stimulating sales and profits.

For over 25 years Leather Impressions, Inc. has focused on providing retailers with quality leather products and competitive prices, with a focus on developing innovative new products. With our continued emphasis on quality customer service, we thank you for your continued support.

Featured Products

- **Top Grain Cowhide Center Flap Bi-fold Wallet**
  - Our Price: (Members Only)

- **Top Grain Cowhide Multi Pocket Cross Body Bag**
  - Our Price: (Members Only)

- **Passport Cover with Clear Window and Credit Card Slots**
  - Our Price: (Members Only)

- **Top Grain Cowhide Tri-fold Wallet with Center Flap**
  - Our Price: (Members Only)

- **Flap Over Computer Messenger Bag**
  - Our Price: (Members Only)

- **Lambkin Passport Cover with Gold Embossing**
  - Our Price: (Members Only)

Extracted: http://www.leatherimpressions.com/, 13 December 2012

**Exercise in your own time**

Attempt to purchase items from http://www.leatherimpressions.com/.

Is delivery possible to South Africa?
Diagram 6.1 - Computerised Financial Accounting and Reporting Cycle
### 3.1.2 Stages from point of computerisation

Each cycle will have greater detail than that shown in Diagram 6.1. As an illustration, the **revenue cycle** can be represented as follows:

![Revenue Cycle Diagram](source: The Principles and Practice of Auditing 9th Edition, Puttick and van Esch)
Order
- Document
- Direct
- Automatic
- Third Party

Delivery
- Telecommunications
- Security
- Third parties

Record
- Data
  - Inventory Master file
  - Accounts Receivable Master file
  - Price table Standing file
  - Transaction file
- Applications
  - “Pastel” Programme

Process
- On-line batch
- On-line realtime
- On-line memo
- On-line upload/download

Facilities
- Database Management System
- System software
- Hardware

Technology
- Output
  - Screen
  - Hardcopy
  - Electronic
### 3.1.3 IT Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stages:</th>
<th>INPUT</th>
<th>PROCESSING</th>
<th>FILES</th>
<th>OUTPUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On-line Batch</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Hardcopy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On-line Realtime</td>
<td>Transaction</td>
<td>Screen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Memo</td>
<td>Masterfile</td>
<td>Electronic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upload</td>
<td>Standing Data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Download</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Exercise in class

Consider the various types of inputs (sources) of sales for an organisation like a bookstore eg. Exclusive Books

---

### Exercise in your own time

Consider what was relevant to Leather Creations Pastel project in ACC 2012W

---

### Components:

DATA
APPLICATIONS
TECHNOLOGY
FACILITIES
PEOPLE

### Exercise in your own time

Consider these components as they might apply to

- Leather Creations
- UCT marks processing
Exercise in your own time

Check your personal access settings on Vula/various drives.

The following terms are explained by applying them to the Leather Creations example

| Field            | Line within a record that is used for a specific piece of information  
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------
|                  | Eg. Customer name (Tedgars Ltd)                                        |
| Computer record  | Record for individual people, products or transactions                 |
|                  | Eg. Customer details, consisting of many fields OR a sales invoice. Refer to |
|                  | Tedgars Ltd column, Customer master files in Chapter 6                  |
| Transaction file | An accumulation of transaction records                                 |
|                  | Eg. Collection of sales invoices = sales journal, think back to your Pastel project |
| Master file      | An accumulation of individual people or product records                 |
|                  | Eg. Collection of customer records accounts receivable master file. Refer to |
|                  | customer master file in Chapter 6                                      |
| Standing data    | Data that is not updated by transactions, but is used in transactions   |
|                  | Eg. Sales prices and discount rates                                     |

Exercise in class

Identify how these terms would apply to the Peoplesoft data base relating to the class list for CFIS?

Field:

Computer record:

Transaction file:

Master file:

Standing data:

NOTE: Before we summarise the key issues we need to refer to Additional reading: “Demystifying COBIT” in Appendix B.
REMEMBER: Key Issues

- Business activities drive computer needs
- Computerisation can take place at any point within the business cycle Leather Creations, Woolworths, internet airline purchase, [www.bamboowarehouse.co.za](http://www.bamboowarehouse.co.za)

**Input sources**

- Document
- Direct
- Automatic
- Third Party

**Processing methods** (Appendix C)

- Client server
- On-line batch/ uploading, downloading/ realtime/ memo

**Files**

- **Data**
  - Transactions
  - Master files
  - Standing data/table files
- **Applications software**
  - Integrated eg. Pastel, SAP, PeopleSoft/function specific eg. Human Resources Management, Customer Relationship Management, inventory
  - Purchased/in house

**Output**

- Hardcopy
- Screen
- Electronic

**Technology**

- System software e.g Windows, Linux
- Utilities e.g windows explorer
- Hardware e.g monitors, links, input devices, servers
- Communication methods
  - LAN/ WAN/ VPN
  - EDI
  - Internet

**Facilities**

- Specialised venues

**People**

- Add
- Read/ Enquire
- Change
- Delete
Appendix C is attached as a revision of the different types of processing methods that can be used by a business, as discussed in INF2004F or equivalent. WHY? Because there will be different risks and benefits associated with each of them.

1. Client Server
2. Online batch processing
3. Online uploading downloading
4. Online memo processing

### 3.2 Control Environment

- Ethical values
- Commitment to competence
- Participation by those charged with Governance
- Management Philosophy & Style
- Organisational structure
- Assignment of authority
- Human resource policies & practices

Refer to ISA 315 A 69 & 70

### 3.3 Risk Assessments

#### 3.3.1 Overview

There are two main types of risk: **FRAUD** and **ERROR**

Four examples of different types of risks of fraud:
Criminal: Musica fined for selling counterfeit goods
Musica has been fined R170 000 after it was found guilty of contravening the Counterfeit Goods Act, says a Cape Times report
August 2008

Siblings in court for school computer fraud
Two siblings have appeared in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court on fraud charges involving R13-million.

Police spokesperson November Filander said the Hawks arrested Deon Pokpas and Joy Smith earlier this week.

Filander said Pokpas had worked for the provincial Department of Education and then had managed the E-innovation centre for it.

He said Pokpas had allegedly created a false contract for the installation, upgrading and maintenance of computers for schools in the Western Cape. The contract was then awarded to the company of his sister, Joy Smith.

Ntinga Technologies, who Pokpas had allegedly approached to take over the contract, laid a charge when they found out that the contract did not exist and that the money was paid to other people on Pokpas's instruction.

Both accused are out on bail and will appear in court on March 12. - Staff Writer

- This article was originally published on page 6 of The Cape Times on December 18, 2009

CAPE TIMES
Published on the Web by IOL on 2009-12-18 04:38:00

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**Exercise in class**

If you buy a bottle of Olive oil from Woolworths marked special R59.99 and at the till you are charged R 99.99 do you think this is fraud? How do you think this error occurs?

---

**Exercise in class**

1. If your registration curriculum form is captured incorrectly will your lecturer think it is fraud or error or could it be both?

2. If your final mark is captured incorrectly will your course convenor think it is fraud or error or could it both?

---

### 3.3.2 Fraud and Error summary

- Intentional
  - Fraud
    - concealment of theft
    - distortion of results
  - Unintentional
    - Error
      - Human vs Computer error/mistake?
Exercise in class
Who can commit fraud and error?

3.3.3 Likelihood of risk

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

PEELST
Industry
Management

Supplier
Purchases
Payments

Product
or
Service

Salaries

Sales
Receipts

Wages

Employee

Customer
Computerised environment

The follow characteristics of computerised systems will result in different risks and benefits that effect all the internal control objectives. Always consider which are appropriate to the scenario/question you are confronted with. Some scenarios will require you to discuss these characteristics as they relate to the integrity of information. Others will require you to include the business requirements.

- Consistency of performance
- Systems generated transactions
- Concentration of
  - functions/knowledge
  - programs/data
- Ease of access
- Absence of hardcopy
  - Input
  - Output
  - Visible audit trail
- Single transaction/multiple update
- Vulnerability of media
- Dependency on 3rd parties
  - transmission of data between company and third party

Exercise in your own time

Relate the above characteristics to purchasing something directly online e.g. airtime top up for your cell phone, movie tickets, an airline ticket.
3.3.4 Risks and benefits of computerised systems

Risks

**Integrity**
- Unwarranted reliance
  - Inaccurate data input, processes eg. Calculating VAT 14/100 * selling price
- authorised access
  - Authorised internal personnel
  - Unauthorised internal personnel
  - Supply chain members
  - IT personnel
  - Outiders/hackers
  - Management
- Unauthorised changes
  - Data
  - Master files
  - Standing data eg. Prices
  - Programs eg. Rounding in bank
- Making inappropriate / not making necessary changes to
  - Data
  - Applications
- Inappropriate manual follow through (Woolworths price example)
- Ability to process unusual / non-routine transactions
  - First export/import transaction eg. No VAT
- Inappropriate processing where judgement required

**Availability**
- Inability to access/destruction of
  - Data
  - Applications
  - Technology
  - Facilities

Benefits

- Consistently apply pre-defined business rules
  - Credit limit
- Perform complex calculations
  - utilising internal and external data eg. Forex rates, interest on daily balances
- Process large volumes of recurring transactions
  - eg. Edgars sales invoices
• More timely
  ▶ "Real time" no delays due to people being unavailable
• More readily available information
  ▶ Ease of locating and printing due to concentration of info
• Enhances analysis of related information
  ▶ only limited by what is collected and technical compatibility
    ⇒ Data mining
    ⇒ Data warehousing
• Enhance control if well constructed eg. Excellent security
  ▶ Effective segregation of duties (SOD)
  ▶ Effectiveness of passwords

One needs to consider all components of the system: data, applications (programs), technology (system software, hardware), facilities (outsourcers), people.

### 3.3.5 Addressing Risk

1. Determine threats that confront the company
2. Estimate the risk, or probability of each threat occurring
3. Estimate the exposure or potential loss from each threat
4. Identify set of controls to guard against threat
5. Estimate costs & benefits from instituting controls

   ![Diagram](image)

   - Is it cost-beneficial to protect system from threat
     - Yes: Implement set of controls to guard against threats
     - No: Repeat process from step 1
**Limitations of internal control**

- Cost/Benefit
- Routine vs non-routine
- Collusion
- Management over-ride
- Human error/judgment
- Change in conditions

ISA 315 para A46-A50

**Exercise in class**

Identify risks relating to the following areas that management would need to be concerned about.

![Diagram showing Threat, Fraud, Error connections]

**Purchases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Validity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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**Accuracy**

<p>| |</p>
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**Sales**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completeness</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Exercise in class**

What would you do to address the risks identified in the previous exercise?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purchases</th>
<th>Applicable to more than 1 area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Validity</td>
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<td>Accuracy</td>
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<td>Sales</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

74
3.4 Control Activities

3.4.1 Principles

Reference: Appendix B, ISA315 Appendix 1, paragraph 9-10

*Exercise in class*

1. Identify the control activity principles outlined in ISA315.

2. Categorise the control activity principles into:

   a General

   b Specific

---

**General**

Applicable to the overall design of a system and therefore can be considered in an answer to any control related question, often referred to as general controls.

---

**Specific**

Applicable to the individual objectives within each business activity.
S

Segregation of duties

ISOLATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

- INITIATION
- EXECUTION
- RECORDING
- CUSTODY

P(C)

Physical Custody

- PHYSICAL SECURITY
- RESTRICT ACCESS
  - INTERNAL
  - EXTERNAL

A

Authorisation

- ACKNOWLEDGE PHYSICAL TRANSFER
- IDENTIFY ACCOUNTABILITY

IN TERMS OF POLICIES

R

Information Processing

- RECONCILIATION
- UNDERLYING ASSETS
  - CASH
  - STOCK
- USE OF CONTROL ACCOUNTS/ SUB LEDGERS
- RAND VALUE
  - # RECORDS
  - #TRANSACTIONS
- NON-FINANCIAL
- INPUT – OUTPUT
- RUN-TO-RUN
- MASTER FILE UPDATES

- UNUSED STATIONERY
- NEGOTIABLE REGISTER CANCELLED
  SAFEGUARDED
- MINIMISE INFO
- CARBO
- PRE-NUMBER
- IDENTIFIABLE/NOT EASILY COPIED

C

CHECKING

- HUMAN
- COMPUTER

N

SEQUENCING

P/(M)

Management

- POLICIES
- SUPERVISE
- REVIEW
  - LOGS
  - EXCEPTIONS
  - OVERALL PERFORMANCE
  - FILE CONTENTS
  - CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS
  - AUDIT TRAIL
  - RECONCILIATIONS
- IDENTIFY, CORRECT, & RESUBMIT ERRORS
Exercise in class

Working in groups, apply the principles on the previous page to the address the risk of stock loss in Leather Creations. This will form the basis of a presentation to the operational staff.

3.4.3 Application controls

Examples relating to control activities

South Africa

General: Millions more looted at Land Bank

Internal controls at the Land Bank became so lax late last year that its treasury's dealing room was looted weeks after a malfunctioning security door was reported but not repaired, it emerges from internal Land Bank correspondence the Financial Mail says it has seen. In October 2007, 28 bills and promissory notes for R1m each were stolen from a locked safe in the dealing room, together with personal items from locked cupboards, an internal memo shows. The FM says it understands that 27 of the bills are still in circulation and could be used to defraud farmers. National treasury initially told the FM its asset and liability management division had not been formally notified, as required by the Public Finance Management Act, but later confirmed it had been made aware of the theft. Treasury also pointed out that the thefts took place when the bank fell under Land and Agriculture Minister Lulu Xingwana. Last month jurisdiction was transferred to Finance Minister Trevor Manuel.

The theft was discovered in November after a Mpumalanga construction company tried to cash a Land Bank bill for R1m at the FNB Standerton branch. ‘All money market instruments were checked immediately and it was found that three Land Bank bills and 25 Land Bank promissory notes were missing from the locked safe,’ says a memo from the bank's treasurer. Makgale Gwagwa. Gwagwa confirmed this week he had written a memo informing the bank's internal audit unit of the theft and that he had urged the bank to report the matter to the police. He resigned soon thereafter.

Full Financial Mail report (subscription needed)

Legal Brief 0126 14 August 2008

Transnet hearing considers Gama penalty

THE fate of the suspended CEO of Transnet Freight Rail, Siyabonga Gama, is likely to be decided in the next week as the hearing into what sanction he would receive begins last night.

This comes as Mr Gama's lawyer, Themba Langa, prepared to dispute in court a disciplinary hearing finding that Mr Gama flouted procurement rules.

Last night Transnet spokesman John Dladla said a process was under way and that Transnet had made a representation. He did not give details of the representation. It is understood that Mr Gama's legal team would make a written representation by this evening.

Last week Public Enterprises Minister Barbara Hogan said in a written reply to a parliamentary question that Transnet would seek Mr Gama's dismissal. Mr Gama - who has been suspended on full pay since September last year - was found guilty earlier this month on three of four counts of misconduct by a disciplinary hearing chaired by advocate Mark Antrobus SC.

Mr Langa said yesterday that Mr Gama would proceed with his court action irrespective of the outcome of this week's hearing. It was not yet decided whether his client would seek reinstatement or compensation if dismissed.

Last week in a letter to Transnet's attorney, Chris Todd, Mr Langa said “Transnet has compromised the integrity and processes of the (disciplinary) hearing which occurred when Transnet appointed Mark Antrobus to preside in another Transnet disciplinary matter while the Gama matter was partly heard.

“To make matters worse, Mr Antrobus was briefed by the same lawmans prosecution team that prosecuted Mr Gama ... (which) would unequivocally create the impression that Mr Gama was tried by 'buddies'”. He said Mr Gama was “going to ask the court for extensive relief and costs”.

Mr Dladla said there was no substance to the latest complaint Mr Gama had raised.

Mr Gama was found to have irregularly awarded an R88m contract to a firm linked to Communications Minister Siphiwe Nyanda, although his authority was limited to contracts of less than R100m. He was also found to have failed in complying with conditions for an R800m contract for refurbishing locomotives.

Julius Baumann

Transport and Tourism Editor

Business Day 24 June 2010

77
Exercise in class
Can you think of where unused stationery is relevant in the marks processing cycle?

Exercise in class
Identify two types of logs on your cell phone

Exercise in your own time
Go to a supermarket eg. Pick ‘n Pay, Spar, Shoprite, Checkers. Identify at least seven controls that management should/ have implemented to prevent and/or detect stock theft.

Exercise in class
Based on the manufacturing video you watched, identify at least 4 stages where the raw materials could be lost or stolen.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Input</th>
<th>(PREVENT FOCUS, thing of your online purchase)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>VALID</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authorisation</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Control Over-rides (a la Pick ’n Pay)</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Identify duplicates</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACCURATE</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce likelihood of error</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Train (remember control environment people in specific duties are competent)</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Help function / manual</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– User friendly screen / documents</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Prompts / Drop down lists / minimise options</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Minimise input</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Automate / use of standing data</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Preformatted keys</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Touch screens</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Scanners</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Check input</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Manual one-to-one check</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Computer edit and validation checks</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMPLETE</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Automatically numbered</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Numeric sequence check</strong></td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Field presence check</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identify errors, correct and resubmit</td>
<td><img src="image.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example: Edit and validation checks

8.1 Alpha-numeric checks prevent/detect numeric fields which have been entered as alphabets and vice versa.
8.2 Range checks detect when a field falls outside the allowable minimum and maximum set.
8.3 Limit checks detect when a field exceeds a single limit set (i.e., minimum or maximum).
8.4 Check Digit a redundant character attached to the end of a number which detects all types of data coding errors (i.e. addition, transcription, and transcription errors). (See note (c) on previous page).
8.5 Size checks detect when the field does not conform to pre-set size limits.
8.6 Missing data checks detect blanks where none should exist.
8.7 Reasonableness checks: best explained by using the example of 40 hours worked which may pass the limit check described in (8.3) above, but fail a reasonableness test when related to the classification on the employee status field e.g. part-time/weekends only employee, therefore expected to work no more than 20 hours.
8.8 Sequence checks detect gaps or duplications in a sequence of numbers.
8.9 Verification checks validate data keyed in against the masterfile e.g. customer account number.
8.10 Data approval checks test input against a preset condition e.g. sale may not exceed credit limit.
8.11 Internal label check checks that the file name loaded is the correct one for the intended operation.
8.12 Generation number check checks that the correct generation of the file has been loaded.
8.13 Retention date checks checks whether the retention date on the file has expired.
8.14 Arithmetic accuracy check e.g. reverse multiplication, (multiplication is repeated but in reverse and answers matched 3 x 6 = 18; 18 - 6 = 3.
8.15 Reasonableness test after processing of a transaction has taken place the result is compared to other information for reasonableness e.g. a wage of R5000 is not reasonable for a grade 3 employee.
8.16 Limit test identifies amounts which fall outside a predetermined limit after processing.
8.17 Cross casts, where amounts are allocated to columns and the columns are independently cast (added up) the totals of the columns can be cross cast (added across) and compared to the total amount allocated e.g. net pay + paye + medical aid deduction = gross pay.
8.18 Run-to-run totals, a final balance arrived at after processing is compared to the opening balance and individual totals of transactions e.g. the closing balance on debitors (31 May) is compared to the opening balance on debitors (30 April) plus the total of May sales (debit) less the total of May receipts (credit).
8.19 Reconciliation of related-subsystem balances e.g. debitors ledger and debitors control account.

Example: Check digit

A laser scans the bar code, and the reflections are read as numbers.

The UCC gives out the first digits to identify the maker of the item. Everything that company makes will begin with the same number.

It sounds like an insult, but these are called "human readable numbers." This is a check digit. It's the answer to a math problem designed to be sure that the scanner read the bar code properly.

You can always guess the last number of a UPC code. Use the "human readable numbers" from any 12-digit UPC code:

Add the sum of the odd-spaced digits (the 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th). Multiply the sum by 3. Save that as answer 1. Add up the even-spaced digits of the code (don't include the check digit! That's the one you're guessing). Add that answer to answer 1. The check digit will be whatever number you have to add to your last answer to get it up to the next multiple of 10.

Grab Any Bar Code

Source: Weekend Argus Jellybean Journal

Source: Jackson & Stent 8/36
Example: Programmed validation and edit checks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REASONABLENESS CHECK</th>
<th>Input Data</th>
<th>Reasons for Failing Validity Check</th>
<th>Stored Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date received: 021183 (MMDDYY)</td>
<td>Must be received today or before.</td>
<td>021282</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours worked: 72</td>
<td>Hours exceed normal maximum.</td>
<td>55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock cost $/unit: 010.25</td>
<td>New inventory cost exceeds previous price by more than 10%.</td>
<td>001.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPENDENCY CHECK</th>
<th>Input Data</th>
<th>Reasons for Failing Validity Check</th>
<th>Stored Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expiration date: 81057 (YYDDD)</td>
<td>Expiration date exceeds date received by more than the shelf life of 4 months.</td>
<td>001120 (YYDDD)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXISTENCE CHECK</th>
<th>Input Data</th>
<th>Reasons for Failing Validity Check</th>
<th>Stored Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department numbers: 169</td>
<td></td>
<td>169</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>224</td>
<td></td>
<td>214</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>528</td>
<td></td>
<td>528</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>624</td>
<td></td>
<td>624</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 1. Stored data must be correct.
2. Program must be logically correct and must report all failures.

Source unknown
### Example: Constituents of an audit trail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transaction Cycle</th>
<th>Audit Trail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Input</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Data capture</td>
<td>Source documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Batch data</td>
<td>Source (transaction) lists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>preparation</td>
<td>Transaction identifiers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Batch input</td>
<td>Validated transaction files on tape or disk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— On-line entry</td>
<td>Batch transmittal logs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Batch transmittal tickets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manual error log</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Error suspense file on tape or disk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Error listing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Processing</strong></td>
<td>Application program documentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Data validation</td>
<td>Table contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Calculation</td>
<td>Factor values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Comparison</td>
<td>Operator input data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Summarization</td>
<td>Default options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— File updating</td>
<td>Transaction listings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— File maintenance</td>
<td>Listing of computer-generated transactions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Sequencing</td>
<td>File activity data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Inquiry</td>
<td>Error suspense files</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Error correction</td>
<td>Error log</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Output</strong></td>
<td>Field data by record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— File content</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Reports</td>
<td>File balances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— Documents</td>
<td>Accounting reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Management reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reference reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Error logs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Error report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Output documents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4.3 Categorisation of control activities

Different ways of categorising (sorting) internal control activities

- Management Philosophy
  - Prevent and/or Detect & Correct
- IT dependence
  - Manual dependent: User Controls on computer output (eg. review of log)
  - Manual independent: Reconciling input to output (eg. paper results on the notice board to the original test script.)
  - Automated: (eg. Including a check in the computer programme to prevent any mark >100% being captured.)
- Level of Control
  - Management exercised controls and/or
  - operational staff controls.

Sorting the washing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Separate into:</th>
<th>Separate into:</th>
<th>Separate into:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prevent/Detect and Correct</strong></td>
<td><strong>Manual dependent</strong></td>
<td><strong>Financial Manager</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark &amp; Light</td>
<td>Mom’s clothes</td>
<td>Sports clothes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dad’s clothes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Automated</td>
<td>Children’s clothes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exercise in class

What could an individual manager do to address the risks identified to minimise stock loss/thief, in the exercise on pg 48 relating to the video you watched?

Set Policies

Set Authorisation limits

Approve exceptions / outside limits

Review reconciliations

Extract and review exception reports

Review overall results and correlation

Supervision and spot checks
Example: Sink analogy

**OBJ:** Water used efficiently
**Risk:** Water is wasted

---

**SUGGESTED APPROACH TO QUESTIONS**

1. Which objectives?
2. Is it fraud and error?
3. Which stages in which system?
4. Is it IC components or just control activities?
   - IC components => Include
     - Control environment &
     - Monitoring
5. Which philosophy?
   - Prevent and/or Detect?
   - Manual in/dependent/automated?
   - Management focus?
6. Which control activities?
   - Appendix E
     - SCRUM
     - VAC
   - General IT controls?
**Exercise in class**

Class example using a previous exam question

**PART A (13 marks)**
During study week you and your colleagues are having a discussion on the impact of computerisation on the internal control activities.

**You are required to:**
Using the following list of control activities, discuss the impact of computerisation.
- Segregation of duties
- Custody of assets
- Information processing controls
- Authorisation
- Performance review and management supervision

**PART B (17 marks)**
Due to the proximity of the University and a number of secondary schools the local garage “mini-supermarket” has decided to introduce sales on credit where a parent/guardian/bursar has agreed to stand surety. In addition the manager has put up large signs saying that payment by cheque is now acceptable after the recently introduced regulations over cheque Amendments.

**You are required to:**
Identify all controls that should be in place to prevent errors and irregularities in the integrity of the sales application.

Your answer should use the following headings:
- All sales transactions are recorded
- All sales transaction are recorded accurately
- All sales transactions are valid

You may assume that adequate controls exist over the central computer processing activities.

**Solution to class example**

Control environment
General control activities applicable to all three headings
All sales transactions are recorded

All sales transactions are recorded accurately
All sales transactions are valid
### Masterfile Update

#### Customer/Accounts Receivable masterfile update

**INDIVIDUAL CUSTOMER**

Xolani Sibiya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key for customer service</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early terms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price list vision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Accounts Receivable Master file**

50 records R xxx

**Daily/Monthly Customer Movement**

- NEW CUSTOMER
  - Number
  - Description
- DELETED CUSTOMER
  - Number
  - Description
- CHANGED CUSTOMER
  - Number
  - Description

40 records R xxx

**Update A/R Master file**

- O/B 50 Rxxx
  - 10 New 10
  - 20 Del (20)
  - 50 Change details

- C/B 40 xxxx

**Master file update report**

- Reconcile

**Process Transactions**

- Sales 100 xxx
  - Returns 12 xxx

- Receipts
  - 15 xxx

- Adj
  - 9 800
  - 3 300
  - 12 500

**Master file updated by transactions**

# 1 2 3

- O/B 40 xxxx

Check to

1
2
3
4
5
Exercise in class

Revision: Apply this structure to identify the control activities to maintain the integrity of the master file / standing data update i.r.o adding customers / changing selling prices in Leather Creations.

Include both prevent and detect control activities

Summary of the most common internal control failures based on an international survey by Ernst & Young “The Enemy Within”.

Note: These are the basics you have just covered in this section

- Policies and procedures outdated / not documented
- Segregation of duties, particularly following restructuring / retrenchments
- Ineffective authorisation - lack of thorough / critical review
- Lack of / poor quality reconciliations of key accounts
- Sharing login details and passwords
- IT access rights not consistent with internal controls
### 3.4.4 General IT controls

#### CHAPTER 8

**COMPUTER AUDIT**

**THE BASICS**

#### CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMPUTER AUDITING</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction</td>
<td>8/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Computer environments</td>
<td>8/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A brief overview of different computer environments</td>
<td>8/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Internal control in computerised accounting systems</td>
<td>8/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Factors peculiar to computerised systems of which the auditor should be aware</td>
<td>8/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GENERAL CONTROLS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Definition of a general control</td>
<td>8/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Categories of general controls</td>
<td>8/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Control environment and security policy</td>
<td>8/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Organisational structure and personnel practices</td>
<td>8/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Standards and standard operating procedures</td>
<td>8/13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Systems development controls</td>
<td>8/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Programme change controls</td>
<td>8/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Continuity of operations</td>
<td>8/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Access controls</td>
<td>8/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Documentation</td>
<td>8/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Summary</td>
<td>8/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>APPLICATION CONTROLS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction</td>
<td>8/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. A suggested framework for application controls</td>
<td>8/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Basic terminology</td>
<td>8/24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Input, processing and output</td>
<td>8/26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Jackson & Stent*
Overview

Environment controls applicable to IT
   a) Organisational: segregation, staffing and organisation policies
   b) Continuity: backups and disaster recovery

General IT controls
   c) Change:
      (a) systems acquisition development
      (b) maintenance and program changes
   d) Access:
      (a) physical access
      (b) logical access to programs & data
   e) Operations
      (a) Recording: hardware & software controls to detect errors & malfunctions
      (b) Management supervision over computer operations
      (c) Communications

Also refer: Jackson & Stent pages 88-10/23.
Managing your password article on the following link:

Exercise i.r.o IT usage policies in your own time

Go to the UCT web site and look under policies. Find those relevant to your use of computer resources at UCT.

1. Does UCT have the right to look at your records?

2. What is UCT’s policy about the private use of computer resources?

3. Can you share your login?
a. Organisational

Formal IT strategy

Part of Internal Audit view

Risk

Fraud	Error

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hiring and firing</th>
<th>Integrity via background checks</th>
<th>Set level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular vacations</td>
<td>Pick up trends</td>
<td>Refreshed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rotation of duties</td>
<td>Enable analysis</td>
<td>Multi-skilling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policies</td>
<td>Viruses</td>
<td>Disclaimer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Software piracy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of hardware</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOD</td>
<td>Separate user &amp; IT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Separate within IT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remuneration</td>
<td>No incentive to take risks</td>
<td>Fairness</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example: Importance of hiring procedures

REMINDER: What is SOD?

Exercise i.r.o Organisational structure in class

Apply the principles of SOD to the IT and User departments
b. Continuity of operations

Continuity of operations
(related to information systems)

- Fraud
  - Internal
  - External

- Error
  - Internal
  - External

Need a Strategy for Disaster Management
- Documented
- Tested
- Communicated

Prevent
- Regular maintenance
- Physical situation
- Environment
- Back-up – regularly & test

Detect
- Warning signs / fire alarms
- Adhere to electrical requirements

Correct
- Insurance
  ▶ Physical reconstruction
  ▶ Loss of profits
  ▶ Regular review that premiums are paid
- Off-site storage

**Exercise in class**

Identify the components of an information system that would need to be considered in respect of the above.
ASSAULT ON AMERICA THE AFTERMATH

Life-saving lessons of 1993 bomb

Morgan Stanley's staff were ready

By Gary Silberman and Pete Thal Larsen in New York

When the first airliner struck the World Trade Center on
Tuesday, employees of the big-

nest tenant in the complex

knew exactly what to do.

Today, all but a few of Morgan

Stanley's 3,700 employees are

alive to talk about it.

In 1993 when terrorists

bombed the World Trade Cen-

ter, Dean Witter, a brokerage

that is now part of Morgan

Stanley, had been affected. Its

employees have been in train-

ing ever since.

The workers - mostly

involved in processing trades

for retail investors or handling

administrative matters - were

organized to evacuate floor by

floor. Drills were conducted.

A back-up facility was main-

tained in lower Manhattan.

"If you went through 1993, it

was very, very scary," said

Philip Purcell, Morgan Stan-

ley's chairman and chief exec-

utive officer. "The lessons

were very, very clear."

After the first aircraft

crashed into the North Tower,

Morgan Stanley's employees in

the other tower headed out -

and never turned back. When

the second airliner struck just

above Morgan Stanley's 12

floors in the South Tower,

evacuation was under way.

As a result of that preparation -

and no small amount of

luck - most of Morgan Stan-

ley's workers made it to safety.

But by the time they reached

the streets below, the lesson-

s of 1993 no longer applied.

Some workers had been so

traumatized they went home,

turned off their telephones and

avoided contact. Days went by,

and no one at headquarters

heard from them.

"Everybody is in shock," Mr.

Purcell said. "The people who

got out are lucky. They watched

people jump out of the build-

ings."

Morgan Stanley put its com-

munications network to inter-

nal use. A call centre in Phoe-

nix, Arizona, was charged with

reachng workers from the

World Trade Center.

At the same time, a call-in

number was broadcast on US

television networks, and Mor-

gan Stanley officials knocked

on doors of employees to see

if they were at home.

The initial results were not

good. "We didn't talk to as

many people as you would

hope," Mr Purcell said.

By Wednesday night, more

than a day and a half after the

attack, Morgan Stanley offi-

cials had been unable to reach

500 workers. That number was

300 by Thursday morning.

It was not until Thursday

evening that Morgan Stan-

ley was able to say it had

accounted for all but 15

employees.

Mr Purcell, his eyes welling

with tears, said the missing

workers included several

"heroes" who had stayed

inside to help colleagues down

as many as 74 floors to safety.

Morgan Stanley's plans to

use its back-up facility were

foiled at first. No one had

imagined lower Manhattan

would be sealed off, leaving

the facility inaccessible.

The investment bank had

other options. Its institutional

services business had a pro-

cessing centre in Brooklyn. Its

mutual fund processing was

done in Jersey City.

By yesterday morning, how-

ever, Morgan Stanley had been

able to move 400 people into

lower Manhattan as it pre-

pared for an industry-wide test

of systems today.

Assuming all goes well, Mor-

gan Stanley, like other secur-

ties firms, will begin trading

stocks again on Monday.

But when it reopens, Morgan

Stanley will be a different

firm. Wall Street will be a dif-

ferent place.

The Wall Street of old was a

home for confident people who

had known little other than

success - a mentality that had

been reinforced by the longest

bull market ever.

Wall Street knows tragedy

now, first hand.

People flee as the World Trade Center's South Tower collapses. AP

MARKETS LATEST

New York Times
THE DAYS THE EARTH STOOD STILL

WITH A HUFF AND A PUFF, MOTHER NATURE GROUNDED THE GLOBAL ECONOMY—AND POINTED UP THE NEED TO FIX OUR FRAGILE SYSTEMS.

BY DANIEL GROSS

AS THE ASH CLOUD EMANATING FROM AN ICELANDIC VOLCANO WEAKENED THE AIR TRAVEL, Cisco Systems completed its $7.3 billion acquisition of Tandberg, a Norwegian teleconferencing company. Martijn De Beer, Cisco’s senior vice president of emerging technologies, found that his flight from San Jose, Calif., to Oslo, where he was to discuss the deal, had been canceled. So he used the merged company’s equipment. Since the volcano erupted on April 14, Cisco’s TelePresence service, which costs $45,000 per system, has been used more than ever. “Skype is just a different kind of high-end technology,” says Fredrik Halvorsen, CEO of Tandberg. “It’s a virtual presence and similar products from competitors have emerged as a sort of redundant network for business meetings. When face-to-face meetings are impossible, executives can go back and forth and share the jokes and presentations. That kind of redundancy is a form of insurance.” And for those in the business of trading information, this insurance comes relatively cheap: $45,000 per system.
cheap. They won’t divulge the locations, but most major Wall Street firms have backup trading floors in the Northeast—decks, chairs, and computer equipment that lie fallow. If a man-made or natural crisis shuts down their Manhattan headquarters, workers can show up and start trading derivatives. Google says, “Every action you take in Gmail is simultaneously replicated in two data centers at once.” If one fails, the user won’t experience a disruption. A company spokesman says Google has put a lot of thought into the “geographic diversification” of data-center site selections, so that if one area of the globe is affected by a disaster, traffic can be routed to another. And with the rise of cloud computing, everyone can have a backup network.

But as the global economy learned last week, it’s much harder—and in some instances nearly impossible—to build redundancy into the vital networks that now move people, goods, and services around the world. The same technology-abetted forces that spur globalization and efficiency have left the world economy particularly susceptible to disruptions.

The International Air Travel Association reported that airlines lost $6.7 billion due to the shutdowns in Europe. But disrupted business travel and tourism (this writer’s family vacation to Paris was buried in volcanic ash) are only the tip of the iceberg.

A hundred years ago, even 30 years ago, an eruption from Iceland wouldn’t have affected menus in Florence or the ability of autoworkers in Tennessee to assemble cars. But things have changed.

The just-in-time mentality dictates that factories and retailers build super-efficient, lengthy supply chains and keep as little capital and warehouse space as possible tied up in inventory. Globalization has meant that companies source components and products from all over the world. The upshot: when there’s a small disruption anywhere, the machinery of global capitalism slows down. And when there’s a disruption in Europe, look out. The slow-growing region is actually a highly globalized economic powerhouse. “Europe is the biggest exporter in the world and the second-biggest importer,” Eric Chaney, chief economist at AXA Group, told The Wall Street Journal. And while container ships are the workhorses of global trade, plenty of really valuable stuff crosses the Atlantic in airline cargo bays. By Tuesday, with flights from Europe having been canceled for a few days, the automaker Nissan suspended some production at factories in Japan. They were lacking pneumatic sensors made in Ireland.

Natural phenomena have laid bare the fact that the networks that power our economy are both fragile and really expensive to duplicate. Consider electricity. A recent windstorm in the Northeastern U.S. knocked out electricity to homes and offices for several days. But installing a home generator that can pick up the electric load would cost several thousand dollars. Manufacturers can’t afford to keep fully equipped factories on standby, with workers on call, on the off chance an epidemic in China halts exports.

When it comes to transport networks, it’s very difficult to build an adequate level of redundancy. Europe’s extensive system of trains and ferries wasn’t nearly extensive enough to handle the flood of traffic that materialized when aircraft were grounded. If the Panama Canal were temporarily shut down, goods could be shipped around South America or humped overland across the isthmus—but only at great cost and delay.

In theory, flights from the U.S. to India via London could have been rerouted through airports in Africa. But Dakar’s airport can’t possibly afford to maintain extra runways and keep air controllers and ground crews on call so they can be called into action the next time Heathrow shuts down. Airplanes, ships, ports, and landing slots at airports are too valuable and expensive not to be used.

There’s hope, though. In an effort to capitalize on global capitalism’s lack of redundancy, Dubai opened a big hub called Logistics City last year, providing a potential alternative. And some environmental disruptions may work in favor of less fragile supply chains. Thanks to the melting of the North Pole, Russian ships are beginning to forge a new, quicker shipping route from Asia to Europe and North America.

With Nick Summers in New York
CLN00109985 22 October 2009

This letter contains important information regarding the security of your data. Please read this letter and supporting information carefully and contact us so we can support you in any way we can.

Loss of Data Tape

Dear Mrs. M.T. Minter,

I am writing to you today to offer you a personal apology.

A back-up data tape containing certain of your personal data held on one of our systems has been lost during a routine transfer to a storage facility in August 2009. Although the incident took place some time ago, the full details relating to this incident have only recently become clear, which is why I am writing to you now.

We have seen no evidence to date to suggest that your personal data has been improperly accessed or compromised since the tape was lost. Nevertheless, we want to do everything we can to minimise, and avoid, the possibility of such misuse. I am writing to you so that you are able to take such measures as you consider appropriate to safeguard your position.

Zurich Insurance Company South Africa Limited ("Zurich"), as part of a global financial services group, takes its responsibility towards its customers extremely seriously. Zurich has an unwavering commitment to fair and responsible business conduct and, in keeping with this philosophy, are informing you of this incident. In dealing with a situation of this nature, we have aligned ourselves to global best practice. We are conducting a thorough investigation which has revealed certain deficiencies in the management of security procedures around our data tapes. To address this, a leading firm of external advisors with particular expertise in data security has been engaged and we will be making significant investments to strengthen our data security processes to ensure that such an incident does not recur.

Importantly in this context, please note that Zurich does not hold or store any security codes, pin codes, pass codes or passwords. We can confirm that no such information was contained on the missing data tape.

Hefty fine for loss of personal data

LONDON: Britain's financial regulator has fined Zurich Insurance PLC £2.275 million (R39m) for losing confidential data on 46,000 customers.

The Financial Services Authority said yesterday the security breach in 2008, only discovered a year later, could have exposed customers to significant losses although there was no evidence that the data had been misused.

The lost data included identity information and, in some cases, details of bank accounts, credit cards and insured assets.

Sapa-AP

Extracted: Cape Argus Business 25 August 2010
c. Change

REMEMBER:
What does O & M stand for? ________________________________
What does SDLC stand for? ________________________________

Programme change control

Organisational Issues
- Ensure appropriate levels and quality of staff are employed for the programmer position.
- Ensure that IS employees are adequately trained.

Initiation
- Compliance with programme change standards /frameworks e.g. CoBiT.
- Requests for programme changes should be documented on pre-numbered pre-printed change control forms.
- The programme change requests should be recorded in a register and regularly followed up.
- Change control requests should be evaluated and authorised in writing by:
  - The user department
  - IS manager
  - Internal Auditor
Execution
- Programme changes should be effected by application programmers – not operators. (segregation of duties)
- Changes to be made in test libraries i.e. changes should be made to a test programme and not the production programme (i.e. to a copy of the live programme).
- Changes should be tested by the programmer and an independent (senior) programmer using standard debugging techniques.

Processing
- Programme changes should be discussed with users and Internal Audit and they should sign the change control form if they approve.
- All documentation related to the change should be updated.
- The amended programme should be copied to the live library by an independent senior member of the systems development section.
- All programme changes should automatically be logged by the computer.
- The IS manager should review the log of programme changes and reconcile it to the programme change forms.

Implementation
- Train users i.r.o changes and perform assessment to ensure that changes are correctly applied update relevant documentation
- Perform post implementation review.

Adapted from Jackson & Stent 2010 Auditing Notes for South African Students 7th Edition p.8/17 Durban

d. Access

Prevent (Physical & Logical)
- Facilities
  - Physical restriction
  - Highly visible
  - Terminal restriction
  - Firewalls
  - Personal access methods
- User
- Terminal ID
- Terminal polling
- Identify user logon
- Authentication
- Confirmation
- Single work station sign on
- Shutdown terminal activity

- Use
  - Menu
  - Authorised levels
  - Sensitive data off site
  - Virus protection
  - Encryption
  - Programmes stored in object code

Detect and Correct
- Review of logs
- Reconciliations of digital info

Example: Unauthorised access
Key Logging

Would you know if there was a key-devil attached to the computer you use?

Exercise in class

Watch a 15 minute extract from the movie “Mission Impossible” and identify at least 10 access controls.
e. Operations

Prevent
- Trained in their job functions
- Help available to detail their functions
- Use automated functions
- Utilising H/W malfunction controls & regular maintenance
- Good housekeeping
- PLMS
- Good labelling internal/external file labels

Detect and Correct
- Review logs
- Customer complaints
- Reconcile records

REMINDER: What does PLMS stand for? ________________________________

Communications

Line Conditioning
- Standard format
- Encrypt
- Test line

REMINDER: What does VAN stand for? ________________________________
Communications

• Sender
  ▶ sequence number
  ▶ date stamp
  ▶ user / terminal ID
  ▶ header / trailer labels
  ▶ web seal
  ▶ https
  ▶ firewall
  ▶ cabling secure

• Receiver
  ▶ confidential
  ▶ validate source – dial back
  ▶ digital signature
  ▶ confirm receipt
  ▶ trading partner agreement
    ▶ receipt / send time
    ▶ back-up
    ▶ access rights
    ▶ level of control
  ▶ anti virus
  ▶ reconcile @ digital level
  ▶ review
    ▶ logs activity
    ▶ reports from VANS

Exercise in your own time

Search on the web for precautions/ controls to implement to limit exposure to viruses. Suggestion: try your bank website or www.standardbank.co.za
3.5 Monitoring
3.6 Use of Third Parties

This section will be done in the final revision week as it combines all the previous concepts of Chapters 3 and 4.

Outsourcing in Financial Services
Risks and Benefits

![Table 3: Some Key Risks in Outsourcing](Image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Major concerns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Risk</td>
<td>The third party may conduct activities on its own behalf which are inconsistent with the overall strategic goals of the regulated entity. Failure to implement appropriate oversight of the outsource provider. Inadequate expertise to oversee the service provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reputation Risk</td>
<td>Poor service from third party. Customer interaction is not consistent with overall standards of the regulated entity. Third party practices not in line with stated practices (ethical or otherwise) of regulated entity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compliance Risk</td>
<td>Privacy laws are not complied with. Consumer and prudential laws not adequately complied with. Outsource provider has inadequate compliance systems and controls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational Risk</td>
<td>Technology failure. Inadequate financial capacity to fulfil obligations and/or provide remedies. Fraud or error.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk</td>
<td>Major concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exit Strategy Risk</td>
<td>The risk that appropriate exit strategies are not in place. This could arise from over-reliance on one firm, the loss of relevant skills in the institution itself preventing it bringing the activity back in-house, and contracts which make a speedy exit prohibitively expensive. Limited ability to return services to home country due to lack of staff or loss of intellectual history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counterparty Risk</td>
<td>Inappropriate underwriting or credit assessments. Quality of receivables may diminish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Risk</td>
<td>Political, social and legal climate may create added risk. Business continuity planning is more complex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractual Risk</td>
<td>Ability to enforce contract. For offshoring, choice of law is important.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access Risk</td>
<td>Outsourcing arrangement hinders ability of regulated entity to provide timely data and other information to regulators. Additional layer of difficulty in regulator understanding activities of the outsource provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration and Systemic Risk</td>
<td>Overall industry has significant exposure to outsource provider. This concentration risk has a number of facets, including:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Lack of control of individual firms over provider; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Systemic risk to industry as a whole.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extracted: [www.bis.org/publ/joint12.pdf?nolrames=1](www.bis.org/publ/joint12.pdf?nolrames=1)
Example: Outsourced Payroll

**COMPANY**

- Board of Directors
- IT Department
- Financial Systems

**SERVICE PROVIDER**

- Management
  - IT Department
    - Standard Software
    - Tailor-made Software
  - Automated controls
- General IT controls

**Input**

- Electronic/Manual
- Single/Batch

**Output**

- Reports
  - Run-to-run
  - Control totals
  - Master file update
- Traditional accounting documents/records
- Management reports

**CONTROLS?**

- VANS
- ISP
- Data Warehouse
Get outsource contract right

ALLAN DICKSON

OUTSOURCING, especially of information and communications technology (ICT) services, is a popular model in South Africa because it saves costs and provides specialised, scarce skills, either when they are needed for certain projects or on an ongoing basis.

There are benefits to organisations, including potentially lower costs, improved service delivery and flexibility in business operations. Smaller businesses can also take advantage of improved economies of scale.

But once they have outsourced such services, many organisations are unsure whether they have made the right decision, and, perhaps more importantly, they cannot discern whether their outsourcing partner is providing a quality service.

With the release of the King III report, there is an increased emphasis on IT governance and the cost-effectiveness of the IT department.

Historically, the governance of IT was left up to the chief information officer (CIO), but because of new regulations and recommendations, this has now become part of the responsibilities of the entire board of directors in large businesses.

As a result, there is an interest in discovering how efficient and effective outsourcing providers are.

Service level agreements provide a framework for levels of quality and service, but a few years into a contract, issues may creep in, including inconsistent pricing, gaps in service expectations, cultural fit, governance and performance measures.

The failure of an outsourcing partner to deliver on its agreements often goes all the way back to the contract between the client and the outsourcing company.

Because of the pressure on the CIO to reduce costs, quickly, clients may enter into a complex contractual arrangement with an outsourced service provider without adequately understanding the contract and its implications. Rushing into signing a contract often causes discontent further down the line.

It’s vital to ensure that the selected outsourcing partner has the skills and expertise to handle the client’s needs. The client must research its business needs or what skills gaps need to be addressed.

Organisations need to be able to monitor and evaluate their outsourcing provider to ensure that service levels are acceptable, that pricing is consistent with the market and that the services provided are still needed. An organisation should conduct a benchmarking exercise to verify these factors.

King III and the new Companies Act, due to come into effect soon, will require people to measure performance effectively, including financial performance.

IT forms a large part of this, and enterprises must make sure they can provide accurate data on costs and service levels of an outsourcer.

The CIO is accountable for the performance of IT, which means the CIO or she is also responsible for the service levels, costs and effectiveness of outsourced services.

Getting the contract right at the outset is important to ensuring accountability, quality and high levels of service throughout the life of the agreement.

Because many CIOs do not have the necessary skills and experience for contract negotiation, it is a good idea to involve experts who do have experience in this part of the process.

When signing a contract with an outsourcing provider, there are several factors that the CIO should ensure are part of the agreement.

The service catalogue needs to be accurately defined, the chain of escalation of queries and issues must also be defined in advance and responsibilities should be clearly defined to ensure appropriate levels of service.

Dickson is a consultant at Compass Management Consulting SA.

Extracted: Cape Argus Workplace, Wednesday, 23 June 2010
Chapter 7 Case study

Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd is a private company registered within South Africa and operating in the retail sector. The main product lines of Leather Creations include leather handbags and luggage. The customers of Leather Creations are mainly luggage retailers.

Sphelele Sangweni and Francis Kwahehe are old friends from university, and during 2012 they happened to meet up again. They discovered that they both still have a keen interest in fashion and genuine leather products and after discussing the current market, they decided to try and start a company that combines these two elements.

Sphelele and Francis began conducting market research and also started the process of registering the company. They registered Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd on 14 November 2012 with CIPRO, as well as SARS (for the payment of Income Tax, VAT and PAYE, UIF and SDL). By the end of November they were ready to begin business and started buying inventory and capital assets. Through their market research they were able to generate a large amount of interest in their business and several customers expressed a keen interest in doing business with them as soon as they were properly set up.

Sphelele had been working in a big corporation for the last 10 years in finance, and was very adamant that they operate the business properly from the start. They therefore went about setting up systems for each aspect of the business.

One of their first decisions was a choice of computerised accounting package. Sphelele had previously worked with Pastel Partner, and after reviewing the current Pastel package as well as the other packages available, they came to the decision that the current Pastel Partner 2013 would best suit their needs. They therefore purchased the package and hired an I.T. company, IT Assist, to set up their computer systems.

**Setting up the Company using Pastel**

As part of the setup, IT Assist requested Sphelele and Francis to complete the following form, with all of the details of the company. They then set up the Pastel file.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pastel Partner Set Up Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Company name</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Postal Address</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telephone</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fax</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Company Reg No</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VAT Reg No</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First day of financial year</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Each period ends on</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chart of Accounts to use</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of cash books required</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Names of cash books</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of price lists required</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Names of price lists</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Debtor payment terms</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Processing method</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once the company was created on Pastel, IT Assist began with the detailed setup. When setting up a computerised accounting system, you are able to input defaults and policies, which are applied to all transactions. This reduces the risk of human error. These defaults can be changed, and therefore passwords and other access controls should be in place to protect the integrity of transactions.

IT Assist used the following information to do the detailed setup of the company:

**Company Parameters**

The financial indicator on the documents must be an R (South African Rand) and the thousand separators should be a space.

**Revenue Cycle**

Customers have a few ways of purchasing the products and services from Leather Creations. Most orders are placed through the sales reps, but customers can also visit the company’s premises and purchase goods over the counter. All goods are then delivered to the customers address, or if they are walk in customers they may collect the goods themselves.

**Customer’s Setup**

Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd has the policy of allowing selected clients a credit account in the hope of encouraging increased purchases.

1. A default credit limit is allocated to a credit client after a thorough credit check is performed in terms of the National Credit Act. This credit limit can, however be overridden by management in specific situations and different clients do have different credit terms. When a customer will exceed their credit limit with the current purchase Pastel will automatically notify the user, and management will need to authorise the purchase.
2. The VAT inclusive system is the entry method used for invoices, as all clients are billed at inclusive amounts and only inclusive amounts are ever advertised.
3. If the Account is overdue by more than 60 days, interest at 12% p.a. will be charged
4. Early settlement discounts are offered. The payment must be received within the specified number of days from the date of the invoice.
5. The Sales invoices include famous quotes.
6. Customers are categorized as “Platinum, Gold, Silver and Staff”
7. The two sales people, Precious Zuma (Rep Code: PZ) and Mufadzi Radebe (Rep Code: MR), earn commission based on the total sales made for the year. The sales people don’t earn commission on cash sales or sales to staff.

Both reps will earn commission based on this table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Commission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R0 - R44 999.99</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R45 000.00 - R74 999.99</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R75 000.00 onwards</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Expenditure Cycle

All inventory is purchased on credit, either from local suppliers or imported. Goods are ordered when the inventory levels fall below the minimum levels, and the goods are then delivered or collected by Leather Creations.

Supplier’s Setup

1. Suppliers are all processed on the Open Item method.
2. There is no use of GRN’s (goods received notes)
3. Since the Exclusive system is most commonly used, it is applied as a DEFAULT setting.
4. It is decided that all accounts must be paid within the default supplier days.
5. The Supplier Invoices and Return/Debit Notes should be set up so that the Item Code is the Invoice Lines Default.

NOTE: Always enter/process all supplier invoices and then check the invoice data carefully before batching.

Inventory Setup

1. The inventory has two groups 001: Service, 002: Inventory
2. The automatically allocated full integration system is applicable to the inventory system (as the company uses the perpetual system of accounting for inventory).
3. A minimum gross profit is applied.
4. Sales orders should reserve inventory.
5. The unit description is each.
6. DEFAULT Inventory Group: 002: Inventory.
7. Do not forget to change the inventory group to “Service” for service items.

Master files

The next step in setting up a company on a computerised accounting package is creating master files. A master file is a piece of information which will be accessed by the system at various points during the processing of transactions. The advantage of creating a master file is that the information is entered once, and then can be consistently applied throughout the year.

An example is where a master file is created for a customer. All of the customer information is entered, and then every time that the customer is invoiced or pays the company, the customer information can be automatically included, without having to be manually entered each time. It is therefore critical that there are appropriate controls to ensure that the initial entry of the information is valid, accurate and complete and that it does not get changed fraudulently or in error.

Master files are typically created for customers, suppliers, inventory items and employees. The Pastel package being used by the company does not include a payroll module, and therefore the company has to keep manual records for their employees.
IT Assist created the following master files:

### Supplier master files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd</th>
<th>Importers Emporium Ltd</th>
<th>New Era Accessories Ltd</th>
<th>Lifestyle Luggage Warehouse Ltd</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>WLL001</td>
<td>IME001</td>
<td>NEA001</td>
<td>LLW001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Name</td>
<td>Samantha Lee</td>
<td>Loren Nixon</td>
<td>Estelle van Dyk</td>
<td>NNOTISI NGKULA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel</td>
<td>(011) 683 9745</td>
<td>(021) 529 4561</td>
<td>(031) 456 7841</td>
<td>(011) 448 1002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:saml@wildlife.co.za">saml@wildlife.co.za</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lorennixon@importers.com">lorennixon@importers.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:estelle@newera.co.za">estelle@newera.co.za</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ngkula@thewarehouse.com">ngkula@thewarehouse.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Limit</td>
<td>R 150 000</td>
<td>R 125 000</td>
<td>R 175 000</td>
<td>R 102 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT No</td>
<td>4821679510</td>
<td>8754216943</td>
<td>4558713051</td>
<td>2465871357</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Customer master files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>OR001</th>
<th>TD001</th>
<th>MG001</th>
<th>EL001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Organic Retailers Ltd</td>
<td>Tedgars Ltd</td>
<td>Magushula Ltd</td>
<td>Emporio Luggage CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Platinum</td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buyers Name</td>
<td>Cody Thompson</td>
<td>Brent Penny</td>
<td>Sarah Santos</td>
<td>Rudo Povey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel</td>
<td>(011) 681 1296</td>
<td>(021) 881 2739</td>
<td>(021) 238 2592</td>
<td>(031) 271 0899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cody@organicretailers.co.za">cody@organicretailers.co.za</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bp@tedgars.com">bp@tedgars.com</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:santos@magushula.net">santos@magushula.net</a></td>
<td>rpovey@emporio luggage.co.za</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Code</td>
<td>PZ</td>
<td>MR</td>
<td>MR</td>
<td>PZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT No</td>
<td>455465955</td>
<td>343746777</td>
<td>2376262125</td>
<td>4358328989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Statements</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Terms</td>
<td>8% within 10 days</td>
<td>3% within 20 days</td>
<td>10% within 15 days</td>
<td>6% within 7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price List</td>
<td>Standard Retail</td>
<td>Discounted Retail</td>
<td>Economic Retail</td>
<td>Standard Retail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Limit</td>
<td>R 100 000</td>
<td>R 225 000</td>
<td>Default</td>
<td>R 127 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>BR001</th>
<th>CASH</th>
<th>PZ001</th>
<th>MR001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>BAGS R US</td>
<td>Cash Sales</td>
<td>Precious Zuma</td>
<td>Mufadzi Radebe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buyers Name</td>
<td>Mitchel Flurson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel</td>
<td>(021) 448 4257</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Address</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mflurson@bags.co.za">mflurson@bags.co.za</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Code</td>
<td>PZ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT No</td>
<td>1542957630</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email Statements</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Terms</td>
<td>9% within 15 days</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>20% staff discount</td>
<td>20% staff discount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price List</td>
<td>Economic Retail</td>
<td>Economic Retail</td>
<td>Economic Retail</td>
<td>Economic Retail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Limit</td>
<td>Default</td>
<td></td>
<td>R 0</td>
<td>R 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Inventory master files**

Inventory master files include inventory categories and individual inventory items.

The following categories need to be added as master files: Hand Bags, Sport Bags, Luggage Bags, Straps, Wheels and Sealers.

The following inventory items need to be created. Note that selling prices are **exclusive of VAT**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Code:</th>
<th>Category:</th>
<th>Discounted Retail:</th>
<th>Standard Retail:</th>
<th>Economic Retail:</th>
<th>Min/Max:</th>
<th>Supplier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA Lux Touch Bag</td>
<td>HB/ALT8</td>
<td>Hand Bags</td>
<td>R 730</td>
<td>R 610</td>
<td>R 880</td>
<td>25/70</td>
<td>WLL001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyday Hand Bag</td>
<td>HB/EDHB</td>
<td>Hand Bags</td>
<td>R 990</td>
<td>R 1190</td>
<td>R 1030</td>
<td>50/200</td>
<td>WLL001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather Super Hand Bag</td>
<td>HB/LSHB</td>
<td>Sport Bags</td>
<td>R 430</td>
<td>R 520</td>
<td>R 860</td>
<td>50/120</td>
<td>IME001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12L Everyday sport utility</td>
<td>[Student Nr]</td>
<td>Sport Bags</td>
<td>R 570</td>
<td>R 690</td>
<td>R 610</td>
<td>20/50</td>
<td>NEA001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16L Everyday sport utility</td>
<td>SB/16SU</td>
<td>Luggage Bags</td>
<td>R 1410</td>
<td>R 1700</td>
<td>R 800</td>
<td>15/45</td>
<td>NEA001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20L Camping utility bag</td>
<td>SB/20CU</td>
<td></td>
<td>R 670</td>
<td>R 810</td>
<td>R 980</td>
<td>20/60</td>
<td>IME001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>LB/16SL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LLW001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Code:</th>
<th>Category:</th>
<th>Discounted Retail:</th>
<th>Standard Retail:</th>
<th>Economic Retail:</th>
<th>Min/Max:</th>
<th>Supplier:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>LB/24SL</td>
<td>Luggage Bags</td>
<td>R 850</td>
<td>R 1320</td>
<td>R 1020</td>
<td>15/50</td>
<td>LLW001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25L Eco-friendly luggage</td>
<td>LB/25EL</td>
<td>Luggage Bags</td>
<td>R 70</td>
<td>R 90</td>
<td>R 1190</td>
<td>25/60</td>
<td>IME001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather add on straps</td>
<td>ST/LAOS</td>
<td>Straps</td>
<td>R 90</td>
<td>R 110</td>
<td>R 850</td>
<td>50/100</td>
<td>NEA001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clip On Chrome Wheels Set</td>
<td>WH/COCW</td>
<td>Wheels</td>
<td>R 210</td>
<td>R 260</td>
<td>R 1850</td>
<td>30/75</td>
<td>NEA001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather Spray In a Can</td>
<td>SL/LSIC</td>
<td>Sealers</td>
<td>R 45</td>
<td>R 60</td>
<td>R 100</td>
<td>50/100</td>
<td>WLL001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15km Deliver Charge</td>
<td>SR/15DC</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>R 120</td>
<td>R 150</td>
<td>R 130</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td>Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material Stiching Repair</td>
<td>SR/MSRS</td>
<td>Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>Service</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

113
Getting the Company started

Once Sphelele and Francis had made their decision to use IT Assist with the setup of the company on Pastel, they were able to begin getting ready for operating in the new year, while IT Assist did the setup.

During December 2012 they started purchasing non-current assets that they would need when operations started in January. In order to do these purchases the company needed funds, and Sphelele and Francis accordingly paid their capital contributions, and approached financial institutions for additional finance.

The Memorandum of Incorporation provided for authorised share capital of 5 000 000 shares without preferential rights to distributions. Sphelele and Francis each contributed R 750 000 as their initial capital contribution for 250,000 shares each. The shares were issued on 13 December 2012.

Funding from Business Partners was gained and thus they had a further R 2 000 000 to start the business with. This loan incurs interest at a fixed rate per annum, which does not vary with prime. Capital repayments of R 50 000 are made every six months on the 30th of June and 31st of December respectively. Interest for the previous year will be required to be paid in arrears on the 1st January of the following year. The loan was granted to the company on 31 December 2012.

The non-current assets were all purchased on 31 December 2012.

Sphelele and Francis began purchasing inventory in October in their own names, but the suppliers were happy for the obligation to be transferred to the company once it was formed.

They decided to hire two sales people, so that they could focus on the day to day running of the business. Precious Zuma and Mufadzi Radebe were hired, and their responsibilities include finding new customers and making sales to existing customers. Their employment contracts were signed on 15 December 2012, with their employment to begin 1 January 2013. Their monthly salaries are set at R 15 500 each, from which PAYE and UIF are deducted according to the current legislation. In addition, they can earn commission based on their sales, which is calculated on an annual basis and paid in December or January. The commission payable (which is calculated by Pastel, and can be viewed in the Sales Analysis Code Commissions report) is not subject to normal PAYE and other deductions. When the sales people prepare their personal tax returns they will take into account the income tax payable. The company has no obligation in this regard.

The company is liable to pay PAYE (Pay As You Earn Income tax), UIF (Unemployment Insurance Fund contributions) and SDL (Skills Development Levy) to SARS each month when the salaries are paid. PAYE is calculated based on the current tax tables issued by SARS each year. Sphelele could only find an old version of the tax tables from 2007/2008. For the year ended 31 December 2013 the tax tables for the 2012/2013 year will need to be obtained from the SARS website. UIF is calculated at 1% of an employee’s salary, but is limited to R 148.72 per month if the 1% would result in a higher contribution.

In addition to the amounts deducted from the sales people’s salaries, the company has to contribute an additional amount for UIF and SDL. The UIF company contribution is equal to the employee’s contribution, and the SDL is calculated as 1% of total salaries paid by the company, with no limit.

The company also entered into a rental agreement on 31 December 2012, for occupation beginning 1 January 2013. The building rented can be used as a warehouse, and also has a show room and offices, so the entire business can be run from these premises. The agreement was negotiated so that rental is paid annually in arrears. The company also entered into agreements with Telkom and Eskom to have an annual billing for their telephone and electricity bills.
Entering Opening Balances

If a company has been operating before they begin using a computerised accounting package, they will have already completed some transactions, which will result in there being opening balances.

In this case, Leather Creations began purchasing inventory and other assets during 2012. This resulted in the following opening balances which needed to be entered into Pastel before the processing for 2013 could begin.

**Trial Balance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>DR R</th>
<th>CR R</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5100/000</td>
<td>Share Capital / Members Contribution</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 500 000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5500/000</td>
<td>Long Term Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 000 000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6200/010</td>
<td>Motor Vehicles - @ Cost</td>
<td>650 000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6250/010</td>
<td>Computer Equipment - @ Cost</td>
<td>260 000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6350/010</td>
<td>Furniture &amp; Fittings - @ Cost</td>
<td>180 000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7700/000</td>
<td>Inventory Control Account</td>
<td>211 335.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8400/000</td>
<td>Current Bank</td>
<td>2 397 415.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8410/000</td>
<td>Petty Cash</td>
<td>12 585.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8000/000</td>
<td>Customer Control</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9000/000</td>
<td>Suppliers Control</td>
<td></td>
<td>240 921.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9500/000</td>
<td>VAT Control</td>
<td>29 586.90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3 740 921.90</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 740 921.90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supplier Age Analysis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>90 Days</th>
<th>60 Days</th>
<th>30 Days</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Total Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WL01</td>
<td>Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>38 007.60</td>
<td>91 827.00</td>
<td>129 834.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IME01</td>
<td>Importers Emporium Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10 465.20</td>
<td>33 858.00</td>
<td>44 323.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEA01</td>
<td>New Era Accessories Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30 096.00</td>
<td>30 096.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LLW01</td>
<td>Lifestyle Luggage Warehouse Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18 468.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18 200.10</td>
<td>36 668.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18 468.00</td>
<td>48 472.80</td>
<td>173 981.10</td>
<td>240 921.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Customer Age Analysis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>90 Days</th>
<th>60 Days</th>
<th>30 Days</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Total Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OR001</td>
<td>Organic Retailers Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TD001</td>
<td>Tedgars Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MG001</td>
<td>Magushula Ltd</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL001</td>
<td>Emporio Luggage CC</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BR001</td>
<td>BAGS R US</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Inventory Valuation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>On Hand</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB/ALTB</td>
<td>AA Lux Touch Bag</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>R 370.00</td>
<td>24 050.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB/EDHB</td>
<td>Everyday Hand Bag</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>R 280.00</td>
<td>19 040.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB/LSHB</td>
<td>Leather Super Hand Bag</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>R 565.00</td>
<td>56 500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Student Nr]</td>
<td>12L Every-day sport utility</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>R 260.00</td>
<td>14 300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB/16SU</td>
<td>16L Every-day sport utility</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>R 340.00</td>
<td>9 180.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB/20CU</td>
<td>20L Camping utility bag</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>R 850.00</td>
<td>16 150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB/16SL</td>
<td>16L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>R 405.00</td>
<td>16 200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB/24SL</td>
<td>24L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>R 515.00</td>
<td>15 965.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB/25EL</td>
<td>25L Eco-friendly luggage</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>R 800.00</td>
<td>24 000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST/LAOS</td>
<td>Leather add on straps</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>R 40.00</td>
<td>2 400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WH/COCW</td>
<td>Clip On Chrome Wheels Set</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>R 65.00</td>
<td>4 550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL/LSIC</td>
<td>Leather Spray In a Can</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>R 150.00</td>
<td>9 000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>211 335.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Operating the Company

1 January 2013 finally arrived, and the company was able to start operating. The two sales people immediately began contacting the customers and making sales, and the company continued purchasing inventory as and when required.

As part of their preparations for the audit that would be done after the financial year end, Sphelele and Francis accumulated all of their source documents in an audit file. This audit file is included in Appendix A. When the processing of transactions was done in Pastel, all of these source documents were used.

On 31 December an inventory count was conducted. The following inventory quantities were counted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>On Hand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB/ALTB</td>
<td>AA Lux Touch Bag</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB/EDHB</td>
<td>Everyday Hand Bag</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB/LSHB</td>
<td>Leather Super Hand Bag</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Student Nr]</td>
<td>12L Every-day sport utility</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB/16SU</td>
<td>16L Every-day sport utility</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB/20CU</td>
<td>20L Camping utility bag</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB/16SL</td>
<td>16L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB/24SL</td>
<td>24L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB/25EL</td>
<td>25L Eco-friendly luggage</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST/LAOS</td>
<td>Leather add on straps</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WH/COCW</td>
<td>Clip On Chrome Wheels Set</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL/LSIC</td>
<td>Leather Spray In a Can</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During the year Sphelele and Francis began looking for ways to expand their operations.

Although Leather Creations is a retail company, and thus only purchases finished goods which are sold on to customers, they became very interested in the manufacturing processes behind some of their products, and are contemplating expanding their operations to manufacturing in the future. One of the products they purchase, AA Lux Touch Bag, seemed like the most viable product to begin manufacturing themselves. They therefore contacted their suppliers and organised a factory tour, where they were able to get a better understanding of the manufacturing process.

The other innovation that they began considering towards the end of the year is branching out to online sales. They approached IT Assist to find out about setting up a website, and to find out more about the process. They felt that they would be able to reach a greater portion of the market if their products were more accessible to the general public. IT Assist was happy to help them, and at year end they were busy putting together a proposal for Sphelele and Francis to consider.

Companies in South Africa are taxed at a flat rate 28% for the entire financial year. You can assume that accounting net profit will be equal to taxable income, and that Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd has a tax year of assessment ending on 31 December. Any assessed loss will be carried forward and deducted from taxable income in the following year of assessment.

Assignments

**ACC2012W**
Complete the Pastel Project, as per the separate handout.
Obtain the PAYE rates for 2012/2013 from the SARS website.

**ACC2018S**
Visit a website that sells leather handbags on-line and purchase a leather handbag (only up to the stage of payment confirmation) and list any operational or control aspects that you would want included in an on-line website.

Prepare a creditors’ reconciliation for Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd from the information provided in Appendix A.

Identify at least 5 suspicious activities that you think could be relevant to Leather Creations (Pty) Ltd. State your reasons.
HINT: Use HELP on SARS’s website to find ‘suspicious activity’.
Appendix A: Source Documents

Contents:

1. Supplier Invoices
2. Customer Order Books
3. Copy Customer Tax Invoice (provided for illustrative purposes only)
4. Customer Credit Note
5. Cheque stubs
6. Deposit slips
7. Bank statement
**Supplier Invoices**

1867 Greens Place  
13th Avenue, Salt River  
Ph.: (021) 529 4561  
Fax: 0860 6780 349  
Cell: 072 349 4846  
E-mail: lorennixon@importers.com  
Vat no. 8754216943

To: LEATHER CREATIONS  
PO BOX 3012  
PAARDEN EILAND  
Att: Ilse Lubbe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20L Camping utility bag</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>R 865.00</td>
<td>R 8 650.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clip On Chrome Wheels Set</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>R 95.00</td>
<td>R 1 235.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sub Total:** R 11 268.90

Signed:……………………………………………………….

---

**LEATHER CREATIONS**  
PO BOX 3012  
PAARDEN EILAND  
7420

**Vendor No:** 4558713051  
**Ref.:** INV/766

**New Era Accessories Ltd**

---

---
# Appendix A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>VAT</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>AA Lux Touch Bag</td>
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**Invoice Details**
- **Billed to:** Leather Creations
- **Invoice No.:** CG/276
- **PO Box 3012** Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd
- **VAT Reg No.:** Paarden Eiland 4821679510
- **VAT number:** 178 Zooberg Close, Parktown, 2498
- **Contact:** (011) 683 9745

**Banking Details:**
- **Bank:** Nedbank
- **Branch:** Business Central Branch Guateng - 128 405
- **Acc No.:** 1234 567 890

**Invoice Date:** 08/02/2013
**Order Date:** 05/02/2013
**Terms:** 60 days

**Total:** 2 240.00

**Amount Due:**
- **400.00**
- **23 712.00**

**PLEASE QUOTE INVOICE NUMBER ON PAYMENT**
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**VAT Total:** R 2 947.00

**Total Order:** R 23 997.00

**Terms:** 30 days

**Bank Details:**
- **Bank:** Nedbank
- **Branch:** Business Central Branch
- **Acc No:** 1234 567 890

**Contact:**
- **Tel:** (011) 683 9745
- **Fax:** 0860 741 649
- **VAT No:** 2465871357

**Reference:**
- **PO Number:** PO0012
- **Customer No:** LEAT00798
- **Order Date:** May 29, 2013
- **Tax Invoice Date:** Jun 08, 2013
- **Order Number:** QTE0083084

**Account:**
- **Name:** Lifestyle Luggage Warehouse Ltd
- **Address:** Newlands Road, Newlands, Gauteng, 2479
- **Tel:** (011) 448 1002
- **Fax:** 0860 741 649
- **VAT No:** 2465871357
LEATHER CREATIONS
PO BOX 3012
PAARDEN EILAND
7420

25L Eco-friendly luggage 30 @ R 960.00  R 28 800.00
Leather add on straps 25 @ R 50.00  R 1 250.00

Sub Total:  R 30 050.00
VAT:  R 4 207.00
Total:  R 34 257.00

If unsatisfied goods must be returned in good order within 7 days.
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**Banking Details:**
- **Bank:** Nedbank
- **Branch:** Business Central Branch Guateng
- **Acc No:** 1234 567 890

**Contact:** (011) 683 9745

**VAT number:** 178 Zooberg Close, Parktown, 2498

**Please Quote Invoice Number on Payment**

**TAX INVOICE**

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**Account:** Leather Creations Leather Creations

**Sold to:** Leather Creations

**Ship to:** Leather Creations

**PO Box 3012**

**Paarden Eiland**

**7420**

**Tel:** (011) 683 9745

**Fax:** 0860 741 649

**Vat No:** 2465871357

**Lifestyle Luggage Warehouse Ltd**

**8 Newlands Road**

**Newlands**

**Gauteng,** 2479

**Tel:** (011) 448 1002

**Fax:** 0860 741 649

**Vat No:** 2465871357

**Sold to:** Leather Creations

**Ship to:** Leather Creations

**PO Box 3012**

**Paarden Eiland**

**7420**

**Terms:** 14DINV

**POS:** 10 R 5 380.00

**Subtotal:** R 5 380.00

**Total tax:** R 753.20

**Total order:** R 6 133.20

**Comments:** Please Quote Invoice Number on Payment

**Reference PO Number Customer No Order Date**

**11Appendix A**
# Customer Order Books

**Precious Zuma**

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**Mufadzi Radebe**

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# Copy Customer Tax Invoice

**Leather Creations**  
PO Box 3012  
Paarden Eiland  
7420

**Deliver to**  
Tedgars Ltd  
4298 Bilton Road  
Sandton  
2197

**Tax Invoice**

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**Account**  
OR001

**Your Reference**  
C089

**Tax Exempt**  
N

**Tax Reference**  
455465955

**Sales Code**  
PZ  
Inclusive

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<td>20L Camping utility bag</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>R 1 607.40</td>
<td>14.00%</td>
<td>R 16 074.00</td>
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<td>LB/24SL</td>
<td>24L Steel Luggage</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Each</td>
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<td>14.00%</td>
<td>R 9 690.00</td>
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<td>LB/25EL</td>
<td>25L Eco-friendly luggage</td>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>R 1 504.80</td>
<td>14.00%</td>
<td>R 21 067.20</td>
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<td>ST/LAOS</td>
<td>Leather add on straps</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>R 79.80</td>
<td>14.00%</td>
<td>R 1 197.00</td>
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<td>WH/COCW</td>
<td>Clip On Chrome Wheels Set</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>Each</td>
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<td>14.00%</td>
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<td>SL/LSIC</td>
<td>Leather Spray In a Can</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<td>R 239.40</td>
<td>14.00%</td>
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**Sub Total**  
R 75 000.00

**Discount @**  
0.00%  
0

**Amount Excl Tax**  
R 75 000.00

**Tax**  
R 10 500.00

**Total**  
R 85 500.00

If unsatisfied goods must be returned in good order within 7 days.

Signed __________________ Date______________

---

**Tedgars Ltd**  
4298 Bilton Road  
Sandton  
2197

---

14  
Appendix A
Customer Credit Note

Leather Creations
PO Box 3012
Paarden Eiland
7420

Deliver to


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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>Disc%</th>
<th>Tax</th>
<th>Nett Price</th>
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<td>[Student Nr]</td>
<td>12L Every-day sport utility</td>
<td>28.00</td>
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<td>R 490.20</td>
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<td>R 13 725.60</td>
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Received in good order

Signed __________________ Date ________________ Total R 13 725.60

Sub Total R 12 040.00
Discount @ 0.00% 0
Amount Excl Tax R 12 040.00
Tax R 1 685.60
Total R 13 725.60
## Cheque Stubs

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<td>Importers Emporium Ltd</td>
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<td>14/01/2013</td>
<td>New Era Accessories Ltd</td>
<td>R 32 946.00</td>
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<td>22/02/2013</td>
<td>Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd</td>
<td>R 148 074.60</td>
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<td>30/03/2013</td>
<td>Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd</td>
<td>R 28 712.00</td>
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<td>14/06/2013</td>
<td>Wild-Life Leather (Pty) Ltd</td>
<td>R 1 756 622.00</td>
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<td>15/07/2013</td>
<td>Telkom Annual utility</td>
<td>R 22 800.00</td>
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<td>20/07/2013</td>
<td>C N A Stationery</td>
<td>R 1 366.00</td>
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<td>22/07/2013</td>
<td>BP garage Fuel</td>
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### Standard Bank

**CAPE TOWN**

**NOT TRANSFERABLE**

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<td>28/07/2013</td>
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The sum of **Twenty Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Six Rand Only**

LEATHER CREATIONS (PTY) LTD 2012/55697/14

*Shelly Herbert*

*Returned by supplier*
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<td>08/10/2013</td>
<td>Truworths</td>
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<td>07/12/2013</td>
<td>Precious Zuma</td>
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<td>Mufadzi Radebe</td>
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<td>17/12/2013</td>
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<td>SARS</td>
<td>R 55 600.00</td>
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### Deposit Slips

<table>
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<th>Leather Creations</th>
<th>Account number</th>
<th>Telephone no. incl. dialling code</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Cheques deposited</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total cash</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Standard Bank</strong></td>
<td><strong>Deposit slip</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(021) 514 3996</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 Tedgars Ltd</td>
<td>1/02/15</td>
<td>72 663.60</td>
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<td>2 BAGS R US</td>
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<td><strong>Total cheques</strong></td>
<td>18 158.34</td>
<td><strong>38 225.34</strong></td>
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**Notes:**
- 1 Tedgars Ltd: 2013/02/15
- 2 BAGS R US: 2013/03/22
- 3 Precious Zuma: 2013/03/22
- 4 Notes R 10
- 5 R 20
- 6 R 50
- 7 R 100
- 8 R 200

**Total cash:**
- **72 663.60**
- **38 225.34**

**Depositor's name or reference. These details will appear on the accountholder/beneficiary's statement.**
### Standard Bank Deposit Slip

**Deposit to:**
- **Emporio Luggage CC**
- **Tedgars Ltd**
- **Leather Creations**

**Account number:**
- **18 103 20**
- **174 055 20**

**Telephone no. incl. dialling code:**
- **(021) 514 3996**

**Signature:**
- **Ilse Lubbe**
- **Shelly Herbert**

**Cheques deposited:**
1. **Emporio Luggage CC**
2. **Tedgars Ltd**
3. **Leather Creations**

**Date:**
- **2013/05/06**
- **2013/08/04**

**Terms and conditions on reverse:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cheque</th>
<th>Depositor Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<td><strong>Tedgars Ltd</strong></td>
<td>2013/08/04</td>
<td><strong>175 651.20</strong></td>
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**Total cash:**
- **18 103.20**
- **175 651.20**

**Notes:**
- **Cheques deposited**
- **Cheque amounts**

**Depositor's name or reference:**
- **These details will appear on the account holder/beneficiary's statement**

**Teller's date stamp:**

---

**Appendix A**
**Standard Bank Deposit Slip**

**Date:** 2013/08/29

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cheques deposited</th>
<th>Date (mm/dd/yyyy)</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cheques</strong></td>
<td><strong>198 325 80</strong></td>
<td><strong>R 248 326.20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Account number:** 4 8 7 5 2 9 8 5

**Telephone no.:** (021) 514 3996

**Signature:**

*Depositor's name or reference. These details will appear on the accountholder's/beneficiary's statement.*

---

**Standard Bank Deposit Slip**

**Date:** 2013/12/08

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<td>2</td>
<td>Magushula Ltd</td>
<td>19832580</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total cheques</strong></td>
<td><strong>198 325 80</strong></td>
<td><strong>R 248 326.20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Account number:** 4 8 7 5 2 9 8 5

**Telephone no.:** (021) 514 3996

**Signature:**

*Depositor's name or reference. These details will appear on the accountholder's/beneficiary's statement.*

---

**Notes:**

- R 10
- R 20
- R 50
- R 100
- R 200
- Coins

---

**Appendix A**
**Cheques deposited**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Cheque Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>R 110 010.00</td>
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<td>Leather Creations</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>R 200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total cash**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total cheques</th>
<th>R 110 010.00</th>
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</table>

**Deposit slip**

- **Deposit to**: Leather Creations
- **Account number**: 48752985
- **Telephone no. incl. dialling code**: (021) 514 3996
- **Signature**: Ilse Lubbe

**Date**: 2013/12/31

**Depositor's name or reference**: These details will appear on the accountholder/beneficiary's statement.
### Standard Bank

An Authorised Financial Services and Credit Provider

CAPE TOWN
82 ADDERLEY STREET
CAPE TOWN
8000

LEATHER CREATIONS (PTY) LTD
PO BOX 3012
PAARDEN EILAND
7420

Statement No 2
VAT Reg. No. 7846543021
Page 1 of 2

Statement frequency ANNUAL
Statement from 01 January 2013 to 01 January 2014

### BANK STATEMENT / TAX INVOICE

**BUSINESS CURRENT ACCOUNT**

Account Number 48 752 985 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Service Fee</th>
<th>Credits Debits</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<tbody>
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## These fees are inclusive of VAT at 14.00%
# Statement of Account

## Details

**Account Number:** 48 752 985 1  
**Statement No 2**  
**VAT Reg. No:** 7846543021  
**Statement frequency:** ANNUAL  
**Statement from:** 01 January 2013 to 01 January 2014

**BANK STATEMENT / TAX INVOICE**

**BUSINESS CURRENT ACCOUNT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Service Fee</th>
<th>Debits</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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## Notes

## These fees are inclusive of VAT at 14.00%
Appendix B: Additional Reading

Contents:

1. ISA 315 Appendix I
2. Demystifying Cobi, Accountancy SA, April 2008
3. The Growing need to Expanded Corporate Reporting, Accountancy SA, June 2009
4. Shedding more light on Corporate Governance, Accountancy SA, September 2009
5. Sustainability, Accounting SA, December 2009
6. Measuring Corporate Governance, Accountancy SA, October 2010
9. AG findings on govt spending 'scandalous', News24.com

Additional handouts may be distributed in the second semester.
Appendix 1
(Ref: Paras. 4(c), 14-24, A69-A104)

Internal Control Components

1. This appendix further explains the components of internal control, as set out in paragraphs 4(c), 14-24 and A69-A104, as they relate to a financial statement audit.

Control Environment

2. The control environment encompasses the following elements:

(a) Communication and enforcement of integrity and ethical values. The effectiveness of controls cannot rise above the integrity and ethical values of the people who create, administer, and monitor them. Integrity and ethical behavior are the product of the entity's ethical and behavioral standards, how they are communicated, and how they are reinforced in practice. The enforcement of integrity and ethical values includes, for example, management actions to eliminate or mitigate incentives or temptations that might prompt personnel to engage in dishonest, illegal, or unethical acts. The communication of entity policies on integrity and ethical values may include the communication of behavioral standards to personnel through policy statements and codes of conduct and by example.

(b) Commitment to competence. Competence is the knowledge and skills necessary to accomplish tasks that define the individual's job.

(c) Participation by those charged with governance. An entity's control consciousness is influenced significantly by those charged with governance. The importance of the responsibilities of those charged with governance is recognized in codes of practice and other laws and regulations or guidance produced for the benefit of those charged with governance. Other responsibilities of those charged with governance include oversight of the design and effective operation of whistle blower procedures and the process for reviewing the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

(d) Management’s philosophy and operating style. Management’s philosophy and operating style encompass a broad range of characteristics. For example, management’s attitudes and actions toward financial reporting may manifest themselves through conservative or aggressive selection from available alternative accounting principles, or conscientiousness and conservatism with which accounting estimates are developed.

(e) Organizational structure. Establishing a relevant organizational structure includes considering key areas of authority and responsibility and appropriate lines of reporting. The appropriateness of an entity's organizational structure depends, in part, on its size and the nature of its activities.

(f) Assignment of authority and responsibility. The assignment of authority and responsibility may include policies relating to appropriate business practices, knowledge and experience of key personnel, and resources provided for carrying out duties. In addition, it may include policies and communications directed at ensuring that all personnel understand the entity’s objectives, know how their individual actions interrelate and contribute to those objectives, and recognize how and for what they will be held accountable.
Human resource policies and practices. Human resource policies and practices often demonstrate important matters in relation to the control consciousness of an entity. For example, standards for recruiting the most qualified individuals – with emphasis on educational background, prior work experience, past accomplishments, and evidence of integrity and ethical behavior – demonstrate an entity’s commitment to competent and trustworthy people. Training policies that communicate prospective roles and responsibilities and include practices such as training schools and seminars illustrate expected levels of performance and behavior. Promotions driven by periodic performance appraisals demonstrate the entity’s commitment to the advancement of qualified personnel to higher levels of responsibility.

Entity’s Risk Assessment Process

3. For financial reporting purposes, the entity’s risk assessment process includes how management identifies business risks relevant to the preparation of financial statements in accordance with the entity’s applicable financial reporting framework, estimates their significance, assesses the likelihood of their occurrence, and decides upon actions to respond to and manage them and the results thereof. For example, the entity’s risk assessment process may address how the entity considers the possibility of unrecorded transactions or identifies and analyzes significant estimates recorded in the financial statements.

4. Risks relevant to reliable financial reporting include external and internal events, transactions or circumstances that may occur and adversely affect an entity’s ability to initiate, record, process, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Management may initiate plans, programs, or actions to address specific risks or it may decide to accept a risk because of cost or other considerations. Risks can arise or change due to circumstances such as the following:

- **Changes in operating environment.** Changes in the regulatory or operating environment can result in changes in competitive pressures and significantly different risks.

- **New personnel.** New personnel may have a different focus on or understanding of internal control.

- **New or revamped information systems.** Significant and rapid changes in information systems can change the risk relating to internal control.

- **Rapid growth.** Significant and rapid expansion of operations can strain controls and increase the risk of a breakdown in controls.

- **New technology.** Incorporating new technologies into production processes or information systems may change the risk associated with internal control.

- **New business models, products, or activities.** Entering into business areas or transactions with which an entity has little experience may introduce new risks associated with internal control.

- **Corporate restructurings.** Restructurings may be accompanied by staff reductions and changes in supervision and segregation of duties that may change the risk associated with internal control.

- **Expanded foreign operations.** The expansion or acquisition of foreign operations carries new and often unique risks that may affect internal control, for example, additional or changed risks from foreign currency transactions.

- **New accounting pronouncements.** Adoption of new accounting principles or changing accounting principles may affect risks in preparing financial statements.
Information System, Including the Related Business Processes, Relevant to Financial Reporting, and Communication

5. An information system consists of infrastructure (physical and hardware components), software, people, procedures, and data. Many information systems make extensive use of information technology (IT).

6. The information system relevant to financial reporting objectives, which includes the financial reporting system, encompasses methods and records that:
   - Identify and record all valid transactions.
   - Describe on a timely basis the transactions in sufficient detail to permit proper classification of transactions for financial reporting.
   - Measure the value of transactions in a manner that permits recording their proper monetary value in the financial statements.
   - Determine the time period in which transactions occurred to permit recording of transactions in the proper accounting period.
   - Present properly the transactions and related disclosures in the financial statements.

7. The quality of system-generated information affects management’s ability to make appropriate decisions in managing and controlling the entity’s activities and to prepare reliable financial reports.

8. Communication, which involves providing an understanding of individual roles and responsibilities pertaining to internal control over financial reporting, may take such forms as policy manuals, accounting and financial reporting manuals, and memoranda. Communication also can be made electronically, orally, and through the actions of management.

Control Activities

9. Generally, control activities that may be relevant to an audit may be categorized as policies and procedures that pertain to the following:
   - Performance reviews. These control activities include reviews and analyses of actual performance versus budgets, forecasts, and prior period performance; relating different sets of data – operating or financial – to one another, together with analyses of the relationships and investigative and corrective actions; comparing internal data with external sources of information; and review of functional or activity performance.

   Information processing. The two broad groupings of information systems control activities are application controls, which apply to the processing of individual applications, and general IT-controls, which are policies and procedures that relate to many applications and support the effective functioning of application controls by helping to ensure the continued proper operation of information systems. Examples of application controls include checking the arithmetical accuracy of records, maintaining and reviewing accounts and trial balances, automated controls such as edit checks of input data and numerical sequence checks, and manual follow-up of exception reports. Examples of general IT-controls are program change controls, controls that restrict access to programs or data, controls over the implementation of new releases of packaged software applications, and controls over system software that restrict access to or monitor the use of system utilities that could change financial data or records without leaving an audit trail.

   Physical controls. Controls that encompass:
- The physical security of assets, including adequate safeguards such as secured facilities over access to assets and records.

- The authorization for access to computer programs and data files.

- The periodic counting and comparison with amounts shown on control records (for example, comparing the results of cash, security and inventory counts with accounting records).

The extent to which physical controls intended to prevent theft of assets are relevant to the reliability of financial statement preparation, and therefore the audit, depends on circumstances such as when assets are highly susceptible to misappropriation.

* Segregation of duties. Assigning different people the responsibilities of authorizing transactions, recording transactions, and maintaining custody of assets. Segregation of duties is intended to reduce the opportunities to allow any person to be in a position to both perpetrate and conceal errors or fraud in the normal course of the person's duties.

10. Certain control activities may depend on the existence of appropriate higher level policies established by management or those charged with governance. For example, authorization controls may be delegated under established guidelines, such as investment criteria set by those charged with governance; alternatively, non-routine transactions such as major acquisitions or divestments may require specific high level approval, including in some cases that of shareholders.

**Monitoring of Controls**

11. An important management responsibility is to establish and maintain internal control on an ongoing basis. Management’s monitoring of controls includes considering whether they are operating as intended and that they are modified as appropriate for changes in conditions. Monitoring of controls may include activities such as management's review of whether bank reconciliations are being prepared on a timely basis, internal auditors' evaluation of sales personnel's compliance with the entity's policies on terms of sales contracts, and a legal department's oversight of compliance with the entity's ethical or business practice policies. Monitoring is done also to ensure that controls continue to operate effectively over time. For example, if the timeliness and accuracy of bank reconciliations are not monitored, personnel are likely to stop preparing them.

12. Internal auditors or personnel performing similar functions may contribute to the monitoring of an entity's controls through separate evaluations. Ordinarily, they regularly provide information about the functioning of internal control, focusing considerable attention on evaluating the effectiveness of internal control, and communicate information about strengths and deficiencies in internal control and recommendations for improving internal control.

13. Monitoring activities may include using information from communications from external parties that may indicate problems or highlight areas in need of improvement. Customers implicitly corroborate billing data by paying their invoices or complaining about their charges. In addition, regulators may communicate with the entity concerning matters that affect the functioning of internal control, for example, communications concerning examinations by bank regulatory agencies. Also, management may consider communications relating to internal control from external auditors in performing monitoring activities.
DEMYSTIFYING COBIT

Internal control is a process effected by an entity’s board of directors, management and other personnel and is designed to provide reasonable assurance that the system achieves its objectives of efficient and effective operations, reliable financial reporting and compliance with legislation.

After identifying the business objectives, the existing controls for managing the risks should be identified and their adequacy evaluated. Evaluating the adequacy will go hand in hand with balancing the investment in control systems and the risks addressed. Information Technology (IT) security and systems of control assist with managing risk to an acceptable level, leaving (net) residual risk. Evaluating and deciding on an acceptable level of residual risk is difficult without a control framework of generally accepted practices as a benchmark. In South Africa, the King Report on Corporate Governance is best known. One such framework at an IT-level is Control Objectives for Information and related Technology (COBIT).

The purpose of this article is to provide a high-level introduction to this topic. It covers the basics of COBIT, its benefits and some key guidelines. The intention of the article is to be an introduction to this topic, consequently the benefits, problems and considerations are not exhaustive. The latest version of COBIT (v4.1) as well as executive summaries, which provide more detail, are available for download from the Information Systems Audit and Control Association at: www.ISACA.org.

What is COBIT?

COBIT is used as a set of generally accepted best practices framework to assist in developing appropriate IT governance and controls, and assurance in a company that links IT to business requirements and related resources. It provides tools in the form of high-level objectives, to assess and measure the performance of IT processes. Its purpose is to create generally accepted IT control objectives for day-to-day use. Consequently it provides an adaptive benchmark, which sets out the objectives that are to be achieved by each process. It attempts to bridge the gap between business risk, control needs and technical issues. It aids management in defining IT strategies and architecture, in acquiring the necessary skills, software and hardware to execute the strategy, ensuring continuous service and evaluating the performance of the IT system (COBIT 2007).

Basics of COBIT

COBIT consists of three main parts: (i) control framework, (ii) management guidelines and (iii) implementation toolset. This article focuses on the framework and neither discusses the management guidelines nor the implementation toolkit. It should be noted that COBIT can be interpreted differently, and explanations and various other interpretations are available online. This is but one interpretation. The conceptual framework can be approached from three dimensions, as shown in figure 1.

Figure 1: COBIT conceptual Framework
COBIT covers a broad spectrum of areas in IT governance. This includes the following four domains:

- **Plan and organise**: It highlights the organisational and infrastructural form.
- **Acquire and implement**: It covers identifying IT requirements, acquiring and implementing IT within the company’s current business processes. It also addresses the maintenance plan.
- **Deliver and support**: It focuses on the delivery aspects of the IT, also including the support processes including security issues and training.
- **Monitor and evaluate**: It deals with a company’s strategy in assessing the needs of the company, meets the objectives of the company and complies with the regulatory requirements.

Control is approached by looking at the information necessary to support the business objectives. Information is then the result of the combined application of IT-related resources that need to be managed by IT processes. Each domain summarises several processes, linking each process to a control objective, which can be used to design an appropriate control, activity or task. These can also be used to evaluate the impact on the business and IT resources. Each process is evaluated, the risks identified are evaluated and its impact rated, either as (H)igh, (M)edium or (L)ow, and considered relative to the information criteria as shown in figure 2. This assists to identify the important risk areas. The idea being that, if these processes are properly managed, IT will be governed effectively.

**Figure 2: Extract of an evaluation worksheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Effectiveness</th>
<th>Confidence</th>
<th>Integrity</th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Reliability</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>PO2</td>
<td>Define the information architecture</td>
<td>H H H H</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO3</td>
<td>Manage quality</td>
<td>H H H H H</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Resource impact</th>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PO2</td>
<td>H H R O</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO3</td>
<td>H H R O</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
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<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**When is COBIT appropriate?**

Although smaller versions of COBIT can be implemented, COBIT is usually implemented if there is a sufficiently “large” IT infrastructure, with standard or automated IT processes. It is desirable to implement COBIT if there is a need for IT governance and a framework for a quality management system and an alignment of IT with business goals. The need may also arise from external parties, where for example a structured audit approach is to be defined by auditors, or compliance with external regulatory requirements is of concern (including legislative for example Basel II or Sarbannes-Oxley).

Another consideration in deciding if COBIT is appropriate for an organisation is the cost of implementation (in terms of time and money) compared to the expected benefits to be derived.

**Why is COBIT better than other frameworks?**

COBIT provides insight into managing the system, its risk and its controls effectively. It serves as a standard for complete assessment and a means of consistent reporting. Compliance with COBIT results in a fulfilment of the Committee of Supporting Organisations (COSO) requirements for the IT control environment, resulting in a better alignment, based on a business focus. This is also beneficial when viewed in the light of the harmonisation in accounting (IFRS), reporting (XBRL) and other standards.

**Advantages**

- Broad coverage of the majority of IT processes
- Supports COSO requirements
- Mapping projects are currently being performed to compare COBIT to other frameworks that provide the technical guidance required
Disadvantages

- Does not provide technical guidance
- Could be cost intensive
- Paper intensive and could require significant resources to implement

COBIT addresses a broad spectrum of duties in IT governance, including those covered by other standards. Although technical details have not been included, the necessary tasks for complying with the control objectives are self-explanatory. It is classified as relatively high-level, aiming to be generically complete but not specific. This makes it adaptable to any organisation. The user must decide on the applicability. However, all areas are not equally covered, for example, COBIT does not provide strong security guidelines.

COBIT focuses on IT control and metrics, and is a comprehensive uniform IT process model that helps to determine areas of strategic importance. This allows for a better understanding of the risks, thus also allowing for the identification of opportunities. It helps to align IT processes and control with the business' objectives. This allows for a specific focus.

COBIT provides an adaptive benchmark, reflects the industry best practices and is a generally accepted control framework, which is accepted by IT auditors, risk managers and regulators (locally and abroad, for example Sarbanes-Oxley). It is supported by a vast community. Due to its wide acceptance, it is used as the benchmark, and most other frameworks (which provide the detail not provided by COBIT) are mapped against COBIT, making it a good starting point, ensuring that all IT aspects are considered. The IT Governance Institute in the United States issued a mapping document which maps various IT guidelines to COBIT and is available online at www.ISACA.org (Author unknown 2006).

Concerns about COBIT

Although COBIT is complex, it describes what needs to be done in broad generalities and does not describe how each of these control objects is to be accomplished. COBIT practices are more focused on controls than on execution. However, there are tools such as the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) et cetera that provide detailed guidance. Modern packages (e.g. SAP and Microsoft) have their own framework, which could result in duplication. Because COBIT is general, it relies on the users to customise its application, in most cases the IT-gap could lead to a failure. COBIT is paper and resource (time, money et cetera) intensive. Due to the cost considerations, COBIT is mainly applicable to large enterprises, even though it is unlikely that the entire COBIT process will be implementable. Some control objectives are not applicable to all organisations. Specifically small organisations do not need to implement all aspects and could result in over expenditure. It could also lead to a loss of focus on the important areas.

Conclusion

COBIT is an adaptive framework, which can be used as a generally accepted benchmark to evaluate a system. It has its benefits, but is not applicable to all organisations. Careful consideration must be given to all factors before implementation, and the factors can be interpreted differently. This article is but one interpretation.

Reference:


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http://www.accountancyza.org.za/resources/ShowItemArticle.asp?ArticleId=1398&Issue=979
THE GROWING NEED FOR EXPANDED CORPORATE REPORTING

There is no doubt that the world we knew before the global economic meltdown will not return. The causes of the meltdown will not disappear, and lurking behind them is another set of even more fundamental issues facing humanity.

The often-quoted Chinese curse - 'may you live in interesting times' has never been more relevant than it is today.

Humankind has enormous environmental and social challenges facing it. We can no longer ignore them. The impact of the sustainability threats is affecting business more and more each day. Not only do businesses have to adapt their strategies and their way of doing business, they also have to adapt their way of reporting. No longer is it sufficient to report only on their financial performance to shareholders and potential investors. Today companies have a range of stakeholders that have vital interests in the activities of the organisation, and they expect companies to provide a range of information about the company. Indeed, the notion of a company being a corporate citizen has become a reality in recent years, and that has highlighted responsibilities and obligations for companies. Companies operate in communities, they consume scarce resources and they produce waste. All of which impact society and, therefore, society needs information about how companies are dealing with the related responsibilities and obligations.

There are various names given to such reporting, but the two most commonly used are 'Corporate Social Responsibility' (CSR) reporting and 'sustainability reporting', which are broadly the same thing. In the past, CSR often referred to the philanthropic activities of a company and some people still see it as that, but in reality CSR reporting has become a much broader concept and an essential element of reporting, and it will no doubt become a legal requirement in the not too distant future.

There are a number of codes and reporting frameworks around, but most companies that do prepare sustainability reports use the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Guidelines, which may be downloaded from the GRI website at http://www.globalreporting.org/Home. A KPMG Survey[1] published in 2008 shows that 77% of reporting companies use the GRI Guidelines.

The GRI sees sustainability reporting as the practice of measuring, disclosing, and being accountable to internal and external stakeholders for organisational performance towards the goal of sustainable development.

Globally, sustainability reporting is increasing rapidly according to the KPMG Survey. It noted that over 80% of the world's largest 250 companies (G250) now produce sustainability reports. The Survey, which covered 22 countries, revealed that a rising number of companies are producing sustainability reports. On average, 45% of the top 100 companies in the surveyed countries produce sustainability reports; Japan and the United Kingdom lead the table at 93% and 91% respectively; South Africa is some way behind at 45%, but it is one of the leaders in integrating the sustainability report into the annual report.

The recently published draft King Code says:

'By issuing integrated sustainability reports, a company increases the trust and confidence of its stakeholders and the legitimacy of its operations. It can increase the company's business opportunities and improve its risk management. By issuing an integrated sustainability report, internally a company evaluates its ethics, fundamental values, and governance and externally, improves the trust and confidence which stakeholders have in it.'

Whilst the GRI Guidelines are fast becoming the standard for sustainability reporting, there are many other voluntary guides and even legal requirements that are relevant to sustainability reporting. Some industries, such as the mining and chemical industries, have developed codes and guides. The Carbon Disclosure Project has developed standard disclosures relating to climate change information and particularly greenhouse gas emissions. In South Africa there is the King II Report and recently a draft King III Code was released. In addition, there are disclosure requirements in terms of the Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment legislation.

The GRI guidelines suggest that a sustainability report should provide a balanced and reasonable representation of the sustainability performance of a reporting organisation - including both positive and negative issues. However, there is always a temptation for companies to tell only the good news so that the organisation can be seen in the best light. Indeed, some companies use the sustainability report as a public relations document. This is known as 'green washing' and it can backfire horribly. In the US there are magazines and websites that constantly look for cases of green washing so that they can be exposed.

Sustainability reporting is not something to be taken lightly. It covers many areas on which companies have not traditionally focused and on which they certainly have not reported. In addition, many companies do not have adequate information systems to generate the necessary information, so they and end up making only vague statements, which are not helpful. A fundamental aspect of the exercise is to engage with a wide range of stakeholders to ascertain what the stakeholders see as important. Their views will not necessarily align with the views of management, since some of the areas highlighted by external stakeholders may be sensitive to the company. However, companies that deal with sensitive issues are likely to improve credibility ratings over those that ignore them or gloss over them.

The KPMG Survey suggests, 'Understanding the way a company impacts the economic, environmental and social circumstances of its stakeholders, and vice versa, is at the heart of corporate responsibility. In order to develop a proactive, strategic approach, and a workable management and reporting system that will help change circumstances for the better for all parties, stakeholders should be part of the process. Identifying and prioritising stakeholders, and being transparent about which groups and individuals a company is engaging with, is a key part of building credibility and trust.'

Producing sustainability reports requires a great deal of planning, and an infrastructure that can generate the necessary
information. It is also essential that top management is intimately involved in the process. It becomes very apparent when reading sustainability reports if a company has not embedded sustainability into its strategy and operations. In those circumstances, the report can do more harm than good.

As with any published information the credibility of the information is enhanced if it has some form of supporting assurance. The GRI guidelines outline different assurance models ranging from self-assurance to assurance by certification bodies and assurance by accountancy firms. Such assurance, however, can be costly, since the areas covered are not necessarily part of a normal audit. The KPMG Survey shows an increasing number of companies moving to an enhanced assurance model. In 2008, 70% of the G250 used accountancy firms to provide assurance.

Given the growing importance of sustainability reporting in organisations, SAICA has decided to develop a sustainability reporting course, which has been certified by the GRI. The two-day course outlines the principles of sustainability reporting and teaches participants how to go about planning for and implementing the processes to develop a sustainability report.

Chartered Accountants have been slow to embrace sustainability. This is unfortunate as it offers many business opportunities. The big danger, however, is if we do not embrace it we will rapidly lose relevance, and other professionals will usurp much of our ground. One area, amongst many, where Chartered Accountants should become involved is sustainability reporting. That is why SAICA is offering this training course.


Graham Terry CA(SA), is the Head: Office of the Executive President, SAICA.

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http://www.accountancysa.org.za/resources/ShowItemArticle.asp?ArticleId=1681&Issue=1076
SHEADING MORE LIGHT ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The South African Corporate Governance landscape is largely defined by the King Report on Corporate Governance, with King 2 having made a great impact on the running of companies within South Africa, especially those listed on the JSE.

The report has also substantially impacted the view international investors have of South Africa and the direction corporate law reform has taken. The world, including South Africa, has changed since 2002, when the 2nd King Report was released, resulting in the need for a third report to take into account a brand new South African Companies Act and changes in international governance trends.

King is not law and therefore there are no legal sanctions for non-compliance. This is contrary to the United States where the Sarbanes Oxley Act (SOX) is a statute, leaving companies with no option but to comply. It is submitted that the existence of such an Act, which American companies have laboriously begun to comply with, did not help prevent the credit crunch and the resulting financial crisis, an occurrence in support of the argument that good governance cannot be legislated. The King Commission has recognised the danger in adopting a one size fits all approach, and the burden presented by overregulation and the need for overcompliance. The message in the King report is simple, apply the principles or explain why you have not applied them. If you apply a practice other than a recommended one, detailing the reasons for making such a decision will serve the spirit and substance of King iii.

Previously directors were required, in terms of the common law, to act with due care, skill and diligence. The second King Report elaborated on the duties of directors, as recommendations of what would constitute good conduct, not law. Against the spirit of the King Report, the Companies Act 2008 due to take effect in July 2010 has, in section 76, prescribed the standards of conduct for directors. It would be interesting to observe how a court establishes whether or not S 76 has been complied with and by which directors serving on a board.

Corporate Governance has outgrown the board room and is permeating through every possible facet of our lives. At a breakfast hosted by SAICA in June this year, Mervyn King, Chairman of the King Committee on Corporate Governance in South Africa and Chairman of the United Nations Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), shed some light on the “new reality of corporate governance”, highlighting the changes we are experiencing as follows:

- Capitalisation of companies has changed. The individual has replaced wealthy families of the world as the provider of capital, indirectly through pension funds. Throughout the world on the great stock exchanges, the major shareholder is in fact the pension fund.
- Corporate reporting has evolved to meet the expectations of an evolved stakeholder body. Today stakeholders expect companies to be and be seen to be good corporate citizens.
- Boards need to take account of the legitimate expectations and interests of all the stakeholders linked to the company, which includes its shareholders. Potential investors look beyond the book value of a company to assess issues such as future earnings, brand, goodwill, reputation of management, reputation of the board, the quality of governance, the sustainability of the business, and to what extent the company has taken account of non-financial aspects that relate to the business. The questions to be answered are: has the company been able to report how it has impacted both positively and negatively on the community in which it is operating? Has the company provided its stakeholders with forward looking information, so that they can make a more informed assessment of the economic value of the company?
- Governance, strategy and sustainability are interconnected. In developing a long-term strategic plan of a company, the board of directors must consider sustainability issues pertinent to the business of the company. King iii has thus recommended integrated reporting and the need for the internal audit function to be risk centric as opposed to compliance centric. The internal audit function, headed by a Corporate Audit Executive must understand the long-term strategic plan of the company and the risks associated with that plan, in order to assess whether or not the controls of the business are adequate.
- In recognising that approximately ninety companies listed on the JSE have executive chairmen, King iii proposed that those companies appoint Lead Independent Directors so that, in the event of a conflict of interest arising on the part of the executive chairman, the Lead Independent Director can adopt the role of chairman or mediate conflict.
- IT Governance is a new introduction to the King Report and has become critical to the achievement and maintenance of good governance. IT Security is also significant in that most companies engage external service providers, creating a risk as confidential information then resides outside the portals of the company.
- The judicial system has not kept up with commerce. Directors must therefore ensure that when disputes arise they are resolved as expeditiously, efficiently and effectively as possible. To facilitate this process, an alternate dispute clause should be included in all major contracts.
- The King Commission has altered its view on the provision of share options to directors from one of recommending it, as long as it was approved by shareholders in meeting, to discouraging it as, in line with the stance taken by the EU and commonwealth countries, the granting of share options to non-executive directors appears to dilute their objectivity.
- Stakeholder relationships are also commented on in King iii.
The King Commission has described the philosophy of the report as one that revolves around leadership, sustainability and corporate citizenship, a philosophy that is synonymous with the direction the world is taking. It places the onus on leaders to define strategy, provide direction and establish the ethics and values that will influence and guide practices and behaviour with regard to sustainability performance.

King iii draws on the need for decision-makers to understand that the environment, people and business are intertwined and that they should impact the manner in which companies and directors act and organise themselves. In the report, "Sustainability" is defined as "the primary moral and economic imperative for the 21st Century and it is one of the most important sources of both opportunities and risks for businesses". Key to creating a transition to sustainability is the adoption of innovation, fairness and collaboration. Providing new ways of doing things, finding profitable responses to sustainability, promoting social justice, and encouraging collaboration are seen as prerequisites to large scale change.

SAICA has launched a book on sustainability issues entitled "Green", written by Graham Terry (Head: Office of the Executive President). The book supports the contention that corporate leaders must embrace sustainability to ensure their organisations' future profitability and long-term survival. The reality is, however, that most South African companies are yet to implement and report on measures taken to ensure sustainable practices. These companies need to jump on the bandwagon and initiate the change rather quickly as within the next decade they will find themselves having to contend with a myriad of requirements dealing with environmental accounting.

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SPECIAL REPORT
SUSTAINABILITY 2009
Mervyn King speaks frankly about Sustainability Reporting

Q: King III calls for an integrated sustainability report – what do you mean by “integrated”?

It's not necessarily about one report. We all know about the triple bottom line (TBL). In King III we initially dropped the words TBL in favour of the triple context, which later became just plain context. It's to get the mindset at the top of the company thinking of the business in terms of three factors: its impact on society, the financial aspects, and its impact on the environment. It's to make an informed assessment on the economic value of a company as opposed to its book value - as stakeholders need this information.

Assume companies report according to the old Companies Act of 1973 - that's backward looking information. The major shareholders today are financial institutions and they have a duty to look at the sustainability of a business because they have a 20 to 30 year investment horizon for some of their members. Executives, however, look at a 3 to 5 year horizon.

The Coca-Cola company is an example I use often. Its long-term strategic plan involves the reuse, recycle and replenishment of water. Is it doing this because it's a good corporate citizen? Yes, because it protects its brand and reputation. But directors understand that water is a scarce commodity and they have to plan for the long-term supply of water to their bottling plants.

So this gives the context. It doesn't matter if there are two reports or three reports. They must show - and this is what King III is all about - the financial performance against the long-term sustainability of the business. This is integral to the business. The people at the top must change their mindset – see the company as an entity with, in some cases, millions of stakeholders attached to it. If directors view only the financial aspects of a company, in the 21st century it's too narrow a view.

Three years ago, a survey by the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) of the top global companies asked what stakeholders want. It found they want a quality product or service and a continuous quality product or service in ten years' time. The inference is that a company can create trust and confidence, but how does the board maintain that trust and confidence?

Another survey by the GRI this past year showed that 85% of readers said they formed a more positive view of a company where there was a sustainability report, as they could make a more informed assessment of a company.

So it's thinking about a company in terms of context. People at the top have to change their mindset; people in the middle and lower levels of a company have to understand the context. It is awareness of long-term strategic thinking and the critical nature of sustainability.

Sustainability is the primary moral and economic imperative of the 21st century. It is one of the most important sources of both opportunities and risks for businesses. Nature, society and business are interconnected in complex ways that should be understood by decision makers. Most importantly, current incremental changes towards sustainability are not sufficient - we need a fundamental shift in the way companies and directors act and organise themselves.

An excellent example of an integrated sustainability report is that of Proctor & Gamble. It shows how the board has applied its mind to ESG (environmental, social and governance) issues in addition to the financial facts, because the board appreciated their relevance to its business.

The term 'integrated sustainability reporting' is defined in King III as an holistic and integrated representation of the company's performance in terms of both its finance and its sustainability.

Q: What should directors be doing about sustainability?

Realise that in carrying out their duties they have to make sure the sustainability of the business is considered in terms of the assets of planet earth - air, land and water.

In 1950, the world population was 2.5 billion. Today, it's 6.7 billion. By 2050, it'll be 9.2 billion. Most of those people will be living in cities. Food security will be a big problem. And wars will be fought over water.

Q: Where do you see the GRI in five years' time?

The GRI will be the standard setter. Europe has already adopted the GRI's Reporting Framework. It would be an act of insularity for a single country to adopt its own standard after thousands and thousands of man hours have gone into the GRI. The GRI is a worldwide multi-stakeholder network. Business, civil society, labour, investors and accountants collaborate through consensus-seeking approaches to create and continually improve the Reporting Framework.

Q: Should the GRI and IFAC be working together in setting standards for sustainability reporting?

They should be and they are talking to each other. It makes sense for there to be more co-operation between the two...
global standard seters.

Q: Are auditors the best people to offer assurance on sustainability reports?
I believe so, as they have the necessary training in assurance. They can provide a trustworthy expression of opinion on an organisation’s sustainability report.

Q: Sustainability is still regarded as a “soft” area. What is it going to take before it’s regarded more seriously?
I disagree. It’s not. In South Africa, sustainability considerations are rooted in the country’s Constitution. That is the basic social contract into which South Africans have entered. The Constitution imposes responsibilities upon individuals and juristic persons for the realisation of the most fundamental of rights.

Some countries have already legislated sustainability reporting. In the UK, the company’s impact on society and the environment has to be disclosed. There is legislation in Denmark, Germany and many other European countries. In South Africa, King III is a code. If the JSE adopts the principles of King III, it will spread the word.

There are four capital areas in a company – financial, environmental, social (the community) and human. From a strategic and planning point of view, boards have to get their minds around this. The world today is flat, borderless and degraded. If you don’t get your strategic planning right in terms of these four capital areas, the business of the company will not be sustained. There is nothing “soft” about that. Nineteen years ago, Nike’s market capitalisation dropped dramatically over the use of child labour; it took years for Nike to recover that loss. It had overlooked the human capital aspect in its supply chain.

Q: What is the role of the individual? Can one person make a difference?
Individuals have a huge role to play as providers of labour and capital, and they have the power to choose the products they buy from different companies. If your neighbour dumped toxic waste in your garden in the middle of the night, you would be horrified. We must expect the same from companies.

Each individual should be asking, what am I doing in my household and garden? Do I have plants that soak up water rather than indigenous plants? Do I have a solar geyser? Do I have a water tank?

Q: Tell us about the new Investor Code that is being compiled?
In September this year, we held our first meeting. Major financial institutions and regulators in South Africa are meeting with the aim of developing an investor code. The Code will be in line with the International Corporate Governance Network guidelines and those of the OECD, but taking account of the special circumstances in South Africa, e.g. transformation. It’ll offer guidelines on the environmental, social and governance factors for investors to consider when making an informed assessment of a company. We’re aiming to release the Investor Code by March next year.

The GRI Reporting Framework – of which the Sustainability Reporting Guidelines are the cornerstone – provides guidance for organisations to disclose their sustainability performance. It is applicable to organisations of any size, type, sector or geographic region, and has been used by thousands of organisations as the basis for their sustainability reporting.

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Measuring corporate governance

In the wake of the global recession, attention on corporate governance is at an all time high. Many investors lost a lot of money, particularly on investments in companies that went bankrupt due to corporate scandals, mismanagement and fraud. Many are looking for a way to prevent this happening again, and are hoping to spot the mismanaged companies before they implode.

This has resulted in a global call for a system to be developed that can measure a company's system of corporate governance. In almost all of the systems developed so far, 'executive compensation' has been one of the topics used as a measure. Should governance measurement tools gain international recognition, they will play a large role in determining the structure and size of director's compensation.

Ms Blair defines corporate governance as "the whole set of legal, cultural, and institutional arrangements that determine what public corporations can do, who controls them, how that control is exercised, and how the risks and return from the activities they undertake are allocated". It appears that the concept of measuring a company's corporate governance is one that is immediately fraught with problems. How can a concept so subjective be objectively measured? It is suggested that this is because however detailed a study is done on the policies within a company, it would be impossible to measure the culture accurately within a company.

This problem was demonstrated with the spectacular collapse of Enron, a former large American energy company. In terms of policies surrounding good corporate governance, the company was faultless. As Mr J. Macey pointed out, "[t]he organisation and structure of the Enron board was also a paradigm of good corporate governance". As one commentator put it, "[i]n the [Enron] board had all of the committees one would hope to see, including an executive committee, finance committee, audit and compliance committee, compensation committee, and nominating and corporate governance committee." Despite all of these measures, Enron still went bankrupt, and has become known as 'one of the largest frauds in business history.'

Despite these difficulties, many organisations and bodies have attempted to set up a method to measure how various entities are performing with regard to governance. On a global scale, the United Nations University drew up the World Governance Survey in 2002, in order to 'effectively address and analyse governance issues.' The World Bank attempted to measure the governance of governments in 2007, using data and annual indicators from the previous ten years. More specifically focused on governance within the corporate setting, there have also been various projects undertaken to set standards by which to measure the governance of companies, commonly referred to as a governance rating or index. Gompers, Ishii, and Metrick's G-Index was published in 2003, and soon after that Bechuck, Cohen, and Ferrell's E-Index was produced.

Another academic rating method, Brown and Caylor's Gov-Score Index, was released in 2006 as a more extensive governance index. In the UK, many researchers have looked at compliance with the Cadbury Code and performance – e.g. Gompers, et al, 2003, Klappper and Love 2002, Black, Jang and Kim 2005. In order to do this, they have needed to 'develop indices to measure a firm's governance arrangements'.

Commercial corporate ratings governance agencies also aim to provide a measure of a company's corporate governance policies and practices. GovernanceMetrics International (GMI), created in 2000, claims to be the first such company. The organisation produced a questionnaire with hundreds of metrics which, once answered, gave a score between one and ten for that company. Of the six research categories analysed by GMI, one of these is executive compensation.

RiskMetrics Group Inc. is an organisation that offered a similar product, named for short the Governance Risk Indicators or 'GRI'. Companies were scored against best practices in four areas, one of them being remuneration/compensation. Companies were then rated as either low, medium or high concern in each area, depending on their ratings. Indicators that decided ratings with regard to compensation included the following:

- Executive directors' ownership of shares.
- Disclosure regarding the minimum vesting periods of executive shares.
- Policy towards repricing of share options.
- Change in control agreements.

There are many benefits to such a system. Instead of a rule based system whereby companies are forced to comply with a list of regulations, companies are motivated to improve their ratings as they are linked to their business' opportunities. The advantages of a well-established governance rating agency are easy to predict – companies would work hard to comply with the survey, and would seek to improve their corporate governance in order to obtain a favourable rating. If one thinks of the influence of credit rating agencies (such as Standard and Poor's, Moody's or Fitch Ratings), and the effect that their opinions have on both companies and investors, it is possible to imagine the effects that a governance rating agency with the same influence would also have on entities.

However, there are also disadvantages to the concept. As already discussed, it is difficult objectively and comparatively to measure a culture. Another disadvantage of such a concept is that implementing such a system is difficult, time consuming and costly. For an organisation to implement such a system, the cost of running the organisation would need to be passed on to the companies being rated. In addition to these costs, the costs within a company of complying with the regulations would also be quite substantial.

In addition, the measure cannot be expected to prevent or even detect corruption or fraud. As pointed out by Mr M.A. Golden and Mr L. Picci in their study of involving the measurement of corruption, "[r]espondents directly involved in corruption may have incentives to underreport such involvement, and those not involved typically lack accurate information.
How it affects the South African business community
South Africa does not have as developed a system for measuring corporate governance as other economies. This is demonstrated by the lack of governance rating agencies that exist in the country. Ratings Afrika is one organisation that has tried to implement a means to measure governance. The organisation drew up a survey that asked companies to measure their own corporate governance, but the response level in 2009 was disappointing. Of the Listed Top 40 companies, 68.3% did not respond, and 2.4% declined filling out the survey. This led the organisation to conclude that “[t]he survey cannot be considered successful in the level of response that it has generated...”

The Institute of Directors in Southern Africa (IoDSA) launched a similar product in February 2010, named the Governance Assessment Instrument (GAI). It consists of 300 questions relating to governance, with the results giving an "overview of the state of corporate governance in the company by category and subcategory". The creators of the project are aware of the limitations of the product, in particular the difficulty involved in measuring an intangible item such as corporate culture.

Ms A. Romahlo, executive director of the centre for corporate governance at the Institute of Directors in Southern Africa said: "[a]lthough the report does not indicate the quality of governance, it does give stakeholders and all other interested parties an idea of how well positioned an organisation is for good corporate governance." However, what matters in a changing company’s governance is ‘not the adoption of individual initiatives but the change in attitude that accompanies the use of a collection of governance measures’. Often just the focus on the governance of a company will result in an improvement in both its practices and policies.

Whether the project receives a positive response from South African companies remains to be seen. The South African business community does not currently place the same importance levels on corporate governance that do foreign markets. It is suggested that there are two factors that could explain this fact. First, South Africa has not needed to focus urgently on its corporate governance: the country has not been rocked by public fraud scandals, such as the ‘Enron debacle’ in the United States of America or the collapse of Parmalat in Europe. Adding to which, South Africa’s economy has not been as affected by the global recession as other countries. One of the results of this is that investors have had less of a need to analyse or improve the country’s corporate governance.

Second, the country’s level of corporate governance is already relatively high. This could be because "[c]orporate governance in many emerging market companies is actually better than in more developed markets. It has needed to be more robust in order to attract capital." South Africa is a country well regulated by both the King Code and Report on Governance for South Africa as well as the Companies Act No. 71 of 2008 (The Companies Act).

Recommendations
There is much room for improvement with regard to compliance with the King Code and Report on Governance for South Africa (King III). It is suggested that a possible reason for this lack of compliance is that there is little tangible motivation for companies to spend time and resources to comply with all of the report’s recommendations. A recommendation would be that, instead of merely forcing listed public companies to comply with King III, it could be helpful to create an incentive for companies to comply with King III. A corporate governance rating could supply this motivation, as companies that scored well on the rating would enhance their reputation, and open up potential investment opportunities.

For this reason it is recommended that a system of measuring corporate governance is implemented in South Africa. It can be seen from the low response levels achieved by Ratings Afrika, it will need to become well-known to be effective, so will need to either be government backed and compulsory for all JSE listed companies, or even legislatively enacted.

An ideal system will be one that requires companies to fill out a survey covering various corporate governance sections. These sections would be based on the recommendations of King III, and broken up into sections, with more important topics receiving a greater weighting towards the cumulative total. The survey would need to be filled out by the directors of the company, and these details would then need to be verified by an independent party – either by the rating agency itself, or by the company’s external auditors. A system would be created online whereby a company’s rating is uploaded and can be viewed by all interested parties. Details pertaining to that company’s rating (compared to peers), along with details on how to improve it, would also be easily accessible, thereby encouraging continual improvement.

It has already been pointed out that emerging markets need to have better corporate governance than more developed markets in order to attract foreign capital. While implementing a system of measuring governance will not guarantee that corporate governance will be good, the process may contribute towards improving South Africa’s global reputation, and thereby attracting overseas investment.

For further reading, biography and references, please visit www.accountancyza.org.za
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King III integrated report

Why it’s crucial to plan ahead
The nature of corporate reporting has evolved tremendously over the past few years and
now even more so since the inception of King III in March 2010, which stipulates that listed companies should submit an
Integrated Report. Many have subsequently dubbed Integrated Reporting as a complex process.

But the rationale behind Integrated Reporting was not to complicate reporting on business operations. It was rather created
to stimulate integrated corporate strategies that are driven towards truly sustainable businesses. Companies that fully
understand these King III principles and incorporate them in their core business strategies, will have no trouble at all with
providing an Integrated Report on their business activities. And this is why it is so important to plan ahead. But, let us look
at what Integrated Reporting really means...

The meaning of Integrated Reporting
King III is the abbreviated name for the King Report on Corporate Governance for South Africa published in 2009, which
officially came into effect on the 1st of March 2010. King III specifies that companies should issue an annual Integrated
Report that provides a reliable, comprehensive and holistic overview of the company, from both a financial and a non-
financial perspective. A key aspect of Integrated Reporting is that companies should be able to outline the impact of their
businesses on all three spheres within which it operates: economic; social and environmental. These three elements are
known as the Triple Bottom Line.

Essentially, King III recognises that companies cannot separate their business objectives and drive for
profitability from sustainability. Integrated Reporting should therefore provide a more informed assessment of a
company, based on both its economic and social value, and not only its book value. “Sustainability is the primary moral and
economic imperative for the 21st century,” as said by Mervyn King.

The key components of a King III Integrated Report
The following summary highlights some of the key elements of business as it is addressed in the King III Integrated Report:

- Effective Ethical Leadership and Corporate Citizenship: A board should develop and implement the necessary
  policies and procedures to ensure that a company’s operations positively impact on the triple bottom line and that
  the company thus qualifies to be regarded as a good Corporate Citizen;

- Governance of Risk: King III focuses on the definition of roles and responsibilities for an all-inclusive risk
  management approach that is firmly embedded in all aspects of a company’s operations;

- The Governance of Information Technology: King III recognises the increasing importance of technology in
  business and notes that the adequate governance and management of IT resources are imperative for the success
  of any business;

- Compliance with Laws, Codes, Rules and Standards: King III takes corporate compliance to a whole new level by
  strongly promoting compliance, not only with statutory laws and minimum regulations, but also with other non-
  binding rules; codes and standards that will encourage good governance; and

- Governing Stakeholder Relationships: A new concept, called Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) is introduced in
  King III. King III further acknowledges the importance of stakeholder engagement and ADR such as effective
  resolution of disputes; taking all parties into account and the preservation of business relationships as important
  fundamentals for good corporate governance.

The most important difference between King II and King III
The most important difference between King II and King III can simply be seen as follows: King II focused mostly on
"reporting", whilst King III emphasises the importance of actually "doing". "Doing" rather than simply "reporting" is a
concept that is also widely practised globally.

Internationally it seems that the sustainable development movement within corporations and enterprises is maturing. There is
less talk about what is sustainability, less PR-based rhetoric, and more commitment to real action amongst the
leading companies. Clearly, the concept of 'responsible competitiveness and leadership' seems to be taking root; that is;
the notion that organisations can build innovation, market share and brand, based on their response to economical,
environmental and social issues and risks. A number of large multinational corporations have begun to examine and develop
new business models aimed at integrating the concepts of sustainable development and management into their core
business objectives, risk management and operational strategies. The rationale for doing this is predominately based on the
belief that aligning corporate objectives with stakeholders' needs and expectations is likely to generate sustainable growth
in shareholder value over the long-term. In our experience, the ability to craft and implement a sustainable business
strategy that is able to deliver tangible benefits to increasingly discerning and informed stakeholders and shareholders, is a
significant challenge for today's CEOs.

How to compile a King III Integrated Report successfully
The King III Report can be freely downloaded from the Internet. However, compiling an Integrated Report can be a
daunting task for companies that are not yet familiar with the implications of the new King III or that do not yet have the
expertise on board to interpret it correctly. But, the best way to successfully compile a King III Integrated Report remains
to start it off correctly - by first integrating the principles of King III into the core business strategy in a practical manner
-, confirms Reana Rossouw. "Once it forms part of the everyday business activities, it will be very easy to report on it.

When it comes to the actual reporting process – most companies in South Africa follow the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative)
Guidelines. These guidelines not only provide the context for ‘what to report’, but also ‘how to report’ and additionally,
provide guidelines for reporting across the triple bottom line. It is important to note that an Integrated Report does not
mean one single report – it simply means integrating both financial and non-financial information to provide a realistic,
future orientated picture of an organisation, so that its shareholders and stakeholders can make more informed decisions as far as the company is concerned.

This integrated report not only provides information about how the company plans to manage risks and uncertainties, but also how it would manage challenges and opportunities in the future in order to be more sustainable. It is not like historical annual financial reports, which traditionally only provided information about the previous year’s results, or what the company chose to report on, but it supplements traditional annual reports with forward looking information and, more specifically, information on how a company plans to be sustainable in the future measured against specific targets it has set for itself.

Towards the future:
Even though an Integrated Report is called for – and companies will have to comply from the 2010/2011 financial year, it is important to recognise that, as yet, in South Africa we do not have a formal framework or guideline against which to report. A working committee has been established in South Africa to address the issue. However, at this point in time the first challenge for companies is not simply to produce an Integrated Report, but to provide a balanced report of combined financial and non financial information. asa

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Sustainability intro

The articles for this year’s sustainability issue of ASA have been carefully selected. We wanted an eminent scientist’s view of how climate change will impact South African businesses. We wanted an investor’s view on whether social and environmental factors have started to influence company share prices.

We wanted an update on the progress the top 100 listed companies are making on disclosing their carbon emissions and targets, and on how these companies are faring in the JSE’s Socially Responsible Investment Index.

Of course, there was absolutely no choice as to the topic of our lead story. It had to be on the hotter than Hotazel topic of integrated reporting with an interview with local and international guru Professor Mervyn King. And, as it turned out, nearly all of the sustainability articles in this issue refer in some way to integrated reporting. I guess that shows how truly pervasive this new breed of reporting will be. It is indeed a concept that is about to turn corporate reporting as we know it on its head.

Integrated reporting can give the true picture of a company – much more so than that offered by the company’s financial report or its sustainability report. As the King Report on Governance for South Africa 2009 (King III) states, a company’s strategy, risk, performance and sustainability are inseparable. An integrated report can give this “full circle” picture of a company. And that is what investors and other long-term stakeholders, such as employees and suppliers really want to know. Is this company going to be around in a few years’ time? What plans does it have to deal with a dwindling supply of fresh water and the impact of higher land temperatures and a rising sea level? Is the company talking to its major stakeholders and addressing their legitimate needs and concerns?

An integrated report can also reflect the company as being a responsible corporate citizen reporting to its stakeholders on its impact on the environment and the communities in which it operates.

King III calls for entities to issue an integrated report. As this Report now falls within the JSE Listing Requirements, listed companies have to produce an integrated report for their financial years starting on or after 1 March 2010.

It is for this reason that SAICA has initiated the formation of the Integrated Reporting Committee (IRC) to give guidance on good practice in integrated reporting. The IRC includes in its membership Business Unity SA, JSE Ltd, Association of Savings and Investments SA, Institute of Directors SA, the Banking Association of SA, as well as SAICA. The IRC is chaired by Professor Mervyn King.

The IRC’s first guidance focuses on outlining a framework for an integrated report. The draft guidance is expected to be released in the near future. After the framework, the IRC will continue its work in looking at more detailed guidance on good practices in integrated reporting.

South Africa is not alone in looking at integrated reporting. In July this year, the International Integrated Reporting Committee (IIRC) was formed. Professor Mervyn King is the deputy chairman of the IIRC. He describes the formation of the IIRC as “an historical event”. As he says, how often does one get the IASB (International Accounting Standards Board), IFAC (International Federation of Accountants), FASB (Financial Accounting Standards Board), the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) and many other imposing bodies to sit around a table and agree that a new way of corporate reporting is needed?

In years to come, the formation of the IIRC may well be seen to be the moment when financial reporting collided with sustainability reporting and melded into a new reporting format that gives the true picture of an organisation’s performance and where it’s headed.

The rise of integrated reporting has huge implications for our profession. Registered auditors may wonder at the extent of their traditional audit, company directors need to direct the strategy and operations to build a sustainable business, financial directors may grapple with determining the materiality of non-financial issues, and financial managers will be hard at work to put systems in place to ensure the quality of the sustainability performance figures.

Who said accounting was boring?

Please keep up-to-date with developments in integrated reporting and sustainability reporting on our website www.sustainabilitysa.org.asa

Compiled by:
Leigh Roberts CA(SA) is the Project Director: Sustainability, SAICA and a member of the working group of the Integrated Reporting Committee.

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Get your head in the Cloud

Organisations are still reeling from the aftermath of the financial crisis. Many are focusing efforts to stabilise the bottom line, while their shareholders push for cost cutting, innovation and faster time-to-market.

In the face of the economic downturn, IT often represents a costly and rigid structure that does not live up to expectations. However, a shift is underway. According to Orchestrating the New Paradigm – KPMG’s Business Guidelines Cloud Computing and Beyond, organisations are transitioning from locally installed and maintained to the centralisation and commoditisation of IT services.

Enter Cloud Computing.

Paradigm shift

Centralisation

Cloud computing

Outsourcing

Hosting

Commoditisation

High

On-premise IT

Low

Source: KPMG in the Netherlands, 2011

The move to centralised and commoditised IT services has been underway since the beginning of the 21st century. Centralisation leverages the benefits of resource sharing and economies of scale, and facilitates volatile demand more effectively. Commoditisation reduces cost and time as services are standardised with less need of custom-built solutions.

From on-premise IT and Shared Service Centres (SSCs), to hosting applications on external platforms and outsourcing IT departments to low-wage countries, Cloud Computing represents the next logical step in IT service provisioning.

In the 1960s, Computer Scientist John McCarthy said that "computation may someday be organised as a public utility", and this perhaps explains the underlying concept of Cloud Computing best. Organisations are increasingly leaning toward the trend of obtaining/providing IT services through the internet, without owning the underlying infrastructure.

Organisations can unlock numerous benefits, including:

- **Cost effectiveness** - business shift away from capital expenditure (fixed cost) to operational expenditure (variable cost).
- **Scalability/Elasticity** - The ability to scale up or down for the organisation is easier to deploy in the Cloud with minimal interruption, in real time.
- **Competitive advantage** - because of the reduced capital investment and the adoption of Cloud Computing, small businesses are able to compete with larger organisations globally.
- **Agility and flexibility** - Business is able to implement/deploy solutions much faster than conventional IT solutions.

A recent Gartner report highlights the growth in the IT sector and forecasts global public Cloud spending to reach US$89 billion in 2011, up from US$76 billion in 2010. The market is forecast to reach US$177 billion by 2015.
Cloud computing is a model for enabling convenient, on-demand network access to a shared pool of configurable computing resources that can be rapidly provisioned and released with minimal management effort or service provider interaction.

NIST Special Publication 800-146

Understanding the Cloud environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deployment Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Cloud</td>
<td>For a single organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Cloud</td>
<td>Available to the public or a large industrial group. Owned by an organisation selling Cloud services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid Cloud</td>
<td>Two or more clouds that remain unique but are bound by technology that enable data and application portability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Cloud</td>
<td>Shared by several organisations supporting a specific community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Cloud Service Models

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Software as a service</td>
<td>This Cloud model provides access to on-demand software applications over the internet. Business is moving away from licensing software to subscribing to services on a per-user-per-month basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platform as a service</td>
<td>This model gives business the ability to build, deploy and operate applications in the Cloud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure as a service</td>
<td>Business is able to rent processing, storage, network infrastructure and computer resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KPMG International’s new survey, Clarity in the Cloud: the impact, opportunity and risk of cloud, expect Cloud investment to skyrocket in 2012. According to the report, 81% of businesses are either planning, are in early or advanced stages of experimentation, or already have full-on Cloud implementations.

Almost one quarter of executives said their organisation already runs all core IT services on the Cloud (10%) or is in transition to do so (13%).

This is strong evidence that Cloud computing is at the forefront of many organisations’ strategic objectives.

“The Cloud services companies of all sizes... The Cloud is for everyone. The Cloud is a democracy.”
Marc Benioff, Chairman and CEO of salesforce.com

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AG findings on govt spending 'scandalous'

2012/01/17 02:29:13 PM

Johannesburg - The findings of the auditor general's annual government audit are "scandalous" and heads should roll, trade unions and the Democratic Alliance said on Tuesday.

"This is a serious crisis because service delivery is highly dependent on proper financial controls and accountable and transparent expenditure," the National Education, Health, and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) said.

The Federation of Unions of SA (Fedusa) urged government to stop "cadre deployment" and to curb corruption in local, provincial, and national government.

The DA in Gauteng said financial management in the province was "seriously deficient". Irregular, unauthorised and wasteful spending in Gauteng was among the highest in the country, the party said.

Report


He voiced concern over all but three of the 39 national government departments.

However, Nombembe said he was happy with the overall improvement in the performance of government departments and the "commitment" of their leadership to achieving clean audit reports.

"Leadership has risen to the commitment [of obtaining clean audits]. The biggest area of concern is when it comes to supply chain and procurement. The rules are known and the expectations are known."

The unions and the DA were less forgiving.

Nehawu spokesperson, Sizwe Pamla, said South Africans deserved better and "their patience has already run out".

The report showed that national and provincial government departments and public entities wasted and misused more than R20bn of taxpayers' money over the past financial year (2010/11), he said.

"According to the auditor general's report, there has been a 12% increase in wasteful and fruitless expenditure by provincial departments this year compared to the last financial year (2009/10)."

This meant the amount of money wasted had increased from R16bn in 2009/10 to R20bn in 2010/11.

"National departments and public entities have squandered more than R4.5bn in unauthorised, irregular, wasteful, and fruitless expenditure," Pamla added.

Western Cape

The DA's Glenda Steyn said the DA-run Western Cape had proven itself a model of good governance.

"It has achieved standards of financial excellence that Gauteng should emulate."

Fedusa general secretary Dennis George applauded the AG, saying he was keeping government on its toes.

"We fully support the auditor general's recommendations that vacant positions be filled with competent staff in all government departments and public entities."

Fedusa also wanted the recommendation implemented that audit committees be put in place to ensure effective governance.
Appendix C: IT Processing Methods

INF2004F is intended to prepare accounting, finance, and other students for a range of IT-related roles within a business environment; for example as users, managers, designers, and evaluators of Information Systems. In conjunction with Foundations of Information Systems (INF1002F/S/H), Financial Reporting (ACC2012W) and Control of Financial Information Systems (ACC2018S), this course has been specifically designed to cover the IT content prescribed by the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA).

INF2004F covers the following knowledge areas:

- The impact of IT on financial practitioners
- Introduction to Pastel Accounting
- Business processes and their management
- IT controls, crime and security
- Internet technologies and e-commerce
- Systems planning, development & acquisition
- Introduction to Excel
- Spread-sheet design, modelling and audit
- Data structures, information requirements, and business intelligence
- IT strategy and management issues

On completion of the course students should be able to:

- Discuss how IT can be used to improve process efficiency, support management decision-making, and enable business innovation;
- Use process models to document business activities;
- Describe the architecture of enterprise systems and how the various components work together;
- Understand the importance of IT security and controls;
- Understand the technical, business and control implications of doing business over the Internet;
- Discuss the role of IT in business and its alignment with organisational strategy;
- Understand the options available for the acquisition of application software, and prepare a business case;
- Explain how organisational data is used to provide management information;
- Understand how business intelligence software can facilitate growth and innovation;
- Use a computerised accounting package (Pastel) to process accounting information;
- Apply best practice principles to the design, development and audit of financial spread-sheets;
- Use a spread-sheet application (Excel) to analyse business data and answer "what if" questions.
Following are visual representations of IT processing methods for financial transactions and the various systems that are involved.

1. Client Server
2. Online batch processing
3. Online uploading downloading
4. Online memo processing

1. Client server

**File Server**

A. Controller requests A/R file

Controller determines how many A/R balances are greater than R5000 and more than 60 days overdue

B. PC displays A/R records selected

C. Entire A/R file sent to controller’s computer

**Client/Server**

A. Controller requires all A/R balances greater than R5000 and more than 60 days

B. Server selected A/R records greater than R5000 and more than 60 days overdue

C. Selected A/R records sent to controller’s computer
2. On-line Batch

Transaction type

Transaction (Manual)

Unique batch #

Control totals

1

2

Signature: Prepared Checked

Comparison

# of docs

# of transactions

R value

Produced by computer

Transaction listing

Sales Journal

Batch No

Docs #

Trans. #

R value

Date processed

Errors resubmitted

Signature

Reviewed
3. On-line uploading and downloading

Head Office

Retail outlet JHB

Factory warehouse

Retail outlet Cape Town

REVISE branch accounting that you have done in ACC2012W (Mr Price example)
4. On-line memo processing

- **TRANSACTION LISTING TRANSFERS**
  - H Marais XX

- **TRANSACTION LISTING WITHDRAWALS**
  - X Sibiya 600
  - J Bloggs XX

- **ACCOUNTS SUBSIDIARY LEDGER**
  - **INDIVIDUAL RECORD XOLANI SIBIYA**
    - Balance 1 800
    - O/bal 1 800
    - Withdraw 600
    - C/bal 1 200

  - **XOLANI SIBIYA**

- **TRANSACTION LISTING TRANSFERS**
  - O/bal ATM 000
  - + Deposits BBB
  - - W/draw AAA
  - C/bal XXX
  - Transfers ZZZ

* Reconcile to cash on hand
### Appendix D: Chapter 4 Questions and Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SALES COMPLETENESS</th>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>ACCURACY</th>
<th>PURCHASES VALIDITY</th>
<th>FRAUD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stock items are stolen</td>
<td>• Sales are not run up deliberately</td>
<td>• Sales are deleted from the transaction file</td>
<td></td>
<td>The company records purchases for which goods or services were received</td>
<td>The buyer deliberately purchases from a non-approved supplier e.g. a friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items are not rung up by mistake</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales invoices are lost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PURCHASES ERROR</th>
<th>Genuine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The buyer uses an outdated list of authorised suppliers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases are duplicated by</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The purchase record is incorrectly processed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The purchase record is</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**
- **Not initially recorded**
- **Not all recorded**
- **In terms of management policy**
- **In terms of the word management**
- **In terms of the word “incorrect”**
- **In terms of the word “should read”**
SUGGESTED APPROACH TO QUESTIONS
APPLIED TO CLASS QUESTION PART B

1. Which objectives?  **INTEGRITY**
2. Is it fraud and error?  **YES**
   Which stages in which system?  **ALL in SALES**
3. Is it IC components or just control activities?
   ⇒ All controls => IC components =>
   • Control environment &
   • Monitoring
4. Which philosophy?
   • Prevent
5. Which control activities?
   ⇒ Appendix E
   • SCRUM
   • VAC
   ⇒ General IT controls ?

SUGGESTED APPROACH TO QUESTIONS
APPLIED TO MASTERFILE UPDATE QUESTION

1. Which objectives?  **INTEGRITY**
2. Is it fraud and error?  **YES**
3. Which stages in which system?  **ALL in MASTERFILE UPDATE**
4. Is it IC components or just control activities?
   • Control activities => ignore CE & M
5. Which philosophy?
   • Prevent and detect
6. Which control activities?
   ⇒ Appendix
   • S C R U M
   • VAC
   ⇒ General IT controls ?
ACC2018S – CFIS January 2013

QUESTION 1

AllFruit Proprietary Limited (“AllFruit”) represents a collection of fruit farms in the Western Cape producing a range of soft fruits for the export market. This export market has become increasingly sophisticated and

AllFruit management utilise the services of TechnoFresh to provide the necessary market information. The fruit is exported using SAFE Mauritius (South African Fruit Exporters), one of the main fruit exporters in Southern Africa. All logistical operations as well as commercial and production activities are coordinated from SAFE’s Cape Town Office: SAFE Farm Ventures.

AllFruit management are concerned over the recent developments in the farming sector particularly in relation to the labour issues. Their farmworkers are amongst the group being paid more than the minimum as referred to in the Labour Minister Mildred Oliphant’s speech on Wednesday 14th November where she said that she would publish a notice to cancel the current sectoral determination for agriculture after farmworkers in the Western Cape embarked on a protest demanding higher wages. She added that “the sectoral (determination) sets out the minimum wages that people need to be paid in that specific sector. ....In the inspections that have been conducted, we have found that some farms paid more than the minimum and I believe that is the right thing to do.”

All employers in South Africa who employ Farm Workers are legally bound to pay at least the Minimum Wage as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Wages for Farm Workers in South Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 March 2012 to 28 February 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hourly (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly (R)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly (R)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*CPI (excluding owners’ equivalent rent) has replaced CPIx as the new headline earning


Due to the complexity of the wages calculations with the changing tax rates, deductions, special benefits, seasonal workers and the overtime incurred during the peak picking and packing time AllFruit management want to outsource the payroll processing to Farmassist. Currently all wages are paid in cash although AllFruit is instituting an education programme to encourage the workers to utilise a bank account transfer. The production manager is responsible for the labour requirements of the farms and he is ably assisted by Ms Zungile Nkunda in the wages office. Mr Jonker is the longstanding financial manager who has initiated the outsourcing option.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:

1) Apply the internal control objective of validity to the wages payroll account in the general ledger. (3)
2) For the validity objective in part 1, identify 10 controls that should prevent and/or detect and correct any errors and irregularities. (10)
3) Identify 5 reasons why the controls will not definitely prevent and detect errors and irregularities. (5)
4) Identify and explain the 5 possible risks to which AllFruit could be exposed if they decide to outsource the wages processing to Farmassist. (5)
5) Identify 5 control procedures that AllFruit management could perform to evaluate the integrity of the outsourced wages balance without having to rely on the General IT controls at Farmassist (5)

Communication Skills – layout and structure, clarity of expression and appropriate style (2)
You are the financial manager of Express Courier Service Proprietary Limited. In the past financial year there has been a high turnover of staff within the business, especially within the administrative areas. Fortunately, after an extensive recruitment process the staffing situation has stabilised. You have asked by the chief financial officer (CFO) to address the management and control requirements relating to their supermarket courier service, one of the more profitable business divisions within the organisation. The intention of the company is to expand this service throughout sub Saharan Africa. The Board of directors are striving to increase their BEE rating and to reduce their carbon footprint.

Express Courier Service Proprietary Limited: Supermarket courier service

How does it work?

1. The customer buys an Express sleeve for R99 at any supermarket. This is accompanied by a four part pre printed tracking label. The customer retains the top part.

2. The customer places the item(s) inside the sleeve and seals the self-sticking flap.

3. The customer then drops the sleeve in the Express Drop Box.

4. The customer then relaxes as Express delivers the parcel safely to the chosen address/supermarket by the following morning.

Adapted from http://www.picknpay.co.za/picknpay/content/en/berco-track-trace 3October 2012

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO:

1) Identify the risks and benefits to the customer of utilising the Express service (8)

2) Outline any additional risks and benefits to Express of utilising the drop boxes in supermarket locations (6)

3) Prepare a memorandum for the sales manager suggesting the control procedures required to ensure the prevention of errors and irregularities in the integrity of the capturing of the items and relevant details from the drop boxes into the integrated recording and delivery management system. (12)

4) Describe the controls you would have expected management to implement to meet the operational objectives of the Express supermarket courier service. (7)

Communication Skills – layout and structure, clarity of expression and appropriate style (2)
Diagram 5.1 - Typical Medium / Large Business Organisation
CFIS – WHERE IT ALL FITS IN??

Internal Control Components

1. Control environment
   - Ethics and policies

2. Risk Assessment

3. Control Activities
   - “SCRAM/SCRUM/PURPS”
   - Documents – “ANC”
   - General IT Controls
     ✓ Physical
     ✓ Logical
   - Application Controls

4. Information and Processing
   ✓ Input
   ✓ Processing
   ✓ Masterfile
   ✓ Output
   ✓ Outsourcing

5. Monitoring


Internal Control Objectives

V A C

Integrity of Financial Info

Operational issues – 3e’s

Compliance with legislation:
- General laws
- Specific laws

Appendix E
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrity</th>
<th>PURCHASES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accurate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrity</th>
<th>SALES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accurate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Integrity</th>
<th>PAYROLL</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accurate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### S | Segregation of duties
---|---
- INITIATION
- EXECUTION
- RECORDING
- CUSTODY

### P(C) | Physical Custody
---|---
- PHYSICAL SECURITY
- RESTRICT ACCESS
  - INTERNAL
  - EXTERNAL

### A | Authorisation
---|---
- ACKNOWLEDGE PHYSICAL TRANSFER
- IDENTIFY ACCOUNTABILITY

### R | Information Processing
---|---
- RECONCILIATION
- UNDERLYING ASSETS
  - CASH
  - STOCK
- USE OF CONTROL ACCOUNTS/ SUB LEDGERS
- RAND VALUE
  - # RECORDS
  - #TRANSACTIONS
- NON-FINANCIAL
- INPUT – OUTPUT
- RUN-TO-RUN
- MASTER FILE UPDATES

### P/(M) | Management
---|---
- POLICIES
- SUPERVISE
- REVIEW
  - Logs
  - EXCEPTIONS
  - OVERALL PERFORMANCE
  - FILE CONTENTS
  - CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS
  - AUDIT TRAIL
  - RECONCILIATIONS
- IDENTIFY, CORRECT, & RESUBMIT ERRORS

### U | Unused Stationery
---|---
- NEGOTIABLE
- REGISTER ▼ CANCELLED
- SAFEGUARDED
- MINIMISE INFO
- CARBO
- PRE-NUMBER
- IDENTIFIABLE/NOT EASILY COPIED

### C | Checking
---|---
- HUMAN
- COMPUTER

### N | Sequencing
### VALID

- SOD
  - User
  - Use
- Authorisation
- Control Over-rides (a la Pick ‘n Pay)
- Identify duplicates

### ACCURATE

- Reduce likelihood of error
  - Train (remember control environment people in specific duties are competent)
  - Help function / manual
  - User friendly screen / documents
  - Prompts / Drop down lists / minimise options
- Minimise input
  - Automate / use of standing data
  - Preformatted keys
  - Touch screens
  - Scanners
- Check input
  - Manual one-to-one check
  - Computer edit and validation checks

### COMPLETE

- Automatically numbered
- Numeric sequence check
- Field presence check
- Identify errors, correct and resubmit