

Becton, Dickinson and Company
Effective as of July 26, 2005

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Audit Committee is created by the Board of Directors of the Company to:

- assist the Board in its oversight of
 - the integrity of the financial statements of the Company;
 - the qualifications, independence and performance of the Company's independent auditors;
 - the performance of the Company's internal audit function; and
 - compliance by the Company with legal and regulatory requirements; and
- prepare the audit committee report that Securities and Exchange Commission rules require to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.

Membership

The Audit Committee shall consist of at least three members, comprised solely of independent directors meeting the independence and experience requirements of the New York Stock Exchange. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee shall recommend nominees for appointment to the Audit Committee annually and as vacancies or newly created positions occur. Audit Committee members shall be appointed by the Board and may be removed by the Board at any time. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Board, and the Board shall designate, the Chair of the Audit Committee.

Authority and Responsibilities

In addition to any other responsibilities which may be assigned from time to time by the Board, the Audit Committee is responsible for the following matters:

Independent Auditors

- The Audit Committee has the sole authority to appoint, compensate, retain and terminate the independent auditors of the Company (subject to shareholder ratification), including sole authority to approve all audit engagement fees and terms and all non-audit services to be provided by the independent auditors. The Audit Committee shall pre-approve all engagements for audit services and each non-audit

service to be provided by the Company's independent auditors. The Audit Committee may consult with management in the decision making process, but may not delegate this authority to management. The Audit Committee may, from time to time, delegate its authority to pre-approve non-audit services to one or more Audit Committee members, provided that such designees present any such approvals to the full Audit Committee at the next Audit Committee meeting. The independent auditors shall report directly to the Audit Committee.

- The Audit Committee shall review and approve the scope and staffing of the independent auditors' annual audit plan(s) and shall oversee the audit and audit-related work of the independent auditors, including resolution of disagreements, if any, between management and the auditor regarding financial reporting.
- The Audit Committee shall evaluate the independent auditors' qualifications, performance and independence, and shall present its conclusions with respect to the independent auditors to the full Board on at least an annual basis. As part of such evaluation, at least annually, the Audit Committee shall:
 - obtain and review a report or reports from the Company's independent auditors:
 - describing the independent auditors' internal quality-control procedures;
 - describing any material issues raised by (i) the most recent internal quality-control review or peer review of the auditing firm, or (ii) any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, regarding one or more independent audits carried out by the auditing firm; and any steps taken to deal with any such issues;
 - describing all relationships between the independent auditors and the Company; and
 - assuring that Section 10A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 has not been implicated;
 - review and evaluate the partners of the independent auditor team(s), particularly the performance and independence of the lead audit and reviewing partners;
 - consider whether to rotate the independent auditors; and
 - obtain the opinion of management and the internal auditors on the independent auditors' performance.
- The Audit Committee shall establish policies for the Company's hiring of current or former employees of the independent auditors.

Internal Auditors

- At least annually, the Audit Committee shall evaluate the performance, responsibilities, budget and staffing of the Company's internal audit function and review the internal audit plan. Such evaluation shall include a review of the responsibilities, budget and staffing of the Company's internal audit function with the independent auditors.

Financial Statements; Disclosure and Other Risk Management and Compliance Matters

- The Audit Committee shall review and with management and the independent auditors, in separate meetings if the Audit Committee deems it appropriate:
 - the annual audited financial statements, including the Company's specific disclosures under "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations", prior to the filing of the Company's Form 10-K;
 - the quarterly financial statements, including the Company's specific disclosures under "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations", prior to the filing of the Company's Form 10-Q;
 - the annual audited financial statements of the Company's qualified benefit plans;
 - any analyses or other written communications prepared by management, the internal auditors and/or the independent auditors setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, including analyses of the effects of alternative GAAP methods on the financial statements;
 - the critical accounting policies and practices of the Company;
 - off-balance sheet transactions and structures;
 - any major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentations, including any significant changes in the Company's selection or application of accounting principles; and
 - regulatory and accounting initiatives or actions applicable to the Company (including any SEC investigations or proceedings).
- The Audit Committee shall review and discuss, in conjunction with management, the Company's policies with respect to the Company's earnings press releases and all financial information, such as earnings guidance, provided to analysts and rating agencies, including the types of information to be disclosed and the types of presentation to be made and paying particular attention to the use of "pro forma" or "adjusted" non-GAAP information.
- The Audit Committee shall, in conjunction with the CEO and CFO of the

Company, review the Company's internal controls and disclosure controls and procedures, including whether there are any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of such controls and procedures, material weaknesses in such controls and procedures, any corrective actions taken with regard to such deficiencies and weaknesses and any fraud involving management or other employees with a significant role in such controls and procedures.

- The Audit Committee shall review and discuss with the independent auditors any audit problems or difficulties and management's response thereto, including those matters required to be discussed with the Audit Committee by the auditors pursuant to Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, Communications with Audit Committees, as amended, such as:
 - any restrictions on the scope of the independent auditors' activities or access to requested information;
 - any accounting adjustments that were noted or proposed by the auditors but were "passed" (as immaterial or otherwise);
 - any communications between the audit team and the audit firm's national office regarding auditing or accounting issues presented by the engagement;
 - any management or internal control letter issued, or proposed to be issued, by the auditors; and
 - any significant disagreements between the Company's management and the independent auditors.
- The Audit Committee shall review the Company's policies and practices that govern the process by which risk assessment and management is undertaken (with the understanding that the review of policies and practices relating to specific areas of risk assessment and management may be the responsibility of other committees of the Board). The Company's management shall also discuss with the Audit Committee the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps that have been taken to monitor and control such exposures.
- The Audit Committee shall establish, maintain and review procedures for:
 - the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters, and
 - the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

- The Audit Committee shall review any significant complaints regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters received pursuant to such procedures.
- The Audit Committee shall prepare the audit committee report that Securities and Exchange Commission rules require to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.

Reporting to the Board

- The Audit Committee shall report to the Board periodically. This report shall include a review of any issues that arise with respect to the quality or integrity of the Company's financial statements, the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the qualifications, independence and performance of the Company's independent auditors, the performance of the internal audit function, compliance by the Company with legal and regulatory requirements and any other matters that the Audit Committee deems appropriate or is requested to be included by the Board.
- At least annually, the Audit Committee shall evaluate its own performance and report to the Board on such evaluation.
- The Audit Committee shall periodically review and assess the adequacy of this charter and recommend any proposed changes to the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.

Procedures

The Audit Committee shall meet as often as it determines is appropriate to carry out its responsibilities under this charter, but not less frequently than quarterly. The Chair of the Audit Committee, in consultation with the other committee members and management, shall determine the frequency and length of the committee meetings and shall determine meeting agendas consistent with this charter.

The Audit Committee shall meet separately, periodically, with management, with internal auditors or other personnel responsible for the internal audit function and with the independent auditors.

The Audit Committee is authorized to retain special legal, accounting or other advisors, as it determines necessary to carry out its duties, and may request any officer or employee of the Company or the Company's outside counsel or independent auditors to meet with any members of, or advisors to, the Audit Committee.

The Company shall provide for appropriate funding, as determined by the Audit Committee, for payment of (i) compensation to the independent auditors (ii) compensation to any advisors employed by the Audit Committee and (iii) ordinary

administrative expenses of the Audit Committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties.

The Audit Committee may delegate its authority to subcommittees or the Chair of the Audit Committee when it deems appropriate and in the best interests of the Company.

Limitations Inherent in the Audit Committee's Role

While the Audit Committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in this Charter, it is not the duty of the Audit Committee to plan or conduct audits or to determine that the Company's financial statements are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This is the responsibility of management and the independent auditor. Nor is it the duty of the Audit Committee to conduct investigations, to ensure compliance with laws and regulations and the Company's Code of Conduct, or to assess and manage the Company's exposure to risk. This is the responsibility of management, subject to oversight by the Board of Directors.