

DIONEX CORPORATION

CHARTER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

PURPOSE AND POLICY

The primary purpose of the Audit Committee shall be to act on behalf of the Company's Board of Directors in fulfilling the Board's oversight responsibilities with respect to the Company's corporate accounting, financial reporting practices and audits of financial statements as well as the quality and integrity of the Company's financial statements and reports, as well as the qualifications, independence and performance of the firm or firms of certified public accountants engaged as the Company's independent outside auditors (the "Auditors") and the performance of the Company's internal audit function. The Committee shall also provide oversight assistance in connection with legal and ethical compliance programs as established by management and the Board. The operation of the Committee shall be subject to the Bylaws of the Company as in effect from time to time and Section 141 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

The policy of the Audit Committee, in discharging these obligations, shall be to maintain and foster an open avenue of communication between the Committee, the Auditors and the Company's financial and corporate management.

COMPOSITION

The Audit Committee shall consist of at least three members of the Board of Directors. The members of the Committee shall satisfy the independence and financial literacy requirements of The Nasdaq Stock Market ("Nasdaq") applicable to Audit Committee members as in effect from time to time when and as required by Nasdaq. At least one member shall satisfy the applicable Nasdaq financial experience requirements as in effect from time to time.

MEETINGS AND MINUTES

The Audit Committee shall hold such regular or special meetings as its members shall deem necessary or appropriate. Minutes of each meeting of the Committee shall be prepared and distributed to each director of the Company and the Secretary of the Company promptly after each meeting.

AUTHORITY

The Audit Committee shall have full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the Company as deemed necessary or appropriate by any member of the Committee to discharge his or her responsibilities hereunder. The Committee shall have authority to retain, at the Company's expense, special legal, accounting or other advisors or consultants as it deems necessary or appropriate in the performance of its duties. The Committee shall have authority to

require that any of the Company's personnel, counsel, Auditors or investment bankers, or any other consultant or advisor to the Company, attend any meeting of the Committee or meet with any member of the Committee or any of its special legal, accounting or other advisors and consultants.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Audit Committee shall oversee the Company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board, shall have direct responsibility for the oversight of the Auditors and shall report the results of its activities to the Board. The Committee's functions and procedures should remain flexible to address changing circumstances most effectively. To implement the Committee's purpose and policy, the Committee shall, to the extent the Committee deems necessary or appropriate, be charged with the following functions and processes with the understanding, however, that the Committee may supplement or (except as otherwise required by applicable laws or rules) deviate from these activities as appropriate under the circumstances:

External Audit Retention

1. To evaluate the performance of the Auditors, to assess their qualifications and to determine whether to retain or to terminate the existing Auditors or to appoint and engage new auditors for the ensuing year, which retention shall be subject only to ratification by the Company's stockholders.

2. To determine and approve engagements of the Auditors, prior to commencement of such engagements, to perform all proposed audit, review and attest services, including the scope of and plans for the audit, the compensation to be paid to the Auditors which approval may be pursuant to preapproval policies and procedures, including the delegation of preapproval authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such preapproval decisions are presented to the full Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

3. To determine and approve engagements of the Auditors, prior to commencement of such engagement (unless in compliance with exceptions available under applicable laws and rules related to immaterial aggregate amounts of services), to perform any proposed permissible non-audit services, including the scope of the service and the compensation to be paid therefor, which approval may be pursuant to preapproval policies and procedures established by the Committee consistent with applicable laws and rules, including the delegation of preapproval authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such preapproval decisions are presented to the full Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

4. To monitor the rotation of the partners of the Auditors on the Company's audit engagement team as required by applicable laws and rules and to consider periodically and, if deemed appropriate, adopt a policy regarding rotation of auditing firms.

Audit Independence

5. At least annually, to receive and review written statements from the Auditors delineating all relationships between the Auditors and the Company, to consider and discuss with the Auditors any disclosed relationships and any compensation or services that could affect the

Auditors' objectivity and independence, and to assess and otherwise take appropriate action to oversee the independence of the Auditors.

6. To consider and, if deemed appropriate, adopt a policy regarding Audit Committee preapproval of employment by the Company of individuals formerly employed by the Company's Auditors and engaged on the Company's account.

Disclosure of Financial Reporting

7. To review, upon completion of the audit, the financial statements proposed to be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and to recommend whether or not such financial statements should be so included.

8. To discuss with management and the Auditors results of the annual audit, including the Auditors' assessment of the quality, not just acceptability, of accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments and estimates (including material changes in estimates), any material audit adjustments proposed by the Auditors and immaterial adjustments not recorded, the adequacy of the disclosures in the financial statements and any other matters required to be communicated to the Audit Committee by the Auditors under generally accepted auditing standards.

9. To discuss with management and the Auditors the results of the Auditors' review of the Company's quarterly financial statements, prior to public disclosure of quarterly financial information, if practicable, or filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and any other matters required to be communicated to the Audit Committee by the Auditors under generally accepted auditing standards.

10. To review and discuss with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, the Company's disclosures contained under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in its periodic reports to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Chair of the Committee may represent the entire Committee for purposes of this discussion.

11. To review and discuss with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, earnings press releases as well as the substance of financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and ratings agencies, which discussions may be general discussions of the type of information to be disclosed or the type of presentation to be made. .

12. To review with management and the Auditors significant issues that arise regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentation, including critical accounting policies and practices, alternative accounting policies available under GAAP related to material items discussed with management and any other significant reporting issues and judgments.

General Assessment

13. To review and discuss with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps taken by management to monitor and control these exposures.

14. To evaluate the cooperation received by the Auditors during their audit examination, including any significant difficulties with the audit or any restrictions on the scope of their activities or access to required records, data and information.

15. To review with the Auditors and, if appropriate, management, any management or internal control letter issued or, to the extent practicable, proposed to be issued by the Auditors and management's response, if any, to such letter, as well as any additional material written communications between the Auditors and management.

16. To review with the Auditors communications between the audit team and the firm's national office with respect to accounting or auditing issues presented by the engagement.

17. To review with the Auditors and management any conflicts or disagreements between management and the Auditors regarding financial reporting, accounting practices or policies and to resolve any conflicts regarding financial reporting.

18. To confer with the Auditors and with the management of the Company regarding the scope, adequacy and effectiveness of internal auditing and financial reporting controls in effect

19. Periodically, to meet in separate sessions with the Auditors and management to discuss any matters that the Audit Committee, the Auditors or management believe should be discussed privately with the Committee.

20. To consider and review with management, the Auditors, outside counsel, as appropriate, and, in the judgment of the Audit Committee, such special counsel, separate accounting firm and other consultants and advisors as the Committee deems appropriate, any correspondence with regulators or governmental agencies and any published reports that raise material issues regarding the Company's financial statements or accounting policies.

21. To establish procedures, when and as required by applicable laws and rules, for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential and anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

22. To review with counsel, the Auditors and management, as appropriate, any significant regulatory or other legal or accounting initiatives or matters that may have a material impact on the Company's financial statements, compliance programs and

Non-Audit-Related Matters

23. To investigate any matter brought to the attention of the Audit Committee within the scope of its duties if, in the judgment of the Committee, such investigation is necessary or appropriate.

24. To prepare the report required by the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.

25. To review and assess the adequacy of this charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval.

26. To report to the Board of Directors with respect to material issues that arise regarding the quality or integrity of the Company's financial statements, the performance or independence of the Company's Auditors, or such other matters as the Audit Committee deems appropriate from time to time or whenever it shall be called upon to do so. Otherwise, include other language.

27. To perform such other functions and to have such powers as may be necessary or appropriate in the efficient and lawful discharge of the foregoing.

It shall be the responsibility of management to prepare the Company's financial statements and periodic reports and the responsibility of the Auditors to audit those financial statements. These functions shall not be the responsibility of the Audit Committee, nor shall it be the Committee's responsibility to ensure that the financial statements or periodic reports are complete and accurate, conform to generally accepted accounting principles or otherwise comply with applicable laws.