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TOPIC 1 – Overview of Auditing & Assurance

Audit – professional service that involves **objective & critical examination** of a **subject matter** with aim of **assessing its credibility**, in order to **provide assurance** through the **issue of an objective opinion**.

Assurance- auditor's ability to provide **degree of satisfaction** regarding the **reliability of info provided.** DOS determined by the **nature & extent of procedures** performed by auditor, **results of procedures & objectivity of evidence obtained.**

Why have A&A?

Reasons for Audit

- Information Asymmetry (Info preparer(co mgmt.) & user(sh/lender/other user)
 - Relationship & stewardship function btwn Information User
 - Value: facilitate info user confidence, promote public interest, meets regulatory obligation, feature of corporate governance.

Demand for audit – separation of ownership & control.

- Agency Theory- principal(SH) engage agent(co. mgmt.) use resources
 of org in most appropriate way. Agents best interest of principal.
- Info Hypothesis- demand for info for DM(reliability of info), better quality info =better DM, audit of f/s – lead better info & make better decisions.
- Insurance Hypothesis- shift responsibility to auditor(effect limit risk)

Audit Expectation Gap – btwn public perception, auditor role & performance.

Perceived Performance of Auditors Auditors Society expectation of

Audit Expectation Performance Gap
Performance Gap + Reasonableness Gap
Deficient performance/standards + Unreasonable expectations

Audit is not a guarantee, proof that co – good/bad, fix error, find fraud. Education – min. gap between expectation and audit service provided.

Recent History & Response

Corporate Collapse- Enron, WorldCom, HIH Insurance, Issue – EM, Corporate governance failure, fraud, auditor role failure. Value of audit? Independence? Objective & critical reliance on consulting fees? Credibility? Assurance.

Australia – CLERP – Corporate Law Economic Reform Program: -add disclosure in directors report, general & specific auditor independence requirement, restriction on auditor being employed by audit client, auditor rotation for listed co.

US-Sarbanes-Oxley Act

-Public Co Acct Oversight Board, provision regarding auditor independence, corporate governance, i.c assessment, COI, enhanced financial disclosure.

Recent Year

Value of audit report questioned – intro new style report, Inclusion of KAM (Key audit matter) & greater focus on user understandin' audit report.

Australian Auditing and Assurance Env.

Financial Reporting Council (FRC) – oversees setting of acct & audit standards in Aus, responsible for oversight of AUASB & approve strategic direction & responsible 4 oversight of AASB & approve its strategic direction.

A&A Standards Board (AUASB)

-Development of ASA(Aus Audit Standards) – clear public interest focus of highest qlty.Obj: enhance the relevance, reliability & timeliness of info provided to users of a&a services, AUASB – appropriate ISAs of IAASB.

Australian Auditing Standards – introduction, objectives, definition, requirement, application & other explanatory material, conformity with Isa, Appendices

Audit & Assurance - ? audit? Assurance , Demand for audit ** , expectation gap – view of audit & role of audit differ, env- impact on audit. Planned & executed – audit opinion form.

TOPIC 2 - F/S Audit~ inside AE.

Assurance Engagement- assurance practitioner expresses a conclusion designed to enhance the degree of confidence of the intended users, other than the responsible party, outcome of the evaluation/measurement of a subject matter against criteria (AUASB for AE)

- Reasonableness AE: obj reduction in AE risk acceptably low IvI form basis of +ve form of expression of the concl. (AUDIT)
- Limited AE: obj reduction in risk to a level acceptable, risk > RAE, form basis -ve "" (REVIEW)

Audit of financial report

N – prepare f/s, acct entries

Y – examine fin info of org, perform procedures to obtain evidence, form opinion & report

Auditor – obtain & evaluate evidence, verify – performed appropriate, express opinion, deliver report, distribute report.

Objectives 4 auditor

- Reasonable assurance financial report; whole free from material misstatement whether due to fraud/error – enable auditor to express an opinion – financial report –prepared in all material respects in accordance with applicable financial reporting framework.
- Report on financial report & communicate required by AAS accordance with auditor's findings.

Audit Process

Client Acceptance/Continuance – Audit Plan/Risk Identification – Risk Assessment & Strategy – Execution – Conclusion & Reporting.

<u>Audit D</u>

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 Access capital market (increased credibility- greater access to funds) Lower ke (increased credibility, less risk) Limit inefficiency/fraud – benefit SH- higher profit 	 Time lapse (audit opinion after event) Test sample (inability to test all financial report) Assessment of materiality(focus on material misstatement) Specialised areas (judgement required more in some areas)

- Increased control & effectiveness of operations (financial benefit – lower costs)
- Report format limitation(standard report format(enough info)

F/s Assertions

 Representation by mgmt. & those charged with governance, explicit or otherwise, embodied in financial report, used by auditor consider diff type of potential misstatement that may occur.

Representation by mgmt. & used by auditor. F/s user.

Relate to: classes of transactions (event/amt), acct bal (A/L/E), presentation & disclosure of item in f/s(current v NCA/ Disclosure in notes to acct.

- Existence/Occurrence

A/L <u>exist</u> @ date (tangible nature)

Transaction(Event) <u>occurred</u> during the period.(sales & purchases, exp./change A/L/E)

- Completeness

Transactions, event & acct present in f/s included

- Cut-Off

Transaction & event – recorded in correct acct period.

- Rights & Obligations

Asset – right; Liabilites – obligation.

- Accuracy, Classification, Valuation & Allocation

A & L – valued & allocated appropriately in f/s.

Transactions recorded in appropriate acct (accuracy & classification)

- Presentation & Disclosure

Components of f/s properly presented & disclosed (Occurrence, Rights & Obligations & Classification, Accuracy & Valuation

Classes of transactions

- -P & L Statement Focus [Occurrence, Completeness, Accuracy, Cut-Off, Classification]
- -B/S Statement[Existence, Rights & Obligations, Completeness. Valuation & Allocation]
- -Presentation & Disclosure [Occurrence, rights & obligations, Completeness, Classification & Understandability, Accuracy & Valuation]

Receivables – existence, Completeness –all, Valuation – disclosed at appropriate amt

F/s Assertions

Exist – receivable exist (plan then execute procedures)

Completeness & Valuation(appropriate amt) – (receivable exist, included, appropriate value)

Auditor Appointment & Obligations

AA- CA s 301 – audit of annual financial report – co,registered scheme disclosing entity audited Div 3 obtain auditor report. Small pty co – x audit – s 293, x audit

CA s 327B- public co auditor must appoint auditor 1st AGM, appoint auditor to fill vacancy

Auditor hold office until die, remove, ceases to be an auditor or ceases.

Auditor Registration

Apply ASIC registered s 1279.

Removal – resolution at a general meeting, special notice at least 2 months prior

Resignation – ASIC consent to resign.

CA S324DA – significant role in audit of listed co/registered scheme – significant role in audit of co/ scheme later financial year.

Auditor Obligation

Relationship with stakeholder – SH(mgmt.), BOD(audit committee), internal auditor, mgmt.

Audit financial report-? Auditor do, diff record & report, assertions, benefit& limitation to co capital market to financial statement user. Assertion – evidence form opinion.