Purpose

The primary purpose of the Audit Committee (the “Committee”) is to assist the Board of Directors in fulfilling its responsibility of overseeing management’s conduct of the Company’s financial reporting process, the Company’s systems of internal accounting and financial controls, and the annual independent audit of the Company’s financial statements.

In discharging its oversight role, the Committee is empowered to investigate any matter brought to its attention and shall have full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the Company and the power to retain outside counsel, auditors or other experts for this purpose. The Board and the Committee are in place to represent the Company’s shareholders, and the outside auditor is ultimately accountable to the Board and the Committee as such representatives of shareholders. It is the responsibility of the Committee to maintain free and open means of communication between the Board, the outside auditor and the financial management and internal auditors of the Company.

The Committee shall review the adequacy of this Charter on an annual basis.

Membership

The Committee shall be comprised of not less than three members of the Board, and the Committee’s composition will meet the independence requirements of (i) the Nasdaq Global Select Market and (ii) Section 10A(m)(3) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”) and the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). Accordingly, all of the members of the Committee will be directors:

1. Who have no relationship with the Company that may interfere with the exercise of their independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director;

2. Who are not affiliates of the Company;

3. Who do not receive any payments from the Company other than in the capacity as director or a member of any committee of the Board of Directors; and

4. Who are financially literate or who become financially literate within a reasonable period of time after appointment to the Committee.

In addition, at least one member of the Committee will be an “audit committee financial expert” as defined by the applicable SEC rules and regulations.

The members of the Committee shall be elected by the Board at the annual organizational meeting of the Board and shall serve until their successors shall be duly elected
and qualified. Unless a Chairman of the Committee is elected by the full Board, the members of the Committee may designate a Chairman of the Committee by majority vote of the full Committee.

Meetings

The Committee shall meet at least four times annually, or more frequently as circumstances dictate. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Minutes of each meeting of the Committee should be recorded by the Secretary of the Committee. Approval by a majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute approval by the Committee. The Committee may also act by unanimous written consent without a meeting. As part of its job to foster open communication, the Committee should meet at least annually with management and the independent accountants in separate executive sessions to discuss any matters that the Committee or each of these groups believe should be discussed privately. In addition, the Committee or at least its Chairman should meet with the independent accountants and management quarterly to review the Company’s financial statements consistent with responsibility #2 below. The Committee may request any officer or employee of the Company or the Company’s outside counsel or independent auditor to attend a meeting of the Committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the Committee.

Key Responsibilities

The Committee’s job is one of oversight, and it recognizes that the Company’s management is responsible for preparing the Company’s financial statements and that the outside auditor is responsible for auditing those financial statements pursuant to professional standards. Additionally, the Committee recognizes that financial management has more time, knowledge and detailed information about the Company than do Committee members. Consequently, in carrying out its oversight responsibilities, the Committee is not providing any expert or special assurance as to the Company’s financial statements or any professional certification as to the outside auditor’s work.

The following functions shall be the common recurring activities of the Committee in carrying out its oversight function. These functions are set forth as a guide with the understanding that the Committee may diverge from this guide as appropriate given the circumstances.

1. The Committee shall review with management and the outside auditor the audited financial statements to be included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K (or the Annual Report to Shareholders if distributed prior to the filing of the Form 10-K) prior to the filing of the Form 10-K or, if deemed appropriate, prior to a year-end earnings release. The Committee shall review and consider with the outside auditors all matters required to be considered by the applicable requirements of the U.S. Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (“PCAOB”), including Auditing Standards No. 1301, Communications with Audit Committees (as amended or supplemented by, and including any successor rule adopted by, the PCAOB, “AS 1301”), by auditors with audit committees.
2. As a whole, or through the Committee chair, the Committee shall review with the outside auditor the Company’s interim financial results to be included in the Company’s quarterly reports to be filed with the SEC and the matters required to be discussed by AS 1301 with respect to quarterly financial statements. Such review will occur prior to the Company’s filing of the Form 10-Q or, if deemed appropriate, prior to quarterly earnings releases.

3. Review disclosures made to the Committee by the Company’s CEO and CFO during their certification process for the Form 10-K and Form 10-Q about any significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls or material weaknesses therein and any fraud involving management or other employees who have a significant role in the Company’s internal controls.

4. The Committee shall:
   
   (a) request from the outside auditor annually a formal written statement delineating all relationships between the auditor and the Company consistent with the applicable requirements of the PCAOB, including Rule 3526, *Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence* (as amended or supplemented, and including any successor rule adopted by the PCAOB);
   
   (b) discuss with the outside auditor any disclosed relationships or services which may impact the outside auditor’s objectivity or independence; and
   
   (c) recommend that the Board take appropriate action in response to the outside auditor’s report to satisfy itself of the auditor’s independence.

5. The Committee shall have the sole authority to appoint or replace the independent auditor (subject, if applicable, to shareholder ratification). The Committee shall be directly responsible for the compensation and oversight of the work of the independent auditor (including resolution of disagreements between management and the independent auditor regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or related work. The independent auditor shall report directly to the Committee.

6. The Committee shall preapprove all auditing services and permitted non-audit services (including the fees and terms thereof) to be performed for the company by its independent auditor, subject to the *de minimis* exceptions for non-audit services described in Section 10A(i)(1)(B) of the Exchange Act (as implemented in 15 U.S. Code § 78j–1 or in any successor provision thereof) which are approved by the Committee prior to the completion of the audit. The Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees consisting of one or more members when appropriate, including the authority to grant preapprovals of audit and permitted nonaudit services, provided that decisions of such subcommittee to grant preapprovals shall be presented to the full Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

7. Review and discuss quarterly reports from the independent auditors on:
   
   (a) All critical accounting policies and practices to be used.
(b) All alternative treatments of financial information within generally accepted accounting principles that have been discussed with management, ramifications of the use of such alternative disclosures and treatments, and the treatment preferred by the independent auditor.

(c) Other material written communications between the independent auditor and management, such as any management letter or schedule of unadjusted differences.

8. Periodically consult with the independent accountants, out of the presence of management, about internal controls and the fullness and accuracy of the organization’s financial statements.

9. Ensure the rotation of the lead (or coordinating) audit partner having primary responsibility for the audit and the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit as required by law. Consider whether, in order to assure continuing auditor independence, it is appropriate to adopt a policy of rotating the independent auditing firm itself on a regular basis.

10. Recommend to the Board policies for the Company’s hiring of employees or former employees of the independent auditor who participated in any capacity in the audit of the Company.

11. Discuss with management the Company’s use of “pro forma” or “adjusted” non-GAAP information, as well as financial information and earnings guidance provided to analysts and rating agencies. Such discussion may be general in nature (consisting of discussion of the types of information to be disclosed and the types of presentations to be made).

12. Establish regular and separate systems of reporting to the Committee by each of management, the independent accountants, and the internal auditors regarding any significant judgments made in management’s preparation of the financial statements, and the view of each as to appropriateness of such judgments.

13. Following completion of the annual audit, review separately with each of management and the independent accountants any significant difficulties encountered during the course of the audit, including any restrictions on the scope of work or access to required information.

14. Review any significant disagreement among management and the independent accountants in connection with the preparation of the financial statements.

15. Establish 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 concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

16. Establish, review, and update periodically a Code of Ethical Conduct, and ensure that management has established a system to enforce the same.
17. Review and approve any transactions between the Company and its officers, directors or 5% shareholders.

18. The Committee shall have the authority, to the extent it deems necessary or appropriate, to retain independent legal, accounting or other advisors. The Company shall provide for appropriate funding, as determined by the Committee, for payment of compensation to the independent auditor for the purpose of rendering or issuing an audit report and to any advisors employed by the Committee.

**Reporting Responsibility**

The minutes of the Committee reflecting, among other things, all actions taken by the Committee, shall be distributed to the Board at the next Board meeting following the meeting of the Committee that is the subject of such minutes.

The Committee shall prepare the report required by the rules of the SEC to be included in the Company’s annual proxy statement.