Answers

Fundamentals Level – Skills Module, F7 (HKG) Financial Reporting (Hong Kong)

December 2007 Answers

1 (a)	Consolidated	balance she	et of Plateau	as at 30	September	2007
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	\$'000	\$'000
Assets		
Non-current assets:		
Property, plant and equipment $(18,400 + 10,400 - 400 \text{ (w (i))})$		28,400
Goodwill (w (ii))		3,600
Investments – associate (W (III))		10,500
- other available for sale		9,000
		51,500
Current assets	10.000	
Inventory $(6,900 + 6,200 - 300 \text{ URP (w (iv))})$	12,800	17 500
Irade receivables $(3,200 + 1,500)$	4,700	17,500
Total assets		69,000
Fruit, and lightliting		
Equity drive reprint the second seco		11 500
Reserves		11,500
Share premium (w (v))	7.500	
Retained earnings (w (vi))	28,650	36,150
		47 650
Minority interest (w (vii))		3 150
lotal equity		50,800
7% Loop notes (5.000 \pm 1.000)		6 000
		0,000
Current liabilities (8,000 + 4,200)		12,200
Total equity and liabilities		69,000

Workings (figures in brackets are in \$'000)

(i) Property, plant and equipment

The transfer of the plant creates an initial unrealised profit (URP) of \$500,000. This is reduced by \$100,000 for each year (straight-line depreciation over five years) of depreciation in the post-acquisition period. Thus at 30 September 2007 the net unrealised profit is \$400,000. This should be eliminated from Plateau's retained profits and from the carrying amount of the plant. The fall in the fair value of the land has already been taken into account in Savannah's balance sheet.

(ii) Goodwill in Savannah:

Investment at cost:	\$'000	\$'000
Shares issued (3,000/2 x \$6)		9,000
Cash (3,000 x \$1)		3,000
		12,000
Less – equity shares of Savannah	(3,000)	
 pre-acquisition reserves (6,000 x 75% (see below)) 	(4,500)	(7,500)
Goodwill on consolidation		4,500

Goodwill is impaired by \$900,000 thus has a carrying amount at 30 September 2007 of \$3.6 million.

Savannah's pre-acquisition reserves of \$6.5 million require an adjustment for a write down of \$500,000 in respect of the fair value of its land being below its carrying amount. Thus the adjusted pre-acquisition reserves of Savannah are \$6 million. A consequent effect is that the post-acquisition reserves which are reported as \$2.4 million in Savannah's balance sheet will become \$2.9 million. This is because the fall in the value of the land has effectively been treated by Savannah as a post-acquisition loss.

(iii)	Carrying amount of Axle at 30 September 2007	\$'000
	Cost (4,000 x 30% x \$7.50)	9,000
	Share post-acquisition profit (5,000 x 30%)	1,500
		10.500

(iv) The unrealised profit (URP) in inventory is calculated as:

Intra-group sales are \$2.7 million on which Savannah made a profit of \$900,000 (2,700 x 50/150). One third of these are still in the inventory of Plateau, thus there is an unrealised profit of \$300,000.

(v) The 1.5 million shares issued by Plateau in the share exchange at a value of \$6 each would be recorded as \$1 per share as capital and \$5 per share as share premium giving an increase in share capital of \$1.5 million and a share premium of \$7.5 million.

(vi)	Consolidated retained earnings	\$'000
(• 1)	Plateau's retained earnings	24.000
	Savannah's post-acquisition ((2.900 – 300 URP) x 75%)	1.950
	Axle's post-acquisition profits (5,000 x 30%)	1,500
	URP in plant (see (i))	(400)
	Gain on available-for-sale investment (9,000 – 6,500) see below	2,500
	Impairment of goodwill	(900)
		28,650

The gain on available-for-sale investments must be recognised directly in equity.

- (vii) Minority interest
 Adjusted equity at 30 September 2007: (12,900 300 URP) = 12,600 x 25% 3,150
- (b) HKFRS 3 *Business Combinations* requires the purchase consideration for an acquired entity to be allocated to the fair value of the assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired (henceforth referred to as net assets and ignoring contingent liabilities) with any residue being allocated to goodwill. This also means that those net assets will be recorded at fair value in the consolidated balance sheet. This is entirely consistent with the way other net assets are recorded when first transacted (i.e. the initial cost of an asset is normally its fair value). The purpose of this process is that it ensures that individual assets and liabilities are correctly classified (and valued) in the consolidated balance sheet. Whilst this may sound obvious, consider what would happen if say a property had a carrying amount of \$5 million, but a fair value of \$7 million at the date it was acquired. If the carrying amount rather than the fair value was used in the consolidation it would mean that tangible assets (property, plant and equipment) would be understated by \$2 million and intangible assets (goodwill) would be overstated by the same amount (note: in the consolidated balance sheet of Plateau the opposite effect would occur as the fair value of Savannah's land is below its carrying amount at the date of acquisition). There could also be a 'knock on' effect with incorrect depreciation charges in the years following an acquisition and incorrect calculation of any goodwill impairment. Thus the use of carrying amounts rather than fair values would not give a 'faithful representation' as required by the Framework.

The assistant's comment regarding the inconsistency of value models in the consolidated balance sheet is a fair point, but it is really a deficiency of the historical cost concept rather than a flawed consolidation technique. Indeed the fair values of the subsidiary's net assets are the historical costs to the parent. To overcome much of the inconsistency, there would be nothing to prevent the parent company from applying the revaluation model to its property, plant and equipment.

2 (a) Llama – Income statement – Year ended 30 September 2007

Revenue Cost of sales (w (i))	\$'000	\$7000 180,400 (81,700)
Gross profit Distribution costs (11.000 + 1.000 depreciation)	(12.000)	98,700
Administrative expenses (12,500 + 1,000 depreciation)	(13,500)	(25,500)
Investment income Gain on fair value of investments (27,100 – 26,500)	2,200 600	2,800
Finance costs (w (ii))		(2,400)
Profit before tax Income tax expense (18,700 - 400 - (11,200 - 10,000) deferred tax)		73,600 (17,100)
Profit for the period		56,500

(b)	Llama – Balance sheet as at 30 September 2007		
		\$'000	\$'000
	Assets		
	Property plant and equipment (w (iv))		228 500
	Investments at fair value through profit and loss		27,100
	5 1		255 600
	Current assets		200,000
	Inventory	37,900	
	Trade receivables	35,100	73,000
	Total assets		328,600
	Equity and liabilities		
	Equity		
	Equity shares of 50 cents each (($60,000 + 15,000$) w (iii))		/5,000
	Share premium (w (iii))	9,000	
	Revaluation reserve (14,000 – 3,000 (w (iv)))	11,000	102 000
	Retained earnings (56,500 \pm 25,500)	82,000	102,000
	KI		177,000
	Non-current liabilities 2% loap note (80,000 \pm 1,600 (w (ii)))	81 600	
	Deferred tax (40,000 x 25%)	10,000	91 600
	Current liabilities		01,000
	Trade navables	34 700	
	Bank overdraft	6,600	
	Current tax payable	18,700	60,000
	Total equity and liabilities		328,600
	Workings (monetary figures in brackets are in \$'000)		
	(i) Cost of sales:	\$'000	
	Per question	89,200	
	Plant capitalised (w (iv))	(24,000)	
	Depreciation (w (iv)) – buildings – plant	3,000 13,500	
	– piant		
		81,700	

- (ii) The loan has been in issue for six months. The total finance charge should be based on the effective interest rate of 6%. This gives a charge of $2\cdot4$ million (80,000 x 6% x 6/12). As the actual interest paid is \$800,000 an accrual (added to the carrying amount of the loan) of $1\cdot6$ million is required.
- (iii) The rights issue was 30 million shares (60 million/50 cents is 120 million shares at 1 for 4) at a price of 80 cents; this would increase share capital by \$15 million (30 million x 50 cents) and share premium by \$9 million (30 million x 30 cents).
- (iv) Non-current assets/depreciation:

Land and buildings:

On 1 October 2006 the value of the buildings was \$100 million (130,000 - 30,000 land). The remaining life at this date was 20 years, thus the annual depreciation charge will be \$5 million (3,000 to cost of sales and 1,000 each to distribution and administration). Prior to the revaluation at 30 September 2007 the carrying amount of the building was \$95 million (100,000 - 5,000). With a revalued amount of \$92 million, this gives a revaluation deficit of \$3 million which should be debited to the revaluation reserve. The carrying amount of land and buildings at 30 September 2007 will be \$122 million (92,000 buildings + 30,000 land (unchanged)).

Plant

The existing plant will be depreciated by \$12 million ((128,000 – 32,000) x $12^{1}/_{2}$ %) and have a carrying amount of \$84 million at 30 September 2007.

The plant manufactured for internal use should be capitalised at \$24 million (6,000 + 4,000 + 8,000 + 6,000). Depreciation on this will be 1.5 million (24,000 x $12^{1}/_{2}\%$ x 6/12). This will give a carrying amount of \$22.5 million at 30 September 2007. Thus total depreciation for plant is \$13.5 million with a carrying amount of \$106.5 million (84,000 + 22,500)

Summarising the carrying amounts:	\$'000
Land and buildings	122,000
Plant	106,500
Property, plant and equipment	228,500

(c) Earnings per share (eps) for the year ended 30 September 2007

Theoretical ex rights value			\$
Holding (say)	100	at \$1	100
Issue (1 for 4)	25	at 80 cents	20
New holding	125	ex rights price is 96 cents	120
Weighted average number o	f shares		
120,000,000	XS	9/12 x 100/96	93,750,000
150,000,000 (120 x 5/4)	хS	3/12	37,500,000
			131,250,000

Earnings per share (\$56,500,000/131,250,000) 43 cents

3 (a) Note: figures in the calculations of the ratios are in \$million

C .	2007	workings	2006	2007 re Fatima (b)
Return on year end capital employed	11.2 %	24/(114 + 100) x 100	7.1%	18·9%
Net asset turnover	1.2 times	250/214	1.6	0.6
Gross profit margin (given in question)	20%		16.7%	42.9%
Net profit (before tax) margin	6.4%	16/250	4.4%	31.4%
Current ratio	0.9:1	38/44	2.5	
Closing inventory holding period	46 days	25/200 x 365	37	
Trade receivables' collection period	19 days	13/250 x 365	16	
Trade payables' payment period	42 days	23/200 x 365	32	
Gearing	46.7%	100/214 x 100	nil	

The gross profit margins and relevant ratios for 2006 are given in the question, and some additional ratios for Fatima are included above to enable a clearer analysis in answering part (b) (references to Fatima should be taken to mean Fatima's net assets).

(b) Analysis of the comparative financial performance and position of Harbin for the year ended 30 September 2007. Note: references to 2007 and 2006 should be taken as the years ended 30 September 2007 and 2006.

Introduction

The figures relating to the comparative performance of Harbin 'highlighted' in the Chief Executive's report may be factually correct, but they take a rather biased and one dimensional view. They focus entirely on the performance as reflected in the income statement without reference to other measures of performance (notably the ROCE); nor is there any reference to the purchase of Fatima at the beginning of the year which has had a favourable effect on profit for 2007. Due to this purchase, it is not consistent to compare Harbin's income statement results in 2007 directly with those of 2006 because it does not match like with like. Immediately before the \$100 million purchase of Fatima, the carrying amount of the net assets of Harbin was \$112 million. Thus the investment represented an increase of nearly 90% of Harbin's existing capital employed. The following analysis of performance will consider the position as shown in the reported financial statements (based on the ratios required by part (a) of the question) and then go on to consider the impact the purchase has had on this analysis.

Profitability

The ROCE is often considered to be the primary measure of operating performance, because it relates the profit made by an entity (return) to the capital (or net assets) invested in generating those profits. On this basis the ROCE in 2007 of $11\cdot2\%$ represents a 58% improvement (i.e. $4\cdot1\%$ on $7\cdot1\%$) on the ROCE of $7\cdot1\%$ in 2006. Given there were no disposals of non-current assets, the ROCE on Fatima's net assets is $18\cdot9\%$ ($22m/100m + 16\cdot5m$). Note: the net assets of Fatima at the year end would have increased by profit after tax of $\$16\cdot5$ million (i.e. $22m \times 75\%$ (at a tax rate of 25%)). Put another way, without the contribution of \$22 million to profit before tax, Harbin's 'underlying' profit would have been a **loss** of \$6 million which would give a negative ROCE. The principal reasons for the beneficial impact of Fatima's purchase is that its profit margins at $42\cdot9\%$ gross and $31\cdot4\%$ net (before tax) are far superior to the profit margins of the combined business at 20% and $6\cdot4\%$ respectively. It should be observed that the other contributing factor to the ROCE is the net asset turnover and in this respect Fatima's is actually inferior at $0\cdot6$ times ($70m/116\cdot5m$) to that of the combined business of $1\cdot2$ times.

It could be argued that the finance costs should be allocated against Fatima's results as the proceeds of the loan note appear to be the funding for the purchase of Fatima. Even if this is accepted, Fatima's results still far exceed those of the existing business.

Thus the Chief Executive's report, already criticised for focussing on the income statement alone, is still highly misleading. Without the purchase of Fatima, underlying sales revenue would be flat at \$180 million and the gross margin would be down to $11\cdot1\%$ (20m/180m) from $16\cdot7\%$ resulting in a loss before tax of \$6 million. This sales performance is particularly poor given it is likely that there must have been an increase in spending on property plant and equipment beyond that related to the purchase of Fatima's net assets as the increase in property, plant and equipment is \$120 million (after depreciation).

Liquidity

The company's liquidity position as measured by the current ratio has deteriorated dramatically during the period. A relatively healthy 2.5:1 is now only 0.9:1 which is rather less than what one would expect from the quick ratio (which excludes inventory) and is a matter of serious concern. A consideration of the component elements of the current ratio suggests that increases in the inventory holding period and trade payables payment period have largely offset each other. There is a small increase in the collection period for trade receivables (up from 16 days to 19 days) which would actually improve the current ratio. This ratio appears unrealistically low, it is very difficult to collect credit sales so quickly and may be indicative of factoring some of the receivables, or a proportion of the sales being cash sales. Factoring is sometimes seen as a consequence of declining liquidity, although if this assumption is correct it does also appear to have been present in the previous year. The changes in the above three ratios do not explain the dramatic deterioration in the current ratio, the real culprit is the cash position, Harbin has gone from having a bank balance of \$14 million in 2006 to showing short-term bank borrowings of \$17 million in 2007.

A cash flow statement would give a better appreciation of the movement in the bank/short term borrowing position.

It is not possible to assess, in isolation, the impact of the purchase of Fatima on the liquidity of the company.

Dividends

A dividend of 10 cents per share in 2007 amounts to \$10 million (100m x 10 cents), thus the dividend in 2006 would have been \$8 million (the dividend in 2007 is 25% up on 2006). It may be that the increase in the reported profits led the Board to pay a 25% increased dividend, but the dividend cover is only 1.2 times (12m/10m) in 2007 which is very low. In 2006 the cover was only 0.75 times (6m/8m) meaning previous years' reserves were used to facilitate the dividend. The low retained earnings indicate that Harbin has historically paid a high proportion of its profits as dividends, however in times of declining liquidity, it is difficult to justify such high dividends.

Gearing

The company has gone from a position of nil gearing (i.e. no long-term borrowings) in 2006 to a relatively high gearing of 46.7% in 2007. This has been caused by the issue of the \$100 million 8% loan note which would appear to be the source of the funding for the \$100 million purchase of Fatima's net assets. At the time the loan note was issued, Harbin's ROCE was 7.1%, slightly less than the finance cost of the loan note. In 2007 the ROCE has increased to 11.2%, thus the manner of the funding has had a beneficial effect on the returns to the equity holders of Harbin. However, it should be noted that high gearing does not come without risk; any future downturn in the results of Harbin would expose the equity holders to much lower proportionate returns and continued poor liquidity may mean payment of the loan interest could present a problem. Harbin's gearing and liquidity position would have looked far better had some of the acquisition been funded by an issue of equity shares.

Conclusion

There is no doubt that the purchase of Fatima has been a great success and appears to have been a wise move on the part of the management of Harbin. However, it has disguised a serious deterioration of the underlying performance and position of Harbin's existing activities which the Chief Executive's report may be trying to hide. It may be that the acquisition was part of an overall plan to diversify out of what has become existing loss making activities. If such a transition can continue, then the worrying aspects of poor liquidity and high gearing may be overcome.

4 (a) Faithful representation

The Framework states that in order to be useful, information must be reliable and the two main components of reliability are freedom from material error and faithful representation. The Framework describes faithful representation as where the financial statements (or other information) have the characteristic that they faithfully represent the transactions and other events that have occurred. Thus a balance sheet should faithfully represent transactions that result in assets, liabilities and equity of an entity. Some would refer to this as showing a true and fair view. An essential element of faithful representation is the application of the concept of substance over form. There are many examples where recording the legal form of a transaction does not convey its real substance or commercial reality. For example an entity may sell some inventory to a finance house and later buy it back at a price based on the original selling price plus a finance cost. Such a transaction is really a secured loan attracting interest costs. To portray it as a sale and subsequent repurchase of inventory would not be a faithful representation of the transaction. The 'sale' would probably create a 'profit', there would be no finance cost in the income statement and the balance sheet would not show the asset of inventory or the liability to the finance house - all of which would not be representative of the economic reality. A further example is that an entity may issue loan notes that are (optionally) convertible to equity. In the past sometimes management has argued that as they expect the loan note holders to take the equity option, the loan notes should be treated as equity (which of course would flatter the entity's gearing). In some cases transactions similar to the above, particularly off balance sheet finance schemes, have been deliberately entered into to manipulate the balance sheet and income statement (so called creative accounting). Ratios such as return on capital employed (ROCE), asset turnover, interest cover and gearing are often used to assess the performance of an entity. If these ratios were calculated from financial statements that have been manipulated, they would be distorted (usually favourably) from the underlying substance. Clearly users cannot rely on such financial statements or any ratios calculated from them.

(b) (i) The finance director's comment that the ROCE would improve, based on the agreement being classified as an operating lease is correct (but see below). Over the life of the lease the reported profit is not affected by the lease being designated as an operating or finance lease, but the balance sheet is. This is because the depreciation and finance costs charged on a finance lease would equal (over the full life of the lease) what would be charged as lease rentals if it were classed

as an operating lease instead. However, classed as an operating lease, there would not be a leased asset or lease obligation recorded in the balance sheet; whereas there would be if it were a finance lease or an outright purchase. Thus capital employed under an operating lease would be lower leading to a higher (more favourable) ROCE. HKAS 17 *Leases* defines a finance lease as one which transfers to the lessee substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership (an application of the principle of substance over form). In this case, as the asset will be used by Fino for four years (its entire useful life) and then be scrapped, it is almost certain to require classification as a finance lease. Thus the finance director's comments are unlikely to be valid.

Fino			
(ii)	(1)	Operating lease Income statement – cost of sales (machine rental) (100,000 x 6/12)	\$ 50,000
		Balance sheet Current assets Prepayment (100,000 x 6/12)	50,000
	(2)	Finance lease Income statement – cost of sales (depreciation) (350,000/4 x 6/12) – finance costs (see working)	43,750 12,500
		Balance sheet	
		Non-current assets Leased plant at cost Depreciation (from above)	350,000 (43,750)
			306,250
		Non-current liabilities Lease obligation (250,000 – 75,000)	175,000
		Current liabilities	
		Accrued interest (see working) Lease obligation (100,000 – 25,000 see below)	12,500 75,000
			87,500
		Working:	
		Cost Deposit	350,000 (100,000)
		Interest to 30 September 2007 (6 months at 10%)	250,000 12,500
		Total obligation at 30 September 2007	262,500

The payment of \$100,000 on 1 April 2008 will contain \$25,000 of interest (\$250,000 x 10%) and a capital repayment of \$75,000.

5 (a) The Framework defines an asset as a resource controlled by an entity as a result of past transactions or events from which future economic benefits (normally net cash inflows) are expected to flow to the entity. However assets can only be recognised (on the balance sheet) when those expected benefits are probable and can be measured reliably. The Framework recognises that there is a close relationship between incurring expenditure and generating assets, but they do not necessarily coincide. Development expenditure, perhaps more than any other form of expenditure, is a classic example of the relationship between expenditure and creating an asset. Clearly entities commit to expenditure on both research and development in the hope that it will lead to a profitable product, process or service, but at the time that the expenditure is being incurred, entities cannot be certain (or it may not even be probable) that the project will be successful. Relating this to accounting concepts would mean that if there is doubt that a project will be successful the application of prudence would dictate that the expenditure is charged (expensed) to the income statement. At the stage where management becomes confident that the project will be successful, it meets the definition of an asset and the accruals/matching concept would mean that it should be capitalised (treated as an asset) and amortised over the period of the expected benefits. Accounting Standards (HKAS 38 *Intangible Assets*) interpret this as writing off all research expenditure and only capitalising development costs from the point in time where they meet strict conditions which effectively mean the expenditure meets the definition of an asset.

(b)	Emerald Income statement: Amortisation of development expenditure	30 September \$'000 335	• 2007 30) September \$'000 135	2006 (w (i))
	Balance sheet Development expenditure	1,195	(w (iv))	1,130	(w (iii))
	Statement of changes in equity Prior period adjustment (credit required to restate retained (cumulative carrying amount at 2005 of 300 + 165)	earnings at 1 O	ctober 200)5) 465	

Workings (All figures in \$'000. Note: references to 2004, 2005 etc should be taken as for the year ended 30 September 2004 and 2005 etc.)

Year	2004	2005	2006	cumulative 2006	2007	cumulative 2007
Expenditure	300	240	800	1,340	400	1,740
Amortisation (25%)	nil	(75)	(75)	(150)	(75)	(225)
	nil	nil	(60)	(60)	(60)	(120)
	nil	nil	nil	nil	(200)	(200)
Total amortisation	nil	(75)	(w (i)) (135)	(210)	(w (ii)) (335)	(545)
Carrying amount	300	165	665	(w (iii)) 1,130	65	(w (iv)) 1,195

Fundamentals Level – Skills Module, F7 (HKG) Financial Reporting (Hong Kong)

December 2007 Marking Scheme

This marking scheme is given as a guide in the context of the suggested answers. Scope is given to markers to award marks for alternative approaches to a question, including relevant comment, and where well-reasoned conclusions are provided. This is particularly the case for written answers where there may be more than one acceptable solution.

1 (2)	Palance cheet.		Marks
1 (a)	property, plant and equipment goodwill investments – associate – other current assets equity shares share premium retained earnings minority interest 7% loan notes current liabilities		2 4 2 1 2 1 1 4 1 1 1 20
(b)	1 mark per relevant point	Total for question	5 25
2 (a)	Income statement revenue cost of sales distribution costs and administrative expenses investment income and gain on investment finance costs tax		$\begin{array}{c} {}^{1/2} \\ {3}^{1/2} \\ 1 \\ {1}^{1/2} \\ 1 \\ {1}^{1/2} \\ 9 \end{array}$
(b)	Balance sheet property, plant and equipment investments current assets equity shares share premium revaluation reserve retained earnings 2% loan notes deferred tax trade payables and overdraft income tax provision		3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1/2 1 1 1/2 13
(c)	Earnings per share calculation of theoretical ex rights value weighted average number of shares earnings and calculation of eps		1 1 1 3
		Total for question	25
3 (a)	one mark per required ratio		8
(b)	for consideration of Chief Executive's report impact of purchase remaining issues 1 mark per valid point	Total for question	3 6 8 17 25

4 (a) (b)	(a)	one mark per valid point to maximum					
	(b)	(i)	one	mark per valio	d point to	maximum	4
		(ii)	(1)	operating lea	se – income statemen – prepayment	t charge	1 2
			(2)	finance lease	 income statement: balance sheet: nor non-current liabilities current liabilities inter 	depreciation and finance costs n-current asset rest and capital	
						Total for ques	tion 15
5 (a)	one mark per valid point to ma			maximum	4		
	(b)) income statement amortisation cost in balance sheets accumulated amortisation prior year adjustment in changes in equity					$ \begin{array}{c} 1^{1} /_{2} \\ 1^{1} /_{2} \\ 2 \\ 6 \\ 10 \end{array} $
						iotal for ques	1011 10