

Fundamentals Level – Skills Module

Audit and Assurance (United Kingdom)

Wednesday 5 December 2007

Time allowed

Reading and planning: 15 minutes

Writing: 3 hours

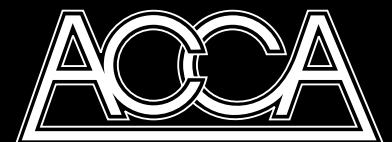
ALL FIVE questions are compulsory and MUST be attempted.

Do NOT open this paper until instructed by the supervisor.

During reading and planning time only the question paper may be annotated. You must NOT write in your answer booklet until instructed by the supervisor.

This question paper must not be removed from the examination hall.

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants



Paper F8 (UK)

ALL FIVE questions are compulsory and MUST be attempted

- 1 DinZee Ltd assembles fridges, microwaves, washing machines and other similar domestic appliances from parts procured from a large number of suppliers. As part of the interim audit work two weeks prior to the company year-end, you are testing the procurement and purchases systems and attending the stock count.

Procurement and purchases system

Parts stock is monitored by the stores manager. When the quantity of a particular part falls below re-order level, an e-mail is sent to the procurement department detailing the part required and the quantity to order. A copy of the e-mail is filed on the store manager's computer.

Staff in the procurement department check the e-mail, allocate the order to an authorised supplier and send the order to that supplier using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI). A copy of the EDI order is filed in the order database by the computer system. The order is identified by a unique order number.

When goods are received at DinZee, the stores clerk confirms that the stock agrees to the delivery note and checks the order database to ensure that the stock were in fact ordered by DinZee. (Delivery is refused where goods do not have a delivery note.)

The order in the order database is updated to confirm receipt of goods, and the perpetual stock system updated to show the receipt of stock. The physical goods are added to the parts store and the paper delivery note is stamped with the order number and is filed in the goods inwards department.

The supplier sends a purchase invoice to DinZee using EDI; invoices are automatically routed to the accounts department. On receipt of the invoice, the accounts clerk checks the order database, matches the invoice details with the database and updates the database to confirm receipt of invoice. The invoice is added to the purchases database, where the purchase day book (PDB) and suppliers individual account in the purchases ledger are automatically updated.

Required:

- (a) **List SIX audit procedures that an auditor would normally carry out on the purchases system at DinZee Ltd, explaining the reason for each procedure.** (12 marks)
- (b) **List FOUR audit procedures that an auditor will normally perform prior to attending the client's premises on the day of the stock count.** (2 marks)
- (c) On the day of the stock count, you attended depot nine at DinZee. You observed the following activities:
 - 1. Pre-numbered count sheets were being issued to client's staff carrying out the count. The count sheets showed the stock ledger balances for checking against physical stock.
 - 2. All count staff were drawn from the stock warehouse and were counting in teams of two.
 - 3. Three counting teams were allocated to each area of the stores to count, although the teams were allowed to decide which pair of staff counted which stock within each area. Staff were warned that they had to remember which stock had been counted.
 - 4. Information was recorded on the count sheets in pencil so amendments could be made easily as required.
 - 5. Any stock not located on the pre-numbered stock sheets was recorded on separate stock sheets – which were numbered by staff as they were used.
 - 6. At the end of the count, all count sheets were collected and the numeric sequence of the sheets checked; the sheets were not signed.

Required:

- (i) **List the weaknesses in the control system for counting stock at depot nine.** (3 marks)
- (ii) **For each weakness, explain why it is a weakness and state how that weakness can be overcome.** (9 marks)

- (d) (i) **State the aim of a test of control and the aim of a substantive procedure.**
- (ii) **In respect of your attendance at DinZee Ltd's stock count, state one test of control and one substantive procedure that you should perform.** (4 marks)

(30 marks)

- 2 (a) **Explain each of the FIVE fundamental principles of ACCA's Code of Ethics and Conduct.** (5 marks)
- (b) ISA (UK and Ireland) 570 *Going concern* provides guidance to auditors in respect of ensuring that an entity can continue as a going concern.

Required:

Explain the actions that an auditor should carry out to try and ascertain whether an entity is a going concern. (5 marks)

(10 marks)

- 3 Matalas Ltd sells cars, car parts and petrol from 25 different locations in one country. Each branch has up to 20 staff working there, although most of the accounting systems are designed and implemented from the company's head office. All accounting systems, apart from petty cash, are computerised, with the internal audit department frequently advising and implementing controls within those systems.

Matalas has an internal audit department of six staff, all of whom have been employed at Matalas for a minimum of five years and some for as long as 15 years. In the past, the chief internal auditor appoints staff within the internal audit department, although the chief executive officer (CEO) is responsible for appointing the chief internal auditor. The chief internal auditor reports directly to the finance director. The finance director also assists the chief internal auditor in deciding on the scope of work of the internal audit department.

You are an audit manager in the internal audit department of Matalas. You are currently auditing the petty cash systems at the different branches. Your initial systems notes on petty cash contain the following information:

1. The average petty cash balance at each branch is £5,000.
2. Average monthly expenditure is £1,538, with amounts ranging from £1 to £500.
3. Petty cash is kept in a lockable box on a bookcase in the accounts office.
4. Vouchers for expenditure are signed by the person incurring that expenditure to confirm they have received re-imbursment from petty cash.
5. Vouchers are recorded in the petty cash book by the accounts clerk; each voucher records the date, reason for the expenditure, amount of expenditure and person incurring that expenditure.
6. Petty cash is counted every month by the accounts clerk, who is in charge of the cash. The petty cash balance is then reimbursed using the 'imprest' system and the journal entry produced to record expenditure in the nominal ledger.
7. The cheque to reimburse petty cash is signed by the accountant at the branch at the same time as the journal entry to the nominal ledger is reviewed.

Required:

- (a) **Explain the issues which limit the independence of the internal audit department in Matalas Ltd. Recommend a way of overcoming each issue.** (8 marks)
- (b) **Explain the internal control weaknesses in the petty cash system at Matalas Ltd. For each weakness, recommend a control to overcome that weakness.** (12 marks)

(20 marks)

4 Delphic Ltd is a wholesaler of furniture (such as chairs, tables and cupboards). Delphic buys the furniture from six major manufacturers and sells them to over 600 different customers ranging from large retail chain stores to smaller owner-controlled businesses. The debtors balance therefore includes customers owing up to £125,000 to smaller balances of about £5,000, all with many different due dates for payments and credit limits. All information is stored on Delphic's computer systems although previous audits have tended to adopt an 'audit around the computer' approach.

You are the audit senior in charge of the audit of the debtors balance. For the first time at this client, you have decided to use audit software to assist with the audit of the debtors balance. Computer staff at Delphic are happy to help the auditor, although they cannot confirm completeness of systems documentation, and warn that the systems have very old operating systems in place, limiting file compatibility with more modern programs.

The change in audit approach has been taken mainly to fully understand Delphic's computer systems prior to new internet modules being added next year. To limit the possibility of damage to Delphic's computer files, copy files will be provided by Delphic's computer staff for the auditor to use with their own audit software.

Required:

- (a) **Explain the audit procedures that should be carried out using audit software on the debtors balance at Delphic Ltd. For each procedure, explain the reason for that procedure.** (9 marks)
- (b) **Explain the potential problems of using audit software at Delphic Ltd. For each problem, explain how it can be resolved.** (8 marks)
- (c) **Explain the concept of 'auditing around the computer' and discuss why this increases audit risk for the auditor.** (3 marks)

(20 marks)

- 5 (a) You are the audit manager in JonArc & Co. One of your new clients this year is Galartha Ltd, a company having net assets of £15 million. The audit work has been completed, but there is one outstanding matter you are currently investigating; the directors have decided not to provide depreciation on buildings in the financial statements, although Financial Reporting Standards suggest that depreciation should be provided.

Required:

State the additional audit procedures and actions you should now take in respect of the above matter.

(6 marks)

- (b) Unfortunately, you have been unable to resolve the matter regarding depreciation of buildings; the directors insist on not providing depreciation. You have therefore drafted the following extracts for your proposed audit report.

1. *'We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement (remaining words are the same as a normal unmodified report).'*
2. *As discussed in Note 15 to the financial statements, no depreciation has been provided in the financial statements which practice, in our opinion, is not in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards.*
3. *The charge for the year ended 30 September 2007, should be £420,000 based on the straight-line method of depreciation using an annual rate of 5% for the buildings.*
4. *Accordingly, the fixed assets should be reduced by accumulated depreciation of £1,200,000 and the profit for the year and accumulated reserve should be decreased by £420,000 and £1,200,000, respectively.*
5. *In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements give a true and fair view ... (remaining words are the same as for an unmodified opinion paragraph).'*

The extracts have been numbered to help you refer to them in your answer.

Required:

Explain the meaning and purpose of each of the above extracts in your draft audit report.

(10 marks)

- (c) **State the effect on your audit report of the following alternative situations:**

- (i) **Depreciation had not been provided on any fixed asset for a number of years, the effect of which if corrected would be to turn an accumulated profit into a significant accumulated loss.**
- (ii) **JonArc & Co were appointed auditors after the end of the financial year of Galartha Ltd. Consequently, the auditors could not attend the year end stock count. Stock is material to the financial statements.**

Note: you are not required to draft any audit reports.

(4 marks)

(20 marks)

End of Question Paper