

7 PRINCIPLE 7: RECOGNISE AND MANAGE RISK

7.1 Companies should establish a sound system of risk oversight and management and internal control.

- **Recommendation 7.1:** Companies should establish policies for the oversight and management of material business risks and disclose a summary of those policies.
- **Recommendation 7.2:** The board should require management to design and implement the risk management and internal control system to manage the company's material business risks and report to it on whether those risks are being managed effectively. The board should disclose that management has reported to it as to the effectiveness of the company's management of its material business risks.
- **Recommendation 7.3:** The board should disclose whether it has received assurance from the chief executive officer (or equivalent) and the chief financial officer (or equivalent) that the declaration provided in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act is founded on a sound system of risk management and internal control and that the system is operating effectively in all material respects in relation to financial reporting risks.
- **Recommendation 7.4:** Companies should provide the information indicated in the Guide to reporting on Principle 7.

7.2 The Company's practice:

Recognise and Manage Risk

Risk oversight, management and internal control are dealt with on a continuous basis by management and the Board, with differing degrees of involvement from various Directors and management, depending upon the nature and materiality of the matter. The Board has no formal policy in place to recognise and manage risk as required by Recommendation 7.1, as it considers, in the context of the size and nature of the Company, that it would not improve the present modus operandi.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Oversight of the risk management system

The Board takes a proactive approach to risk management. The Board is responsible for oversight of the processes whereby the risks, and also opportunities, are identified on a timely basis and that the Company's objectives and activities are aligned with the risks and opportunities identified by the Board. This oversight encompasses operational, financial reporting and compliance risks.

The Company believes that it is crucial for all Board members to be a part of the process, and as such the Board has not established a separate risk management committee.

The Board oversees the establishment, implementation and annual review of the Company's risk management policies as part of the Board approval process for the strategic plan, which encompasses the Company's vision and strategy, designed to meet stakeholder's needs and manage business risks.

The Managing Director has declared, in writing to the Board, that the financial reporting risk management and associated compliance and controls have been assessed and found to be operating efficiently and effectively. All risk assessments covered the whole financial year and the period up to the signing of the annual financial report for all material operations in the Company.

Internal control framework

The Board acknowledges that it is responsible for the overall internal control framework, but recognizes that no cost effective internal control system will preclude all errors and irregularities. To assist in discharging this responsibility, the Board has instigated an internal control framework that deals with:

PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Financial reporting - there is a comprehensive budgeting system with an annual budget, updated on a regular basis approved by the Board. Monthly actual results are reported against these budgets.
- Investment appraisal - the Company has clearly defined guidelines for capital expenditure including annual budgets, detailed appraisal and review procedures, levels of authority and due diligence requirements where businesses or assets are being acquired or divested.
- Quality and integrity of personnel - the Company's policies are detailed in an approved induction manual. Formal appraisals are conducted annually for all employees.