IAS PLUS

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

Published for our clients and staff in the Americas region

FEATURES

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DELOITTE & TOUCHE PARTNER JOHN T. SMITH IS APPOINTED TO THE IASB

The IASC Foundation Trustees have appointed John T. Smith, Partner, Deloitte & Touche, as a part-time member of the International Accounting Standards Board beginning on 1 October 2002. John fills the vacancy left by Robert H. Herz, who resigned in June 2002 to become chairman of the U.S. Financial Accounting Standards Board.

John currently serves as director of accounting policies for Deloitte & Touche, where he provides accounting consultation to the Firm's client service personnel, and oversees the development of guidance on accounting matters. In that role, he has established himself as a leading expert on standard-setting issues, in particular, accounting issues related to financial instruments.

As a part-time member of the IASB, John will remain a partner of Deloitte & Touche. He has participated in the activities of the IASB and its predecessor, the International Accounting Standards Committee. He is currently a member of the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee, from which he will resign, and has served as chairman of the IAS 39 (Financial Instruments) Implementation Guidance Committee. He will serve a five-year term expiring on 30 June 2007.

SEC CHAIRMAN DISCUSSES THE FUTURE OF IFRS

In remarks delivered at the Financial Times' Conference on Regulation and Integration of the International Capital Markets (London, 8 October 2002), U.S. SEC Chairman Harvey L. Pitt commented on the possibility of eliminating the reconciliation to U.S. GAAP for European companies using IFRSs.

Since becoming SEC chairman, Mr. Pitt has made the globalization of capital markets a priority. Mr. Pitt noted that having most European issues using a single set of accounting standards by 2005 provided the SEC with an "interesting target date" for reforming SEC rules for possible acceptance of IFRS without reconciliation to U.S. GAAP.

In light of the recent corporate failures in the U.S., the SEC chairman has advocated various reforms, including a movement toward "principle-based" accounting standards. Mr. Pitt noted the desirability of such standards and indicated his expectation that U.S. standards move in this direction.

Mr. Pitt stressed the importance of achieving a level of consistent interpretation, application and enforcement of accounting and financial reporting standards.

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IASB PUBLISHES ED 1 ON FIRST-TIME APPLICATION OF IFRS

This Standard, if adopted, would replace SIC 8, First-Time Application of IASs as the Primary Basis of Accounting. Many have found SIC 8 burdensome because it requires retrospective application as if the entity's financial statements had always been prepared using the standards effective at the time of first-time application.

On 31 July 2002, the IASB issued exposure draft ED 1, First-time Application of International Financial Reporting Standards. The purpose of the Standard is to ensure that all entities adopting IFRSs for the first time present comparative information in their financial statements that is as close as possible to the information provided by existing IFRS preparers, but within cost/benefit constraints. The proposals would allow an entity to restate information by applying either:

- the SIC 8 approach (that is, retrospective restatement using the Standards applicable at the date of transactions and their subsequent revisions and transitional provisions if applicable), except that the exception to restatement because "the amount cannot be reasonably determined" will not be available; or
- all the other proposed requirements of the Standard on the First-Time Application of IFRS if the SIC 8 approach is not used. Under this approach, an entity is required to use every IFRS current at the end of the reporting period in which it first adopts IFRS. At least one year of comparative information prepared using those same IFRSs is required.

First-time adopters of IFRSs must disclose how the transition to IFRS affected the entity's financial position, performance, and cash flows.

The table below summarises the provisions of ED 1 if an enterprise chooses to apply the specific transitional provisions in the proposed Standard and decides to adopt IFRSs in 2005 for its 31 December year-end.

PREPARING FIRST IFRS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PROPOSED IN ED 1, FIRST-TIME APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

1. Select accounting policies based on IFRS in force at 31 December 2005.
2. Prepare 2005 and 2004 information and restate the opening balance sheet (beginning of the first period presented) using those Standards retrospectively:
   a. Reclassify local GAAP opening balance sheet items into the appropriate IFRS classification.
   b. Eliminate local GAAP assets and liabilities from the opening balance sheet, if they do not qualify for recognition under IFRS.
   c. Recognise and measure under IFRS all required assets and liabilities
   d. In preparing IFRS estimates retrospectively, use inputs and assumptions used to determine local GAAP estimates in previous periods if those inputs and assumptions are consistent with IFRS.
3. Exceptions to the general restatement principle:
   a. Business combinations that occurred before opening balance sheet date:
      i. Keep local GAAP accounting, that is, do not restate:
         – previous mergers or goodwill written-off from reserves
         – the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities recognised at the date of acquisition/merger
         – how goodwill was initially determined
      ii. Must make IAS 36 impairment test of any remaining goodwill in the opening balance sheet.
      iii. Eliminate any negative goodwill
   b. Property, plant and equipment and investment property carried under the cost model:
      i. If restatement requires undue cost and effort, measure the item at its fair value at the opening balance sheet date (fair value becomes the "deemed cost" under IFRS).
      ii. Do not restate certain previous revaluations (local GAAP carrying amount becomes the "deemed cost" under IFRS).
   c. Do not restate fair value adjustments that occurred during privatisations or initial public offerings.
   d. Employee benefits – actuarial gains and losses: reset any corridor recognised under local GAAP to zero at the opening balance sheet date.
   e. Accumulated translation reserves: do not restate local GAAP translation amounts that may have not been distinguished in accumulated reserves.
   f. Hedging: conditions to qualify for hedge accounting apply as from the opening balance sheet date.

IASB PROJECT UPDATES

An observer from Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu attends every IASB meeting, and we publish the Board's tentative decisions on our web site, www.iasplus.com, usually the next day.

Summaries of decisions reached on each IASB project are maintained on our web site **www.iasplus.com**. These are updated after each IASB meeting and are not repeated in this newsletter. On the next several pages, we note recent key decisions made by the Board on those agenda projects for which no document was published during the quarter.

PROJECT UPDATE: CONVERGENCE TOPICS

Convergence is a two-way street. The US Financial Accounting Standards Board has recently added to its agenda a project to identify and eliminate a number of current differences between US GAAP and IFRS.

At its September meeting, the Board formally placed this project on its agenda. This project focuses on topics where one or more partner standard setters and the IASB have standards that are broadly similar but differ in a limited number of areas. Here is a standard-by-standard summary of the probable scope of the project.

IAS 12, Income Tax

The main difference between the liaison countries with regard to deferred tax accounting is a temporary difference approach vs. a timing difference approach. The Board considers convergence between these two approaches to be a major project. Consequently, the project will address only convergence issues arising from applying the temporary approach.

IAS 14, Segment Reporting

The Board is discussing whether segment reporting standards under IAS and US GAAP lead to comparable results and whether one approach is preferable to the other. The Board decided that empirical data regarding the preference of the analyst community should be obtained before the topic is pursued further by the staff.

IAS 16, Property Plant and Equipment

The main difference is the option to revalue. The components approach to depreciation was also discussed as a potential area for convergence.

IAS 19, Post-Employment Benefits

In September 2002, the Board considered the scope of a project on convergence of pension accounting standards and concluded:

Include in scope of IAS 19 convergence project:

- How the total change in value of plan assets should be reported in a statement of comprehensive income
- Whether the 'asset ceiling' of IAS 19 should be retained.
- Disclosure of an allocation of plan assets across broad categories, such as equities, fixed income securities, property, etc. Whether the immediate recognition of actuarial gains and losses arising on the defined benefit obligation should be retained as an option (as currently in IAS 19), made mandatory, or prohibited. Those who favour immediate recognition feel that the IAS 19 corridor approach amounts to 'income smoothing'. Those who support a corridor or spreading approach feel that such approach is appropriate given (i) the allocation of benefits earned to periods of service and (ii) the recognition of unvested past service cost over the vesting period.
- Whether certain guidance from FASB Statements 106 and 112 (which deal with non-pension benefits) should be incorporated into a revised IAS 19.

Exclude from scope of IAS 19 convergence project:

- Whether the defined benefit obligation should reflect current salaries rather than expected final salaries
- Whether a defined benefit plan should, in some circumstances, be fully

consolidated into the entity's financial statements.

IAS 21, The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates

The main differences noted were the existence of recycling in the IAS and differences in the treatment of hyperinflationary economies.

PROJECT UPDATE: BUSINESS COMBINATIONS (PHASE II)

Phase II of the IASB's project on business combinations covers:

- ***Application of the purchase method.***
- ***New basis accounting.***
- ***Combination of entities under common control.***
- ***Combinations by contract.***

The parts of Phase 2 dealing with application of the purchase method and new basis accounting are being handled as joint projects with the US Financial Accounting Standards Board.

The Board made the following decisions during the third quarter of 2002. An exposure draft is scheduled for November 2002:

- **Measurement date for equity securities issued in a business combination.** At the September 2002 joint meeting with FASB, an informal combined vote of members of the two Boards showed a slight preference for acquisition date rather than agreement date. At its own meeting, the IASB voted to support acquisition date (the date that control passes) in the interest of convergence with FASB.
- **Measurement of employee benefit obligations in connection with an acquisition.** IASB agreed to prepare a memorandum to FASB setting out the IASB's reasoning for not remeasuring such obligations.
- **Assets held for disposal.** While IASB has not yet discussed measurement of assets acquired in a business combination that are intended for disposal, IASB staff noted that the measurement approach in IAS 36 differs from the approach in FASB Statement 144 principally in that anticipated disposal costs would be deducted under SFAS 144 but not necessarily under IAS 36. The Board concluded that convergence on this issue should be considered as part of the Convergence Project rather than as part of the Business Combinations (Phase II) Project.
- **Constructive obligations.** These are addressed in IAS 37 but not specifically in FASB Standards (though it is addressed in the FASB Concepts Standards). Members of the IASB Board generally agreed that recognition in an IASB Standard on Business Combinations should be consistent with IAS 37. They suggested that IASB encourage FASB to consider guidance that would be consistent with IAS 37.
- **Income taxes - net operating loss carryforward.** Recognition of a NOL carryforward at the time of a business combination is different under IASB and FASB Standards. This difference can only be addressed as part of a project on accounting for income taxes.
- **Items whose fair value might be affected by a business combination.** The Board discussed whether the fair value of a liability assumed in a business combination should reflect the acquirer's credit rating or the acquiree's credit rating. The Board concluded that, in general, the fair values of all assets and liabilities of the acquiree can be affected by the market's knowledge of a pending business combination. Therefore, in some circumstances depending on observed market adjustments of fair values, the acquirer's credit rating will be reflected in the fair value of an acquired liability.
- **Inventory.** Items of inventory should be measured using a market-based assumption model that incorporates an observable disposition price and market-based calculations of the estimated costs to complete the inventory, including an estimated profit margin and costs to sell.

PROJECT UPDATE: SHARE-BASED PAYMENT

The IASB's timetable calls for issuance of an Exposure Draft in the fourth quarter of 2002, most likely November. The ED will have a 120-day comment period. Key decisions that will be reflected in the Exposure Draft:

- **Share-based payment to employees.** The fair value of share options and other share-based payment granted as part of employee remuneration should be recognised as an expense. Fair value of share-based payment to employees should be measured at grant date.

- **Share-based payment to non-employees.** The fair value of share-based payment given to non-employees is the fair value of the goods and services received measured at the date when the goods are received or the services are provided.

- **No exemptions.** The standard should not provide any exemptions from measuring fair value of employee share options.

- **Disclosure is not a substitute for recognition.** The IASB Standard will not allow a disclosure alternative similar to that in FASB Statement No. 123.

- **Definition of grant date.** In some circumstances, shareholder approval is required before an entity can enter into an employee share option plan. This raises the question of whether grant date should be the date that the plan is agreed with employees, subject only to shareholder approval, or the later date of that approval. The Board was asked to consider a proposal that grant date should be the date of substantive agreement with employees; however, after some discussion, the Board concluded that the word 'substantive' should be deleted, so that grant date would be the date that final authority was given to a plan.

- **Employee share plans with cash alternatives.** The key accounting issues for share plans that offer cash alternatives are whether and when a liability or equity interest arises, measurement of those liabilities and equity interest, and accounting for their settlement. There was general agreement that an equity interest arises when delivery of shares becomes more likely than a cash payment. At that time, the plan may result in a compound financial instrument that would have to be split into its equity and debt components. Although IAS 32 says that the equity component of a compound instrument is measured residually, in this case the equity component cannot be measured by subtracting the value of the debt instrument from the plan's entire value since that entire value is unknown. The liability component would have to be remeasured to fair value with changes in fair value going into the income statement. Disclosure should be required of the extent that such plans were subsequently settled in cash.

- **Scope.** The Standard on share-based payment will apply to all issuances of shares to acquire nonfinancial assets. Clarification of this will be added to some existing IAS.

- **Measurement objective.** The measurement objective for share-based payment for employee services is to measure the value of the services received. To implement that objective, grant date measurement means that shares and share options will be valued at grant date (with expected lapses reflected), the number of units of employee service expected to be received over the service period will be estimated at grant date, and a cost per unit of services will be determined at grant date. Subsequently, expense will be recognised based on actual quantity of service received multiplied by the originally estimated per unit cost.

- **Tax benefits to the employer.** An entity should recognise all tax benefit it receives from issuance and exercise of shares and share options in net profit or loss, not directly in equity.

- **Cancellation.** If a share plan or option plan is cancelled during the vesting period (a) any additional resulting cost is charged to expense and (b) any cost previously measured at grant date should be recognised as expense over the remaining vesting period in a manner similar to a repricing.

- **Subsidiary options.** If a subsidiary grants options exercisable in shares of its parent, in the subsidiary's own financial statements the subsidiary should recognise compensation cost and a capital contribution from its parent.

- **Reload features.** A reload feature should generally be taken into account in determining the fair value of an option at grant date. However, do not do so if it is impracticable to measure the value of the reload feature.
- **Transition.** The Standard, including tax effects, should apply to options granted after the date of issue of the exposure draft that are not vested by the effective date of the standard. Liabilities in cash-settled schemes would require a full retrospective application. The same implementation requirements would be applicable for first-time adopters of IFRS. If a liability for a vested share appreciation right had been recognised at intrinsic value prior to the effective date of the new standard, it should not be revalued at the initial adoption of the new Standard.

PROJECT UPDATE: PERFORMANCE REPORTING

IASB's Performance Reporting Principle 1 states that a statement of comprehensive income should enable the user to distinguish the return on total capital employed from the return on equity. It follows from that principle that all components of comprehensive income should be classified as either operating or financing, such that total operating income plus total financing income is equal to comprehensive income. IASB members reaffirmed their support for that principle.

In June 2002, the IASB had decided that there should be a separate financing category in the statement of comprehensive income. The Board noted that although financing costs are a deduction, like any other expense, in calculating income attributable to equity holders, they are unlike other expenses in that they represent a return to providers of finance. While comprehensive income is the appropriate measure of return to providers of equity finance, operating income (before deducting financing costs) is the appropriate measure of return to providers of both equity and debt finance.

After discussion, the Board concluded that the financing category should include all interest expense and amortisation of discount without netting for any interest income. Further, returns on financial assets (including interest income and fair value changes of financial assets and liabilities) should be reported separately, as part of the operating section of the statement of comprehensive income. The Board acknowledged that such reporting is a classification by nature even though other expenses would be presented classified by function.

PROJECT UPDATE: ACTIVITIES OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The replacement for IAS 30 will focus on activities (deposit-taking, lending, and securities business) regardless of the type of entity that undertakes those activities.

At its meeting in July, the Board discussed a proposed exposure draft developed by staff based on the discussions of the Board (November 2001 meeting) and its advisory committee (January and March 2002 meetings). The discussions were characterized as 'preliminary'.

The proposed scope of the standard is 'activity-based' – capturing all entities with deposit-taking, lending, and securities activities. Therefore, treasury functions in non-financial entities would be within its scope.

The Board supported an underlying principle of the risk-related disclosure that the disclosures should provide the user with a view 'through the eyes of management', albeit with specified minimum disclosures.

Significant points raised in this preliminary discussion included these:

- The Board was concerned about the volume of requirements and resulting disclosure in the draft exposure draft. The detail seems somewhat inconsistent with a 'principle-based' approach to standards.

- The draft Standard seems to overlap with other disclosure requirements, particularly those in IAS 32 (as proposed to be revised).
- The Board was concerned that the proposed disclosure of ‘operational risk’ is too broad or too general. The Board will ask the project advisory committee to consider how much of the proposed disclosure should be included in the ‘Management’s Discussion and Analysis’ rather than in the financial statements. Another possibility is to issue implementation guidance rather than a Standard.
- The Board will ask the advisory committee to revisit the definition of ‘operational risk’, in particular to remove overlap with other specified risk types and to clarify the distinction between solvency and liquidity risk.
- More clarity in defining ‘securities activities’ is required.
- The Board was not convinced of the usefulness of the proposed balance sheet and income statement classifications and asked for greater clarity on how these would interact with IAS 1 and the performance reporting project.
- The Board expressed a tentative preference that the disclosures in the draft exposure draft be implemented as application guidance for IAS 32. IAS 32 would need to be reviewed to eliminate inconsistencies with the material coming from this project and to address overlaps and discontinuities. This might require a relatively pervasive review of that standard.
- The Board rejected the proposed exemption for wholly owned subsidiaries. With such an exemption, disclosures would only be given at group level.

The IASB decided to split the insurance contracts project into two phases, so that European (and other) insurance companies that will be adopting IFRS for the first time as of 2005 will have some guidance on how to apply existing IASs and IFRSs to insurance contracts. Phase II is a comprehensive project on accounting for insurance contracts addressing all issues de novo.

An Exposure Draft on Phase I is planned for the first quarter of 2003, with a final IFRS in 2004. The IASB has set no timetable for Phase II.

PROJECT UPDATE: INSURANCE CONTRACTS (PHASE II)

In May 2002, the IASB agreed to split the insurance contracts project into two phases, so that some components of the project can be put in place by 2005 without delaying the rest of the project. The first phase will address the application of existing IFRSs to companies that issue insurance contracts. In September, the Board discussed whether each of the following issues should be identified as matters to be addressed in the first phase:

1. Agree on a definition of insurance contracts. The existing definitions in IAS 32 and IAS 39 are not consistent with those in IAS 37 and IAS 38, and also are not consistent with certain aspects of the definition used in US GAAP.
2. Presentation and disclosure, including consideration of how insurers might give the disclosures about measurement assumptions proposed by the Improvements Project to be added to IAS 1.
3. Guidance for applying IAS 39 to those contracts issued by insurers (as well as other financial institutions) that do not qualify for the insurance contracts scope exclusion of IAS 39 – particularly with respect to embedded derivatives such as renewal options and participation features.
4. Guidance on identifying and measuring derivatives that are embedded in insurance contracts, including which derivatives are ‘closely related’ to their host insurance contract.
5. Elimination of a limited number of existing practices that are incompatible with the IASB Framework, for example, the elimination of catastrophe and equalization provisions that do

not represent liabilities as defined in the Framework.

6. A review of the implications to insurance entities of the hierarchy of pronouncements that an entity is required to consider in the absence of an IFRS.

7. Derecognition – guidance on applying the proposed 'no continuing involvement' approach to insurance contracts.

8. Guidance on accounting by policyholders.

Individual Board members suggested that certain of the foregoing matters (particularly items 3 and 7) may be too broad – and, therefore, too time consuming – to be included in the first phase of the insurance contracts project. However, after discussion, the Board did not object to further staff research on all of them as potentially within the first phase.

NEWS FROM THE AMERICAS REGION

All US legislation can be found on at http://thomas.loc.gov/.

You can get the full text of the approved US Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Protection Act of 2002 by searching on that site for the phrase "Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002".

SEC REQUIRES CERTIFICATIONS BY NON-US CEOs and CFOs

The US Securities and Exchange Commission is requiring the CEOs and CFOs of all registered companies to personally certify that their companies' annual and quarterly financial statements do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact, do not omit a material fact, and fairly present in all material respects the financial condition and results of operations of the issuer. The new rules, which are effective 28 August 2002, apply to the principal executive and financial officers of any issuer that files quarterly and annual reports with the Commission under either Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, including foreign private issuers and small business issuers.

The new US Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Protection Act of 2002, approved by the US Congress in late July 2002 clearly states that a foreign public accounting firm that prepares an audit report with respect to any SEC registrant is subject to the Act and to the rules of the new Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

US ACCOUNTING REFORM LEGISLATION REQUIRES FASB TO ADDRESS CONVERGENCE

The new US Public Company Accounting Reform and Investor Protection Act of 2002 permits the SEC to look to a private-sector accounting standard-setter, such as FASB, provided that the standard-setter "considers, in adopting accounting principles, ... the extent to which international convergence on high quality accounting standards is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors."

On 2 October 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board added to its agenda a short-term international convergence project that will be conducted jointly with the International Accounting Standards Board. The FASB also voted to authorise its staff to expand its research project on international convergence. With respect to the short-term project, the FASB established a goal of 31 December 2003 for issuance of a final Statement that would "eliminate or reduce many, if not all, of the differences to be addressed in that project."

BOTH SEC AND FASB WILL STUDY A 'PRINCIPLES BASED' ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

The FASB's web site: www.fasb.org.

The accounting reform legislation in the United States requires the SEC to conduct a study on the "adoption by the United States financial reporting system of a principles-based accounting system", including:

- the extent to which principles-based accounting and financial reporting exists in the United States;
- the length of time required for change from a rules-based to a principles-based financial reporting system;
- the feasibility of and proposed methods by which a principles-based system may be implemented; and
- a thorough economic analysis of the implementation of a principles-based system.

The SEC must complete the study in one year and must submit its report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

In a related action, in late September 2002 the US Financial Accounting Standards Board has agreed to invite comment on a proposal for a principles-based approach to US accounting standard setting. The proposal addresses concerns about the increase in the level of detail and complexity in accounting standards.

As FASB sees it, principles-based standards would focus on establishing general principles derived from the conceptual framework, reflecting the recognition, measurement, and reporting requirements for the transactions covered by the standards. The standards would provide few, if any, exceptions to the general principles and would limit additional guidance for applying the general principles to typical transactions, encouraging professional judgment in applying the general principles to other transactions specific to an entity or industry.

The FASB will publish the proposal with a 75-day comment period. The FASB also plans to hold a public roundtable discussion with respondents to the proposal on 16 December 2002.

CANADA PROPOSES TO ALLOW FOREIGN ISSUERS TO USE IAS

The Canadian Securities Administrators have proposed that certain eligible foreign issuers would be allowed to submit financial statements prepared using International Accounting Standards or using GAAP in Australia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the UK. The CSA is also proposing that Canadian companies registered with the US SEC could use US GAAP, with a reconciliation to Canadian GAAP for the first two years in which US GAAP is used. Comments on the proposal are due September 19, 2002.

US ACCOUNTING NEWSLETTER NOW ON OUR WEB SITE

Accounting Roundup is a newsletter published by Deloitte & Touche (United States) summarising selected recent accounting and financial reporting developments in the United States of America, including FASB, GASB, EITF, the SEC, and US issues relating to IAS. Accounting Roundup is published periodically as developments warrant (generally at least monthly). All issues of Accounting Roundup are posted on the US page on www.iasplus.com.

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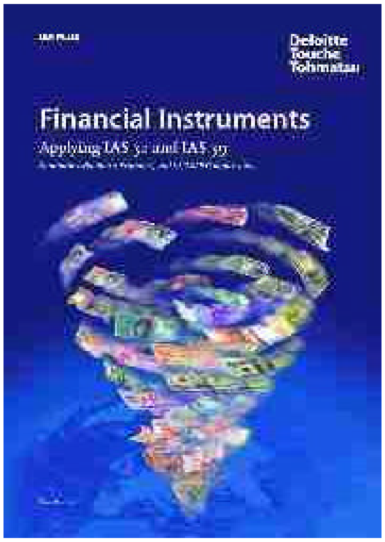

DTT IAS 39 GUIDANCE BOOK IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOADING

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu is pleased to make available, without charge, our book of comprehensive implementation guidance for IAS 39, Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. The book is nearly 250 pages in length and contains:

- 164 Questions and Answers,
- 151 Examples (many with journal entries),
- 52 US GAAP Comparisons,
- Comprehensive summaries of IAS 39 and its companion disclosure standard, IAS 32.

These are linked back to the IAS 32 and IAS 39 paragraphs.

When it was originally issued late last year, we restricted distribution of the book to staff and clients. In response to many requests, we are now making it available without charge to all.

This comparison booklet may be downloaded without charge from our www.iasplus.com web site. On the home page, click on the DTT IFRS Publications link.

COMPARISONS OF IFRS WITH US GAAP

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu has published a comparison of IFRS and national GAAP: **GAAP Differences in your Pocket: IAS and US GAAP** is a 20-page booklet that identifies and explains 81 differences between International Financial Reporting Standards and US GAAP. Twenty of these differences are being addressed in current IASB agenda projects.

TWO NEW DELOITTE & TOUCHE PUBLICATIONS

The entire July-August 2002 issue of the Deloitte & Touche newsletter *For the Record* addresses **Accounting for Revenue in Today's Business Environment**. The newsletter discusses FASB, SEC, and AICPA accounting requirements for revenue recognition.

The entire 18 July 2002 issue of the Deloitte & Touche newsletter *Heads Up* summarises and analyses FASB's Exposure Draft of a Proposed Interpretation, **Consolidation of Certain Special-Purpose Entities**.

Both can be downloaded from the IAS Resources page on our web site: www.iasplus.com/ref.htm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF IASB, SAC, IASCF, IFRIC

Except for administrative and personnel matters, all of these meetings are open to public observation. Registration forms are on IASB's web site.

International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)

- 23-25 and 28-29 October 2002, London, UK (28-29 October with National Standard Setters)
- 12-16 November 2002, Hong Kong SAR, China (15-16 November with the Standards Advisory Council).
- 18-20 December 2002, London, UK

Standards Advisory Council (SAC)

- 15-16 November 2002, Hong Kong SAR, China

Trustees of the IASC Foundation (IASCF)

- 19 November 2002, Hong Kong SAR, China

International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC)

- 25-26 November 2002, London, UK

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