



## CHARTER OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

### PURPOSE AND POLICY

The primary purpose of the Audit Committee (the “*Committee*”) shall be to act on behalf of the Board of Directors (the “*Board*”) of Applied Micro Circuits Corporation (the “*Company*”) in fulfilling the Board’s oversight responsibilities with respect to the Company’s corporate accounting and financial reporting processes, the systems of internal accounting and financial controls, and audits of financial statements, as well as the quality and integrity of the Company’s financial statements and reports and the qualifications, independence and performance of the registered public accounting firm or firms engaged as the Company’s independent outside auditors for the purpose of preparing an audit report or performing other audit services (the “*Auditors*”). The operation of the Committee shall be subject to the Bylaws of the Company as in effect from time to time and Section 141 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

The policy of the Committee, in discharging these obligations, shall be to maintain and foster an open avenue of communication among the Committee, the Auditors and the Company’s financial management.

### COMPOSITION

The Committee shall consist of at least three members of the Board of Directors. The members of the Committee shall satisfy the independence and financial literacy requirements of The Nasdaq Stock Market (“*Nasdaq*”) applicable to Committee members as in effect from time to time, when and as required by Nasdaq, as well as the independence requirements set forth in Exhibit “A” to this Charter. At least one member shall satisfy the applicable Nasdaq financial sophistication requirements as in effect from time to time. The members of the Committee shall be appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Board. Vacancies occurring on the Committee shall be filled by the Board. The Chairman of the Committee shall be designated by the Board.

### MEETINGS AND MINUTES

The Committee shall hold such regular or special meetings as its members shall deem necessary or appropriate. Minutes of each meeting of the Committee shall be prepared and distributed to each director of the Company and the Secretary of the Company promptly after each meeting. The Chairman of the Committee shall report to the Board from time to time, or whenever so requested by the Board.

### AUTHORITY

The Committee shall have authority to appoint, determine compensation for, and at the expense of the Company, retain and oversee the Auditors as set forth in Section 10A(m)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder and otherwise to fulfill its responsibilities under this Charter. The Committee shall have authority to retain and determine compensation for, at the expense of the Company, special legal, accounting or other



advisors or consultants as it deems necessary or appropriate in the performance of its duties. The Committee shall also have authority to pay, at the expense of the Company, ordinary administrative expenses that, as determined by the Committee, are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties. The Committee shall have full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the Company as deemed necessary or appropriate by any member of the Committee to discharge his or her responsibilities hereunder. The Committee shall have authority to require that any of the Company's personnel, counsel, accountants (including the Auditors) or investment bankers, or any other consultant or advisor to the Company attend any meeting of the Committee or meet with any member of the Committee or any of its special legal, accounting or other advisors and consultants. The approval of this Charter by the Board shall be construed as a delegation of authority to the Committee with respect to the responsibilities set forth herein.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Committee shall oversee the Company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board, shall have direct responsibility for the appointment, compensation, retention and oversight of the work of the Auditors and any other registered public accounting firm engaged for the purpose of performing review or attest services for the Company. The Auditors and each such other registered public accounting firm shall report directly and be accountable to the Committee. The Committee's functions and procedures should remain flexible to address changing circumstances most effectively. To implement the Committee's purpose and policy, the Committee shall be charged with the following functions and processes with the understanding, however, that the Committee may supplement or (except as otherwise required by applicable laws or rules) deviate from these activities as appropriate under the circumstances:

- 1.** To evaluate the performance of the Auditors, to assess their qualifications and to determine whether to retain or to terminate the existing Auditors or to appoint and engage new Auditors for the ensuing year, which retention shall be subject only to ratification by the Company's stockholders (if the Committee or the Board elects to submit such retention for ratification by the stockholders).

- 2.** To determine and approve engagements of the Auditors (prior to commencement of such engagements) to perform all proposed audit, review and attest services, including the scope of and plans for the audit, the adequacy of staffing, the compensation to be paid to the Auditors and the negotiation and execution, on behalf of the Company, of the Auditors' engagement letters, which approval may be pursuant to preapproval policies and procedures, including the delegation of preapproval authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such preapproval decisions are presented to the full Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

- 3.** To determine and approve engagements of the Auditors, prior to commencement of such engagements (unless in compliance with exceptions available under applicable laws and rules related to immaterial aggregate amounts of services), to perform any proposed permissible non-audit services, including the scope of the service and the compensation to be paid for such services, which approval may be pursuant to preapproval policies and procedures established by the Committee consistent with applicable laws and rules, including the delegation of preapproval



authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such preapproval decisions are presented to the full Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

4. To monitor the rotation of the partners of the Auditors on the Company's audit engagement team as required by applicable laws and rules and to consider periodically and, if deemed appropriate, adopt a policy regarding rotation of auditing firms.

5. At least annually, to receive and review written statements from the Auditors delineating all relationships between the Auditors and the Company, consistent with Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, to consider and discuss with the Auditors any disclosed relationships and any compensation or services that could affect the Auditors' objectivity and independence, and to assess and otherwise take appropriate action to oversee the independence of the Auditors.

6. To consider and, if deemed appropriate, adopt a policy regarding Committee preapproval of employment by the Company of individuals employed or formerly employed by the Company's Auditors and engaged on the Company's account.

7. To review, upon completion of the audit, the financial statements proposed to be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("**SEC**") and to recommend whether or not such financial statements should be so included.

8. To review with management and the Auditors the results of the annual audit, including the Auditors' assessment of the quality, not just acceptability, of accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments and estimates (including material changes in estimates), any material audit adjustments proposed by the Auditors and any adjustments proposed but not recorded, the adequacy of the disclosures in the financial statements and any other matters required to be communicated to the Committee by the Auditors under the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States).

9. To review with management and the Auditors the results of the Auditors' review of the Company's quarterly financial statements, prior to public disclosure of quarterly financial information, if practicable, or filing with the SEC of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, and any other matters required to be communicated to the Committee by the Auditors under the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States).

10. To review with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, the Company's disclosures contained under the caption "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in its periodic reports to be filed with the SEC.

11. To review with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, earnings press releases.



**12.** To review with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, significant issues that arise regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentation, including critical accounting policies and practices, alternative accounting policies available under generally accepted accounting principles (“*GAAP*”) related to material items discussed with management and any other significant reporting issues and judgments.

**13.** To review with management (or without management present, as the Committee deems appropriate) and the Auditors, as appropriate, the Company’s guidelines and policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, including the Company’s major financial risk exposures and significant claims made on the Company’s insurance policies, and the steps taken by management to monitor and control these exposures.

**14.** To review significant actual and potential litigation claims with the Company’s General Counsel, any other officer of the Company responsible for such claims, and/or outside counsel engaged by the Company to represent the Company with respect to such claims, and the steps taken to resolve such claims.

**15.** To evaluate the cooperation received by the Auditors during their audit examination, including any significant difficulties with the audit or any restrictions on the scope of their activities or access to required records, data and information, significant disagreements with management and management’s response, if any.

**16.** To review with the Auditors and, if appropriate, management, any management or internal control letter issued or, to the extent practicable, proposed to be issued by the Auditors and management’s response, if any, to such letter, as well as any additional material written communications between the Auditors and management.

**17.** To review with the Auditors, as appropriate, communications between the audit team and the firm’s national office with respect to accounting or auditing issues presented by the engagement.

**18.** To review with management and the Auditors (or any other registered public accounting firm) any conflicts or disagreements between management and the Auditors (or such firm) regarding financial reporting, accounting practices or policies and to resolve any such conflicts or disagreements regarding financial reporting.

**19.** To confer with management and the Auditors, as appropriate, regarding the scope, adequacy and effectiveness of financial reporting controls in effect including any special audit steps taken in the event of material control deficiencies.

**20.** Periodically, to meet in separate sessions with the Auditors and management to discuss any matters that the Committee, the Auditors or management believe should be discussed privately with the Committee.

**21.** To consider and review with management, the Auditors, outside counsel, as appropriate, and, in the judgment of the Committee, such special counsel, separate accounting



firm and other consultants and advisors as the Committee deems appropriate, any correspondence with regulators or governmental agencies and any published reports that raise material issues regarding the Company's financial statements or accounting policies.

**22.** To establish procedures, when and as required by applicable laws and rules, for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential and anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

**23.** To investigate any matter brought to the attention of the Committee within the scope of its duties if, in the judgment of the Committee, such investigation is necessary or appropriate.

**24.** To review with counsel, the Auditors and management, as appropriate, any significant regulatory or other legal or accounting initiatives or matters that may have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

**25.** To determine and approve engagements of any registered public accounting firm (in addition to the Auditors) to perform any review or attest service, including the compensation to be paid to such firm and the negotiation and execution, on behalf of the Company, of such firm's engagement letter, which approval may be pursuant to preapproval policies and procedures, including the delegation of preapproval authority to one or more Committee members so long as any such preapproval decisions are presented to the full Committee at the next scheduled meeting.

**26.** To review the results of management's efforts to monitor compliance with the Company's programs and policies designed to ensure adherence to applicable laws and rules, as well as to its Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, including review and approval of related-party transactions as required by Nasdaq rules.

**27.** To prepare the report required by the rules of the SEC to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.

**28.** To review and assess the adequacy of this Charter annually and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval.

**29.** To report to the Board with respect to material issues that arise regarding the quality or integrity of the Company's financial statements, the performance or independence of the Company's Auditors, or such other matters as the Committee deems appropriate from time to time or whenever it shall be called upon to do so.

**30.** To review, discuss and assess the Committee's own performance at least annually.

**31.** To perform such other functions and to have such powers as may be necessary or appropriate in the efficient and lawful discharge of the foregoing.



It shall be the responsibility of management to prepare the Company's financial statements and periodic reports and the responsibility of the Auditors to audit those financial statements. These functions shall not be the responsibility of the Committee, nor shall it be the Committee's responsibility to ensure that the financial statements or periodic reports are complete and accurate, conform to GAAP or otherwise comply with applicable laws.



## EXHIBIT “A”

### INDEPENDENCE REQUIREMENTS

To meet the independence standards of this Exhibit A, the Board must determine that a director satisfies all of the following criteria:

**1.** The director has not been employed by the Company or its subsidiaries as an Executive Officer at any time during the preceding five years. “Executive Officer” means the Chief Executive Officer and the “named executive officers”, as defined in Item 402(a)(3) of Regulation S-K of the SEC;

**2.** The director or an entity affiliated with the director has not received, during the current fiscal year or any of the three immediately preceding fiscal years, remuneration of more than \$50,000 in any such fiscal year for service as an advisor, consultant, or legal counsel to the Company or to an Executive Officer of the Company; *provided, however*, that compensation for service as a director of the Company shall not be included for purposes of this paragraph (2);

**3.** The director has no personal services contract(s) with the Company or any Executive Officer of the Company, which result in payments of more than \$50,000 in any such fiscal year; *provided, however*, that service as a director of the Company shall not be deemed to constitute a personal services contract for purposes of this paragraph (3);

**4.** The director is not an officer, director or trustee of a not-for-profit entity that receives cash contributions from the Company or an Executive Officer of the Company in an amount greater than the greater of \$250,000 or 1% of that not-for-profit entity’s total annual receipts;

**5.** During the current fiscal year or any of the three immediately preceding fiscal years, the director has not had any business relationship with the Company for which the Company has been required to make disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K of the SEC, other than for service as a director or for which relationship no more than de minimis remuneration was received in any one such year;

**6.** The director is not employed by a public company at which an Executive Officer of the Company serves as a director;

**7.** The director is not a member of the immediate family of any person described in paragraphs (1), (2), (3) or (4) above;

**8.** The director does not have beneficial ownership interest greater than 5% of the total equity interest in an entity that has received remuneration, other than de minimis remuneration, from the Company or its subsidiaries. Remuneration is deemed de minimis for this paragraph only if it does not exceed the greater of \$2,000,000 or 1% of the entity’s



consolidated annual gross revenues and does not directly result in an increase in the compensation received by the director from that entity; and

9. The director is not a current Executive Officer of a significant customer or supplier of AMCC. A customer is significant if, during the fiscal year, it made payments of more than the greater of \$1,000,000 or 2% of the consolidated annual gross revenues of the Company and a supplier is significant if, during the fiscal year, it received more than the greater of \$1,000,000 or 2% of the consolidated annual gross revenues of the Company.

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