

CONFIDENTIAL

DIVERSA CORPORATION

AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

ORGANIZATION

This charter governs the operations of the audit committee. The committee shall review and reassess the charter at least annually and obtain the approval of the board of directors. The committee shall be members of, and appointed by, the board of directors and shall comprise at least three directors, each of whom are independent of management and the Company. Members of the committee shall be considered independent as long as they do not accept any consulting, advisory, or other compensatory fee from the Company and are not an affiliated person of the Company or its subsidiaries, and meet the independence requirements of the Nasdaq stock exchange listing standards. All committee members shall be financially literate, and going forward, at least one member shall be a “financial expert,” as defined by SEC regulations.

PURPOSE

The audit committee shall provide assistance to the board of directors in fulfilling their oversight responsibility to the shareholders, potential shareholders, the investment community, and others relating to: the integrity, clarity, and completeness of the Company’s financial statements; the financial reporting process; the systems of internal accounting and financial controls; the performance of the Company’s independent auditors; the independent auditor’s qualifications and independence; and the Company’s compliance with ethics policies and legal and regulatory requirements with respect to financial reporting matters. In doing so, it is the responsibility of the committee to maintain free and open communication between the committee, independent auditors, and management of the Company.

In discharging its oversight role, the committee is empowered to investigate any matter brought to its attention with full access to all books, records, facilities, and personnel of the Company and the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisers as it determines necessary to carry out its duties.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The primary responsibility of the audit committee is to monitor and evaluate management’s financial reporting process and the accounting policies on which it is based, together with the independent auditor’s review thereof, to assure that the outcome accurately portrays the financial effects of the Company’s activities. Management is responsible for the preparation, presentation, and integrity of the Company’s financial statements and for the appropriateness of the accounting principles and reporting policies that are used by the Company. The independent auditors are responsible for auditing the Company’s financial statements and for reviewing the Company’s unaudited financial statements.

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The committee, in carrying out its responsibilities, believes its policies and procedures should remain flexible, in order to best react to changing conditions and circumstances. The committee should take appropriate actions to set the overall corporate “tone” for quality financial reporting, and sound business risk practices and ethical behavior with respect to financial reporting matters. The following shall be the principal duties and responsibilities of the audit committee. These are set forth as a guide with the understanding that the committee may supplement them as appropriate.

The committee shall be directly responsible for the appointment and termination (subject to shareholder ratification), compensation, and oversight of the work of the independent auditors, including resolution of disagreements between management and the auditor regarding financial reporting. The committee shall pre-approve all audit and non-audit services provided by the independent auditors and shall not engage the independent auditors to perform the specific non-audit services proscribed by law or regulation. The committee may delegate pre-approval authority to a member of the audit committee. The decisions of any audit committee member whom pre-approval authority is delegated must be presented to the full audit committee at its next scheduled meeting.

At least annually, the committee shall obtain and review a report by the independent auditors describing:

- The firm’s internal quality control procedures.
- Any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality control review, or peer review, of the firm, or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the firm, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues.
- All relationships between the independent auditor and the Company (to assess the auditor’s independence).

In addition, the committee shall set clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent auditors that meet the SEC regulations and stock exchange listing standards.

The committee shall discuss with the independent auditors the overall scope and plans for their audits, including the adequacy of staffing and compensation as well as assist and interact with the independent auditors so that they may carry out their duties in the most efficient and cost effective manner. Also, the committee shall discuss with management and the independent auditors the adequacy and effectiveness of the accounting and financial controls, including the Company’s policies and procedures to assess, monitor, and manage business risk, and legal and ethical compliance programs (e.g., Company’s Code of Conduct).

At the regular quarterly meetings of the committee, the committee shall meet separately with management and the independent auditors to discuss issues and concerns warranting committee attention. The committee shall provide sufficient opportunity for the independent auditors to meet privately with the members of the committee. The

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committee shall evaluate the cooperation received by the independent auditors during their audit examination, including their access to all requested records, data and information, and to elicit the comments of management regarding the responsiveness of the independent auditors to the Company's needs.

The committee shall receive regular reports from the independent auditor on the critical policies and practices of the Company, and all alternative treatments of financial information within generally accepted accounting principles that have been discussed with management.

The committee shall review management's assertion on its assessment of the effectiveness of internal controls as of the end of the most recent fiscal year and the independent auditors' report on management's assertion.

The committee, or a designated member, shall review and discuss earnings press releases in advance of its release to the public.

The committee shall review the interim financial statements and disclosures under Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations with management and the independent auditors prior to the filing of the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Also, the committee shall discuss the results of the quarterly review and any other matters required to be communicated to the committee by the independent auditors under generally accepted auditing standards.

The committee shall review with management and the independent auditors the financial statements and disclosures under Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations to be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K (or the annual report to shareholders if distributed prior to the filing of Form 10-K), including their judgment about the quality, not just the acceptability, of accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments, and the clarity of the disclosures in the financial statements. Also, the committee shall discuss the results of the annual audit and any other matters required to be communicated to the committee by the independent auditors under generally accepted auditing standards.

The committee shall establish procedures for the receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints received by the issuer regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters, and the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the issuer of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters. The committee shall also establish procedures to ensure the Company does not discharge or discriminate against an employee who assists in an investigation, or participates in a proceeding against the Company, regarding any conduct that the employee reasonably believes constitutes a violation of securities laws or constitutes fraud against the Company's shareholders.

The committee shall investigate, review and report to the Board of Directors the propriety and ethical implications of any transactions, as reported or disclosed to the Committee by

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the independent auditors, employees, officers, members of the Board of Directors or otherwise, between (i) the Company and (ii) any employee, officer or member of the Board of Directors of the Company, or any affiliates of the foregoing.

The committee shall receive corporate attorneys' reports of evidence of a material violation of securities laws or breaches of fiduciary duty.

The committee shall prepare its report to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement, as required by SEC regulations.

The committee shall perform an evaluation of its performance at least annually to determine whether it is functioning effectively.

Minutes of each meeting of the Audit Committee shall be prepared and distributed to each director of the Company and approved at the subsequent meeting.

The operation of the Audit Committee shall be subject to the By-laws as in effect from time to time and Section 141 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Donald D. Johnston, Chairman

Mark Leschly

Cheryl Wenzinger