

# Accounting Roundup

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Welcome to the quarterly edition of *Accounting Roundup*. In the first quarter of 2015, the FASB and IASB continued to focus on implementation issues associated with their May 2014 revenue standard (issued as ASU 2014-09 by the FASB and IFRS 15 by the IASB). The FASB has indicated that it plans to issue proposed ASUs suggesting certain clarifications to the guidance. Further, the FASB has tentatively decided to defer for one year the effective date of ASU 2014-09 for public and nonpublic entities reporting under U.S. GAAP. However, it is currently unclear whether the IASB will defer the effective date of IFRS 15.

In addition, the FASB issued an ASU that significantly changes the consolidation analysis required by ASC 810 as well as a proposal that establishes new disclosure requirements for hybrid financial instruments with bifurcated embedded derivatives. The Board also continued to make progress on its simplification initiative (i.e., projects to reduce the costs and complexity of financial statement preparation), issuing an ASU that eliminates the concept of extraordinary items and a proposed ASU that streamlines certain aspects of the accounting for income taxes.

Meanwhile, the IASB released a proposal recommending a more general approach to the classification of liabilities under IAS 1. The international standard setter also released a document in which it provides an overview of (1) the likely practical effects of its forthcoming standard on leases and (2) the similarities and differences between the IASB's and FASB's approaches.

In other news, the EITF met in March and discussed five Issues, reaching final consensuses on two and consensuses-for-exposure on the other three. Further, the SEC continued to respond to its rulemaking mandates under the JOBS Act and Dodd-Frank Act, releasing a rule to ease smaller companies' access to capital and a proposal that would require registrants to disclose employee and director information that may affect shareholders' interests. The Commission also released two alerts on protecting against cybersecurity risks at brokerage and advisory firms.

Note that in this quarterly edition, an asterisk in the article title denotes events that occurred in March or that were not addressed in the January or February issue of *Accounting Roundup*, including updates to previously reported topics. Events without asterisks were covered in those monthly issues.

For additional information about a topic, click the hyperlinks, which are blue. You can find further details on the Web sites of the various accounting standard setters and regulators, including the FASB, GASB, SEC, PCAOB, AICPA, and IASB.

Be sure to monitor upcoming issues of *Accounting Roundup* for new developments. We value your feedback and would appreciate any comments you may have on *Accounting Roundup: First Quarter in Review* — 2015. Take a moment to tell us what you think by sending us an e-mail at accountingstandards@deloitte.com.

# **Leadership Changes**

**FAF:** On January 15, 2015, the FAF announced that Myra R. Drucker and John Veihmeyer have been appointed to the FAF's board of trustees to replace Luis M. Viceira and Edward E. Nusbaum. The terms of the new trustees are effective immediately and will end on December 31, 2019.

**GASB:** On February 24, 2015, the FAF board of trustees announced that it has reappointed Michael H. Granof as a GASB member for a second term beginning on July 1, 2015, and ending on June 30, 2020.

**IASB:** On February 17, 2015, the IFRS Foundation trustees announced that they have reappointed Darrel Scott for a second term beginning on July 1, 2015, and lasting three years.

**IFRS Advisory Council:** On February 23, 2015, the IFRS Foundation trustees announced that they have appointed Gavin Francis and Goro Kumagai as vice-chairmen of the IFRS Advisory Council.

**IFRS Foundation:** On January 20, 2015, the IFRS Foundation announced that it has appointed Kurt Schacht as one of its trustees. Mr. Schacht's term begins immediately; will expire on December 1, 2017; and is renewable for an additional three years.

**IFRS Interpretations Committee:** On December 22, 2014, the IFRS Foundation announced that Robert Uhl, a partner and national director in Deloitte's U.S. accounting standards and communications group, has been appointed to the IFRS Interpretations Committee on an interim basis following the departure of Laurence Rivat. Mr. Uhl's interim term will end on June 30, 2015.

**IFRS Monitoring Board:** On February 3, 2015, the IFRS Monitoring Board announced that it has reappointed Masamichi Kono as chairman for a second term that begins on March 1, 2015, and ends in February 2017.

**IVSC:** On March 23, 2015, the IVSC announced that it has appointed Ethiopis Tafara and Zhang Guochun to its board of trustees.

**SEC:** In February 2015, the SEC announced the following appointments: (1) David Grim — acting director of the Commission's Division of Investment Management; (2) Heather Seidel — chief counsel for the Division of Trading and Markets; and (3) Pamela C. Dyson — chief information officer.

#### **Deloitte Publications**

Publication	Title	Affects
April 1, 2015, <i>Heads Up</i>	FASB Tentatively Decides to Defer the New Revenue Standard for One Year	All entities.
March 20, 2015, <i>Heads Up</i>	FASB Continues to Clarify the New Revenue Standard	All entities.
March 13, 2015, Heads Up	FASB Finalizing Credit Impairment Guidance	All entities.
March 2015 TRG Snapshot	Joint Meeting on Revenue: March 2015	All entities.
March 2015 Life Sciences — Accounting and Financial Reporting Update		Life sciences entities.
March 2015 EITF Snapshot		All entities.
March 2015 Financial Services Spotlight	Consolidating Collateralized Financing Entities	Financial services entities.
March 2015 State Government Spotlight	GASB Issues Statement on Fair Value Measurement and Application	Governmental entities.
February 27, 2015, Heads Up	FASB's Proposed ASU Aims to Increase Transparency of Hybrid Financial Instruments With Embedded Derivatives	All entities.
February 26, 2015, Technology Alert	FASB Finalizes Guidance on a Customer's Accounting for Cloud Computing Costs	Entities that enter into cloud computing arrangements.
February 19, 2015, Heads Up	FASB and IASB Tentatively Decide to Clarify the New Revenue Standard	All entities.
February 19, 2015, Heads Up	FASB Amends Its Consolidation Model	All entities.

Publication	Title	Affects
February 2, 2015, <i>Heads Up</i>	FASB Preparing to Issue "New" Classification and Measurement Guidance	All entities.
February 2015 Roadmap	Revenue From Contracts With Customers: A Roadmap to Applying the Guidance in ASU 2014-09	All entities.
January 30, 2015, Heads Up	FASB Issues Exposure Draft on Simplified Accounting for Income Taxes	All entities.
January 12, 2015, Heads Up	FASB Issues ASU on Extraordinary Items	All entities.
January 2015 TRG Snapshot	Joint Meeting on Revenue: January 2015	All entities.
January 2015 Roadmap	A Roadmap to Accounting for Income Taxes	All entities.
January 2015 Power & Utilities — Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Tax Update		Power and utilities entities.
January 2015 Oil & Gas — Accounting, Financial Reporting, and Tax Update		Oil and gas entities.
January 2015 Oil & Gas Spotlight	Navigating the Changing Oil and Gas Landscape	Oil and gas entities.

#### **Dbriefs** for Financial Executives

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For more information, please see our complete *Dbriefs* program guide or click a link below for more information about any of these upcoming *Dbriefs* webcasts (all webcasts begin at 2:00 p.m. (EDT) unless otherwise noted):

- Tuesday, April 14: The New Era of Mobile Payments Solutions: Risk Management Issues and Strategies.
- Wednesday, April 22, 3:00 (EDT): The Ecosystem Economy: Through Blurring Boundaries, a New Order.
- Thursday, April 30: Preventing and Detecting Financial Crime: The Example of Wire Transfer Fraud.
- Wednesday, May 13: Mid-Year Outlook: Balancing the Bullish U.S. Deal Market With Regulatory Pressure and Global Risks.
- Wednesday, May 20, 3:00 (EDT): Now Trending Technology Developments Impacting CFOs in 2015.
- Thursday, May 28: Environmental, Social, and Governance Performance: Market Developments Regarding Measurement, Disclosures, and Evaluation.
- Monday, June 15: Data Analytics in M&A: Embracing the Cutting Edge for Competitive Advantage.
- Wednesday, June 17, 3:00 p.m. (EDT): Financial Planning and Forecasting Best Practices: One Size Definitely Doesn't Fit All.
- Tuesday, June 23: EITF Roundup: Highlights From the June Meeting.
- Thursday, June 25: Enhancing Trust Inside and Out The Role of the Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer.
- Tuesday, June 30: Quarterly Accounting Roundup: An Update on Important Developments.

Don't miss out — register for these webcasts today.

# Accounting — New Standards and Exposure Drafts

#### In This Section

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- FASB Amends Its Consolidation Model
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- FASB Proposes
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#### Consolidation

# **FASB Amends Its Consolidation Model**

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On February 18, 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-02, which amends the consolidation requirements in ASC 810 and significantly changes the consolidation analysis required under U.S. GAAP. The amendments include the following:

- Limited partnerships will be variable interest entities (VIEs), unless the limited partners have either substantive kick-out or participating rights. Although more partnerships will be VIEs, it is less likely that a general partner will consolidate a limited partnership.
- The ASU changes the effect that fees paid to a decision maker or service provider have on the consolidation analysis. Specifically, it is less likely that the fees themselves will be considered a variable interest, that an entity will be a VIE, or that consolidation will result.
- The ASU significantly amends how variable interests held by a reporting entity's related parties
  or de facto agents affect its consolidation conclusion. Specifically, the ASU will result in less
  frequent performance of the related-party tiebreaker test (and mandatory consolidation by one
  of the related parties) than under current U.S. GAAP.
- For entities other than limited partnerships, the ASU clarifies how to determine whether the equity holders (as a group) have power over the entity (this will most likely result in a change to current practice). The clarification could affect whether the entity is a VIE.
- The deferral of ASU 2009-17 for investments in certain investment funds has been eliminated. Therefore, investment managers, general partners, and investors in these investment funds will need to perform a drastically different consolidation evaluation.

Although the ASU is expected to result in the deconsolidation of many entities, reporting entities will need to reevaluate all their previous consolidation conclusions.

**Next Steps:** For public business entities, the guidance in the ASU is effective for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2015. For entities other than public business entities, the guidance is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2017. Early adoption is allowed for all entities (including during an interim period), but the guidance must be applied as of the beginning of the annual period containing the adoption date.

Other Resources: Deloitte's February 19, 2015, Heads Up.

#### **Financial Instruments**

## FASB Proposes Enhancements to Disclosures About Embedded Derivatives

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On February 24, 2015, the FASB issued a proposed ASU that would establish new disclosure requirements for hybrid financial instruments with bifurcated embedded derivatives. The proposal stems from the Board's decision in its classification and measurement project to retain existing U.S. GAAP guidance on the bifurcation of embedded derivatives. Although the Board chose not to amend the existing bifurcation guidance, it hopes that the proposed disclosure requirements will address stakeholders' concerns regarding the transparency and usefulness of information about such instruments in the financial statements.

In the proposal's Basis for Conclusions, the Board acknowledges that "even though the host contract and the bifurcated embedded derivative encompass one legal contract, [under existing U.S. GAAP] they often are disclosed in the footnotes as if they are two separate instruments." The proposal requires entities to disclose the link between bifurcated embedded derivatives and their host contracts so that financial statement users can "analyze the overall economics and cash flows for the entire hybrid financial instrument."

Next Steps: Comments on the proposed ASU are due by April 30, 2015.

Other Resources: Deloitte's February 27, 2015, Heads Up.

# **Simplification Initiative**

### FASB Issues Two Proposed ASUs to Simplify the Accounting for Income Taxes

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 22, 2015, the FASB issued proposed ASUs on the following topics as part of its simplification initiative: (1) intra-entity asset transfers and (2) balance sheet classification of deferred taxes.

The proposal on intra-entity asset transfers would remove the requirement under which the income tax consequences of such transfers are deferred until the assets are ultimately sold to an outside party. The tax consequences of such transfers would be recognized in tax expense when the transfers occur. This treatment is consistent with IAS 12. The Board acknowledged that the elimination of this exception in ASC 740 might not reduce the cost entities incur because they would need to track book-tax differences related to those assets. However, the Board believes that the change would better depict the economic effects (e.g., a cash tax payment) of those transfers and would lead to easier application of the general guidance in ASC 740.

Under the proposal on the balance sheet classification of deferred taxes, all deferred taxes would be classified as noncurrent. Jurisdictional netting would still be required. The proposed ASU asks constituents who disagree with the proposed change to identify alternatives for presenting deferred taxes in a classified balance sheet and the conceptual basis for those alternatives. Entities would be required to apply the proposed amendments prospectively.

For public business entities, the proposed ASUs would be effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those annual periods. Early adoption would not be permitted. Entities other than public business entities would have a one-year deferral for annual reporting and would be permitted to early adopt the standard as long as such adoption is no sooner than the effective date for public business entities.

Next Steps: Comments on the proposals are due by May 29, 2015.

Other Resources: Deloitte's January 30, 2015, Heads Up.

### FASB Issues ASU on Extraordinary Items

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 9, 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-01 to eliminate from U.S. GAAP the concept of an extraordinary item, which is an event or transaction that is both (1) unusual in nature and (2) infrequently occurring. Under the ASU, an entity will no longer (1) segregate an extraordinary item from the results of ordinary operations; (2) separately present an extraordinary item on its income

statement, net of tax, after income from continuing operations; or (3) disclose income taxes and earnings-per-share data applicable to an extraordinary item. The ASU is part of the FASB's simplification initiative (i.e., projects to reduce the cost and complexity of certain aspects of U.S. GAAP).

**Next Steps:** The ASU is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those annual periods. Entities may apply the guidance prospectively or retrospectively to all prior periods presented in the financial statements. Early adoption is permitted if the guidance is applied as of the beginning of the annual period of adoption.

Other Resources: Deloitte's January 12, 2015, Heads Up.

#### International

# IASB Proposes Clarifications to Liability Classification Under IAS 1

Affects: Entities reporting under IFRSs.

**Summary:** On February 10, 2015, the IASB published an ED that proposes a more general approach to the classification of liabilities under IAS 1 on the basis of the contractual arrangements in place as of the reporting date. The amendments proposed in the IASB's new ED would:

- Indicate that the "classification of liabilities as either current or non-current is based on the rights that are in existence at the end of the reporting period" by amending paragraphs 69(d) and 73 of IAS 1 so that both paragraphs refer to the "right to defer settlement" and both specify that only rights in place "at the end of the reporting period" affect such classification.
- Clarify "the link between the settlement of the liability and the outflow of resources from the entity" by incorporating guidance into paragraph 69 of IAS 1 explaining that settlement refers to the "transfer to the counterparty of cash, equity instruments, [or] other assets or services."
- Reorganize the guidance in IAS 1 regarding classification of liabilities as current or noncurrent by deleting paragraphs 74 through 76 of IAS 1 and moving the provisions from these paragraphs to the expanded and renumbered paragraphs 72R and 73R of IAS 1 "so that similar examples are grouped together."

Although the ED does not propose an effective date, it indicates that the amendments would be applied retrospectively and that early application would be permitted.

Next Steps: Comments on the ED are due by June 10, 2015.

**Other Resources:** For more information, see Deloitte's February 10, 2015, *IFRS in Focus* as well as the press release on the IASB's Web site.

# Accounting — Other Key Developments

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   Reporting Taxonomy\*
- International
  - IASB Issues Document on Forthcoming Leases Standard\*

#### **EITF**

# EITF Discusses Various Issues at March Meeting\*

Affects: All entities.

Summary: At its March 19, 2015, meeting, the EITF discussed the following Issues:

- Issue 14-A, "Effects on Historical Earnings per Unit of Master Limited Partnership Dropdown Transactions" The Task Force reached a final consensus, reaffirming its consensus-for-exposure that "the earnings (losses) of the transferred net assets before the date of the dropdown transaction shall be allocated entirely to the general partner interest." Further, a master limited partnership would disclose "how the rights to the earnings (losses) of the transferred net assets differ before and after the dropdown transaction occurs for purposes of computing earnings per unit." For public companies, the final consensus will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. A reporting entity will apply the final consensus retrospectively. FASB ratification is expected at the Board's April 7, 2015, meeting, after which a final ASU will be issued.
- Issue 14-B, "Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or Its Equivalent)" The Task Force reached a final consensus, reaffirming its consensus-for-exposure that investments for which the practical expedient is used to measure fair value at NAV would be removed from the fair value hierarchy. Instead, an entity would be required to include those investments as a reconciling line item so that the total fair value amount of investments in the disclosure is consistent with the amount on the balance sheet. Further, the final consensus requires entities to provide the disclosures in ASC 820-10-50-6A only for investments for which they elect to use the NAV practical expedient to determine fair value. The final consensus also includes certain consequential amendments to ASC 230 and ASC 715. For public companies, the final consensus will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The effective date will be deferred by one year for private companies. Early adoption is permitted. A reporting entity will apply the final consensus retrospectively. FASB ratification is expected at the Board's April 7, 2015, meeting, after which a final ASU will be issued.
- Issue 15-A, "Application of the Normal Purchases and Normal Sales Scope Exception to Certain Electricity Contracts Within Nodal Energy Markets" — The term "nodal energy markets" refers to an interconnected wholesale energy transmission grid administered by regional independent system operators (ISOs). The ISOs operate various "nodes" within the grid where electricity is delivered and withdrawn on the basis of market rates set by the ISOs. The price differential between nodes (delivery point and withdrawal point) represents locational marginal pricing (LMP) charges. As electricity is delivered into the nodal market, the ISOs take "flash title" of the electricity and charge their counterparties the LMP charge on the basis of the market price at that node. The Task Force reached a consensus-for-exposure that a forward purchase or sale of electricity in which electricity must be physically delivered through a nodal energy market operated by an ISO and in which an entity incurs transmission costs on the basis of LMP charges would meet the physical-delivery requirement under the NPNS scope exception. The Task Force observed that the substance of such a transaction is that the entity physically delivers electricity to its customers. Entities would be required to adopt the guidance prospectively for any qualifying new or existing contract. If the NPNS exception is elected for an existing derivative, an entity would no longer mark the derivative to market and its carrying value would be its fair value at the time of designation. The Task Force will discuss the effective date at a future meeting. FASB ratification is expected at the Board's April 7, 2015, meeting, after which a proposed ASU will be issued for public comment.
- Issue 15-B, "Recognition of Breakage for Prepaid Stored-Value Cards" The Task Force
  reached a consensus-for-exposure that a prepaid stored-value card is a financial liability since
  the card issuer is required to settle its obligation to the cardholder by a cash payment to either
  the cardholder or a third party. The Task Force decided that the scope of the consensus-for-

exposure should include cards that (1) are redeemable for goods and services provided by a third party or that contain a cash redemption option and (2) are not subject to escheatment laws. Further, the Task Force decided to amend ASC 405-20 such that if an entity has a prepaid stored-value card within the scope of the consensus-for-exposure, the entity would apply the breakage guidance in ASC 606. The breakage disclosure requirements would also be consistent with the requirements in ASC 606. In applying the new guidance, entities would be required to adopt a modified retrospective transition approach, with a cumulative catch-up adjustment to opening retained earnings in the period of adoption. The Task Force will discuss the effective date at a future meeting. FASB ratification is expected at the Board's April 7, 2015, meeting, after which a proposed ASU will be issued for public comment.

• Issue 15-C, "Employee Benefit Plan Simplifications" — The Task Force reached a consensus-for-exposure that fully benefit-responsive investment contracts should be measured at contract value and that the requirement to reconcile their contract value to fair value (if different) should be removed. Other aspects of the consensus-for-exposure include the following: (1) plan assets would be disclosed by general type in a manner consistent with current plan accounting and would not need to be disaggregated in accordance with ASC 820; (2) entities would be required to provide ASC 820 disclosures on the basis of the general type of plan assets; and (3) the requirement to provide plan asset disclosures about net appreciation or depreciation would be removed. Further, the Task Force decided that an employee benefit plan could use an alternative measurement date for plan assets consisting of the closest month-end date to its fiscal year-end. Entities would be required to adopt the new guidance retrospectively. The Task Force will discuss the effective date at a future meeting. FASB ratification is expected at the Board's April 7, 2015, meeting, after which a proposed ASU will be issued for public comment.

**Next Steps:** The next EITF decision-making meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 18, 2015.

**Other Resources:** For more information, see Deloitte's March 2015 *EITF Snapshot*. Also see the meeting materials and minutes on the FASB's Web site.

# **Private Companies**

### **FAF Trustees Seek Comments on PCC**

Affects: Private companies.

**Summary:** On February 26, 2015, the FAF board of trustees released a request for comment on whether the PCC, which was established in May 2012, is accomplishing its objectives. The request for comment solicits stakeholders' views on potential improvements to the PCC, including:

- · Continuing "to establish working groups for select FASB projects."
- Creating "a consistent and continuous feedback mechanism" between the FASB and PCC with respect to active FASB projects.
- Continuing to provide feedback on projects on the active FASB agenda.
- Participating with the FASB in outreach with private-company stakeholders.

Next Steps: Comments are due by May 11, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the FAF's Web site.

# **PCC Holds February Meeting**

Affects: Private companies.

Summary: At its February 13, 2015, meeting, the PCC discussed the following topics:

- Definition of a public business entity The PCC "decided to not amend the existing definitions of a nonpublic entity." Thus, the existing definitions of this term in the FASB Accounting Standards Codification continue to be applicable.
- Balance sheet classification of debt In light of its "significant concerns about the FASB's project on the balance sheet classification of debt," the PCC requested that the Board seek additional feedback from shareholders on this topic.
- Effective dates for PCC accounting alternatives The PCC "added a project to its agenda to consider allowing elective adoption after the effective date for existing PCC accounting alternatives."
- Share-based payments The PCC asked the FASB staff to further research a private-company alternative related to share-based payments.
- Uncertain tax positions The PCC discussed an issue related to disclosures about open tax years when "there are no material uncertain tax positions."

Next Steps: The next PCC meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the media meeting recap on the FASB's Web site.

# **Revenue Recognition**

# FASB Tentatively Decides to Defer Effective Date of New Revenue Standard\*

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** At its April 1, 2015, meeting, the FASB tentatively decided to defer for one year the effective date of the new revenue standard (ASU 2014-09) for public and nonpublic entities reporting under U.S. GAAP. The Board also tentatively decided to permit entities to early adopt the standard.

It is currently unclear whether the IASB will defer the effective date of its counterpart standard IFRS 15; the IASB plans to discuss this issue later in April.

**Next Steps:** The tentative decisions will be exposed in an upcoming proposed ASU for a 30-day comment period.

Other Resources: Deloitte's April 1, 2015, Heads Up.

## FASB and IASB Tentatively Decide to Clarify New Revenue Standard\*

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** At their February 19, 2015, joint meeting, the FASB and IASB tentatively decided to clarify certain aspects of their new revenue recognition standard (issued as ASU 2014-09 by the FASB and IFRS 15 by the IASB) in response to implementation questions from stakeholders, many of which have been discussed at meetings of the boards' joint transition resource group (TRG) on revenue recognition. Portions of the standard that would be clarified include those related to licenses of intellectual property and identifying performance obligations.

The boards continued to discuss potential clarifications to the new revenue standard at their March 18, 2015, joint meeting. Potential amendments discussed at this meeting included (1) the addition of practical expedients related to the presentation of sales tax and the determination of contract modifications, (2) clarifications related to the measurement of noncash consideration, and (3) amendments to the assessment of collectibility.

**Next Steps:** The FASB directed its staff to draft a proposed ASU for possible ratification by the Board at a future meeting. While the IASB tentatively agreed to make certain revisions to IFRS 15, it did not decide on the timing of an ED. However, it is possible that a draft may be exposed in June or July of 2015.

**Other Resources:** For more information, including tables summarizing and comparing the boards' tentative decisions, see Deloitte's February 19, 2015, and March 20, 2015, *Heads Up* newsletters.

# FASB and IASB Joint Revenue Transition Resource Group Holds January and March Meetings\*

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** In January and March 2015, the FASB's and IASB's joint revenue transition resource group (TRG) held meetings to discuss issues associated with the implementation of the boards' new revenue standard. At its January 26, 2015, meeting, TRG discussed the following eight topics:

- Identifying promised goods or services in a contract with a customer.
- · Collectibility.
- · Variable consideration.
- · Noncash consideration.
- Stand-ready obligations.
- Application of the new revenue standard to permitted Islamic finance transactions.
- Incremental costs of obtaining a contract.
- Evaluating contract modifications before the adoption date of the new revenue standard.

TRG members also discussed eight topics at the group's March 30, 2015, meeting:

- Allocation of the transaction price for discounts and variable consideration.
- · Material rights.
- Consideration payable to a customer.
- Partially satisfying performance obligations before identifying the contract.
- · Warranties.
- Significant financing components.
- Whether contributions are within the scope of the new revenue standard.
- Sales of distinct goods or services.

Next Steps: The next TRG meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2015.

Other Resources: Deloitte's January 2015 and March 2015 TRG Snapshot newsletters.

#### **XBRL**

# SEC Adopts FASB's 2015 U.S. GAAP Financial Reporting Taxonomy\*

Affects: All entities.

Summary: On March 9, 2015, the FASB announced that the SEC has adopted the Board's 2015 U.S. GAAP Financial Reporting Taxonomy, which SEC registrants use in providing their interactive data submissions to the Commission. The taxonomy, as described on the FASB's Web site, is "a list of computer-readable tags in [XBRL] format that allows companies to tag precisely the thousands of pieces of financial data that are included in typical long-form financial statements and related footnote disclosures."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the FASB's Web site.

### **International**

# IASB Issues Document on Forthcoming Leases Standard\*

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On March 16, 2015, the IASB published a document that provides an overview of (1) the likely practical effects of the new standard on leases and (2) the similarities and differences between the IASB's and FASB's approaches. Although the boards have reached the same decisions about many aspects of the leases project, their final conclusions are not converged. Both boards will be ending their redeliberations soon and will be deciding on an effective date within the next few months.

Next Steps: For more information, see the press release on the IASB's Web site.

# **Auditing Developments**

#### In This Section

#### AICPA

- AICPA Releases
   Attestation Standard on Agreed-Upon Procedures
   Engagements
- AICPA Releases Interpretation of Guidance on Going Concern

#### CAQ

- CAQ Sponsors ERC Study on Effective Ethics and Compliance Programs\*
- CAQ and IIA Issue Report on Strengthening Audit Relationships\*
- CAQ Releases Highlights of Joint Meeting Between IPTF and SEC Staff

#### PCAOB

- PCAOB Approves
   Reorganization of Its
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- PCAOB Performs
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#### International

- IFIAR Publishes Report on 2014 Inspection Survey Findings\*
- IAASB Proposes
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- IAASB Enhances Auditor Reporting Standards

#### **AICPA**

# AICPA Releases Attestation Standard on Agreed-Upon Procedures Engagements

Affects: Auditors that perform agreed-upon procedures engagements.

**Summary:** On February 25, 2015, the AICPA issued an attestation interpretation of the guidance in AT 201 on agreed-upon procedures engagements. Specifically, the interpretation clarifies the meaning of the term "due diligence services" in light of the requirements in the SEC's final rule on nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, under which "the issuer or underwriter of any [asset-backed security must] make publicly available the findings and conclusions of any third-party due diligence report obtained by the issuer or underwriter."

# AICPA Releases Interpretation of Guidance on Going Concern

Affects: Auditors.

**Summary:** In January 2015, the AICPA issued AU-C Section 9570, which is an interpretation of the going-concern guidance in AICPA standards in light of certain questions that have arisen regarding application of AU-C Section 570 as well as the FASB's ASU 2014-15 and the GASB's Statement 56. AU-C Section 9570 contains Q&As on the following topics:

- Definitions of the terms "substantial doubt about an entity's ability to continue as a going concern" and "reasonable period of time."
- Interim financial information.
- Consideration of financial statement effects.

#### **CAQ**

# CAQ Sponsors ERC Study on Effective Ethics and Compliance Programs\*

Affects: Auditors.

**Summary:** On March 26, 2015, the ERC released a study that documents how larger companies (i.e., those with 90,000 or more employees) can implement "effective ethics and compliance programs to reduce employee misconduct and improve every key measure of workplace behavior." The report indicates that such programs can significantly reduce violations such as compromising standards, observed misconduct, and retaliation.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the ERC's Web site.

# CAQ and IIA Issue Report on Strengthening Audit Relationships\*

**Affects:** Auditors.

**Summary:** On March 10, 2015, the CAQ and IIA issued a report on how the roles of the internal auditor, external auditor, and audit committee intersect. Specifically, the report explores how these three parties can cooperate to foster effective communication and enterprise risk management.

# CAQ Releases Highlights of Joint Meeting Between IPTF and SEC Staff

Affects: Public entities and their auditors.

**Summary:** On January 23, 2015, the CAQ released highlights of the November 2014 meeting between the IPTF and the SEC staff. Topics discussed at the meeting included:

- · Venezuela currency issues.
- Monitoring inflation in certain countries.
- The definition of a foreign business.
- Update on the status of the SEC's disclosure effectiveness initiative.
- SEC staff's observations regarding use of the IFRS XBRL taxonomy by foreign private issuers.

### **PCAOB**

# PCAOB Approves Reorganization of Its Accounting Standards\*

Affects: Registered public accounting firms.

**Summary:** On March 31, 2015, the PCAOB issued a release approving the reorganization of its auditing standards. Under the amendments, PCAOB-issued auditing standards will be integrated with PCAOB interim standards by using a topical structure and a uniform four-digit numbering system. The release notes that the new structure "generally follows the flow of the audit process" and is intended to enhance the usability and navigability of — and thus to facilitate compliance with — the PCAOB's auditing standards. In addition, the release indicates that future auditing standards "will be issued as new or replacement sections and paragraphs" within the new topical organization and that PCAOB standards will no longer be sequentially numbered.

**Next Steps:** Pending SEC approval, the amendments in the release will become effective as of December 31, 2016. Once approved by the SEC, the reorganized standards can be used before the effective date.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the PCAOB's Web site.

# PCAOB Performs Inspections Related to Audits of Brokers and Dealers

Affects: Registered public accounting firms.

**Summary:** On January 28, 2015, the PCAOB issued a report summarizing the observations it made during inspections of five registered public accounting firms that had conducted broker-dealer audits in accordance with PCAOB standards. The Board noted deficiencies in firms' compliance with PCAOB standards for the five audits it inspected as well as for four of the five related attestation engagements. These deficiencies included the following:

- Failure to perform control testing.
- Inadequate audit documentation.
- · Insufficient engagement quality review.
- Performing the audit under GAAS rather than under PCAOB standards.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the PCAOB's Web site.

#### **International**

# IFIAR Publishes Report on 2014 Inspection Survey Findings\*

Affects: Audit firms.

**Summary:** On March 3, 2015, the IFIAR published a report on inspection findings related to its 2014 survey of significant audit firms. The report notes that as with the IFIAR's previous surveys, 2014 inspections have revealed "high levels of findings in key aspects of the audit and the inspected audit firms' systems of quality control."

Other Resources: For more information, see the fact sheet on the IFIAR's Web site.

# IAASB Proposes Revisions to Guidance on Special-Purpose Financial Statements

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 22, 2015, the IAASB issued an ED that would revise the guidance in ISAs 800 and 805 on audits prepared in accordance with special-purpose frameworks. The ED contains guidance on how the IAASB's recent revisions to its auditor reporting standards would be applied in audits of special-purpose financial statements.

Next Steps: Comments on the ED are due by April 22, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on IFAC's Web site.

# **IAASB Enhances Auditor Reporting Standards**

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 15, 2015, the IAASB issued new and revised auditor reporting standards that significantly improve auditors' reports for investors and other financial statement users. The revisions include the following:

- For "audits of financial statements of listed entities," auditors would need to (1) communicate key audit matters and (2) disclose the engagement partner's name. These provisions would be optional for other entities.
- Auditors would be required to present the opinion section first, "followed by the Basis for Opinion section, unless law or regulation prescribe[s] otherwise."
- Improvements to going-concern reporting, including requirements to (1) provide a description of management's and auditors' responsibilities related to such reporting as well as separate disclosure of any material uncertainties and (2) "challenge adequacy of disclosures . . . when events or conditions are identified that may cast significant doubt on an entity's ability to continue as a going concern" (emphasis omitted).
- Requirements for auditors to furnish (1) a statement affirming their independence and "fulfillment of relevant ethical responsibilities" (emphasis omitted) and (2) an enhanced description of their responsibilities.

**Next Steps**: The revisions are effective for financial statement audits for periods ending on or after December 15, 2016.

**Other Resources:** For more information, see the press release, auditor reporting fact sheet, and at-a-glance document on IFAC's Web site.

# Governmental Accounting and Auditing Developments

#### In This Section

#### FASAB

 FASAB Issues Guidance on Identifying Entities to Include in General-Purpose Federal Financial Reports

#### GASB

- GASB Issues Guidance on Fair Value Measurement
- International
- IPSASB Issues
   Recommended Practice
   Guideline on Reporting
   Service Performance
   Information\*
- IPSASB Issues Standards on Accounting for Interests in Other Entities
- IPSASB Issues Standard on First-Time Adoption of Accrual-Basis IPSASs
- IPSASB Aligns IPSASS With Recent IASB Pronouncements

#### **FASAB**

# FASAB Issues Guidance on Identifying Entities to Include in General-Purpose Federal Financial Reports

Affects: Entities applying federal financial accounting standards.

**Summary:** On December 23, 2014, the FASAB issued Statement 47, which "establishes principles to identify organizations for which elected officials are accountable . . . and guides preparers of [general-purpose federal financial reports] in determining what organizations to report upon, whether such organizations are considered 'consolidation entities' or 'disclosure entities,' and what information should be presented about those organizations."

**Next Steps:** Statement 47 is effective for periods beginning after September 30, 2017. Early adoption is prohibited.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the FASAB's Web site.

#### **GASB**

#### GASB Issues Guidance on Fair Value Measurement

**Affects:** Entities reporting under financial accounting and reporting standards for state and local governments.

**Summary:** On March 2, 2015, the GASB issued Statement 72, which enhances the transparency and comparability of fair value measurements and disclosures in state and local governments' financial statements. Statement 72 clarifies the definition of fair value and provides guidance on fair value valuation techniques, the fair value measurement hierarchy, and disclosures.

**Next Steps:** Statement 72 is effective for financial statements for periods beginning after June 15, 2015. Early adoption is encouraged.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the GASB's Web site.

#### **International**

# IPSASB Issues Recommended Practice Guideline on Reporting Service Performance Information\*

Affects: Public-sector entities.

**Summary:** On March 31, 2015, the IPSASB issued a recommended practice guideline (RPG) that contains guidance on reporting service performance information in a general-purpose financial report. The RPG defines service performance information as "information on the services that the entity provides, an entity's service performance objectives and the extent of its achievement of those objectives."

**Other Resources:** For more information, see the press release and at-a-glance document on IFAC's Web site.

# IPSASB Issues Standards on Accounting for Interests in Other Entities

Affects: Public-sector entities.

**Summary:** On January 30, 2015, the IPSASB issued the following five IPSASs on accounting for interests in other entities:

- IPSAS 34, Separate Financial Statements.
- IPSAS 35, Consolidated Financial Statements.
- IPSAS 36, Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures.
- IPSAS 37, Joint Arrangements.
- IPSAS 38, Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities.

The new IPSASs are based on the IASB's May 2011 "package of five" standards (i.e., IFRS 10, IFRS 11, IFRS 12, IAS 27, and IAS 28), including the 2012 amendments to the guidance on transition and investment entities. The requirements of the IPSASs are aligned with those in the equivalent IASB pronouncements except when departure is considered justified (e.g., modification of terminology, consideration of the interaction with the Government Finance Statistics and the System of National Accounts, reflection of differences between existing IPSASs and IFRSs).

**Next Steps:** The standards are effective for annual financial statements for periods beginning on or after January 1, 2017. Earlier application is encouraged; however, if an entity decides to apply the requirements early, it must disclose that fact and apply the whole series of standards (IPSAS 34 through IPSAS 38) at the same time.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on IFAC's Web site.

### IPSASB Issues Standard on First-Time Adoption of Accrual-Basis IPSASs

Affects: Public-sector entities.

**Summary:** On January 29, 2015, the IPSASB released IPSAS 33, which addresses the transition from a cash basis, an accrual basis under another reporting framework, or a modified version of either the cash or accrual basis of accounting. IPSAS 33 allows first-time adopters three years to recognize specified assets and liabilities so that preparers have sufficient time to develop reliable models for recognizing and measuring assets and liabilities during the transition period. These assets and liabilities include inventories; investment property; property, plant, and equipment; defined benefit plans and other long-term employee benefits; biological assets and agricultural produce; intangible assets; service concession assets and the related liabilities; and financial instruments.

**Next Steps:** First-time adopters must apply IPSAS 33 when their first IPSAS financial statements are for a period beginning on or after January 1, 2017. Earlier application is permitted.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on IFAC's Web site.

# **IPSASB Aligns IPSASs With Recent IASB Pronouncements**

Affects: Public-sector entities.

**Summary:** On January 23, 2015, the IPSASB issued a final pronouncement that revises several IPSASs in light of certain amendments that were recently made to IASB standards. The following four IPSASs are affected:

- *IPSAS 1* Clarification of comparative information requirements.
- *IPSAS 17* Revisions to guidance on classification of servicing equipment, clarification of the revaluation method, additional guidance on acceptable methods of depreciating assets.
- *IPSAS 28* Additional guidance on tax effects of distributions to holders of equity instruments.
- *IPSAS 31* Clarification of the revaluation method, clarification of acceptable methods of amortizing assets.

**Next Steps:** The amendments are effective for annual financial statements for periods beginning on or after January 1, 2015.

# Regulatory and Compliance Developments

#### In This Section

#### COSO

- COSO Publishes
   Research Report on
   Cyber Risk
- Federal Reserve
- Federal Reserve Requests Feedback on Identifying a Firm's Legal Entities\*
- Federal Reserve Releases Results of Capital Analysis and Review\*
- Federal Reserve, OCC, and FDIC Seek Feedback on Reducing Regulatory Burden
- Federal Reserve and FDIC Release Resolution Plans for Certain Banking Organizations

#### SASE

- SASB Issues Provisional Standards for the Resource Transformation Sector\*
- SASB Proposes
   Sustainability Accounting
   Standards for the
   Consumption Sector

#### • SEC

- SEC Issues Final Rule to Ease Smaller Companies' Access to Capital\*
- SEC Proposes Increased Oversight of Broker-Dealers That Engage in Off-Exchange Trading\*
- SEC Issues Rules on Security-Based Swaps
- SEC Proposes Hedging Disclosure Requirements
- SEC Releases Cybersecurity Publications
- SEC Publishes
   Examination Priorities
   for 2015
- SEC Updates Financial Reporting Manual
- International
  - UN Releases Framework for Reporting on Human Rights\*
- IOSCO Enhances Code of Conduct for Credit Rating Agencies\*

#### **COSO**

# COSO Publishes Research Report on Cyber Risk

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 14, 2015, COSO released a research report that offers insight into how the *Internal Control* — *Integrated Framework* and *Enterprise Risk Management* — *Integrated Framework* can help entities "effectively and efficiently evaluate and manage cyber risks." Specifically, the report "provides direction on identifying and implementing internal control components and principles, from demonstrating commitment to integrity and ethical values, to risk analysis, and evaluating and communicating deficiencies."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on COSO's Web site.

#### **Federal Reserve**

# Federal Reserve Requests Feedback on Identifying a Firm's Legal Entities\*

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On March 16, 2015, the Federal Reserve issued a proposal under which banking entities would be required to disclose legal entity identifiers (LEIs) in certain regulatory reporting forms. The objective of using an LEI, which is "a 20-character alphanumeric code assigned to a legal entity of a financial or non-financial firm," is to allow global regulators to more effectively measure and monitor the potential risks posed by a firm's legal entities. The Federal Reserve's proposal is related to an existing FSB framework under which "a global identifier system . . . would uniquely identify parties to financial transactions."

Next Steps: Comments on the proposal are due by May 29, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the Federal Reserve's Web site.

# Federal Reserve Releases Results of Capital Analysis and Review\*

Affects: Large bank holding companies (BHCs).

**Summary:** On March 11, 2015, the Federal Reserve released a report on the results of its annual capital analysis and review program, in which it "evaluates the capital planning processes and capital adequacy of the largest U.S.-based [BHCs], including the firms' planned capital actions such as dividend payments and share buybacks and issuances." The Federal Reserve objected to the capital planning of two of the 29 BHCs evaluated and issued a "conditional non-objection" to one BHC that is contingent on resubmission of an enhanced capital plan by September 30, 2015. Overall, the report indicates that while BHCs have improved their capital planning in the wake of the global financial crisis, "many continue to have challenges in fully meeting supervisory expectations for capital planning."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the Federal Reserve's Web site.

- IOSCO and FSB Propose Assessment Methods for Identifying Nonbank Noninsurer Global Systemically Important Financial Institutions\*
- IOSCO and CPMI Release Guidance on Disclosures Related to Central Counterparties
- IOSCO Seeks to Mitigate Risks Related to Non-Centrally-Cleared Derivatives
- Basel Committee and IOSCO Revise Implementation of Margin Requirements for Non-Centrally-Cleared Derivatives\*
- Basel Committee
   Publishes Basel III
   Monitoring Report\*
- Basel Committee
   Requests Feedback on
   Guidance on Expected
   Credit Losses
- Basel Committee Revises
   Pillar 3 Disclosure
   Requirements
- Basel Committee Issues Second Progress Report on Banks' Adoption of Risk Data Aggregation Principles

# Federal Reserve, OCC, and FDIC Seek Feedback on Reducing Regulatory Burden

Affects: Insured depository institutions.

**Summary:** On February 13, 2015, the Federal Reserve, FDIC, and OCC issued a proposed rule that requests comment on regulations for insured depository institutions that may be outdated or unnecessarily burdensome. The proposed rule, which is being released in response to a mandate of the Economic Growth and Regulatory Paperwork Reduction Act of 1996, is the second in a series of four proposals seeking feedback on this topic (the first was issued in June 2014). Regulation categories addressed in the February 2015 proposal include capital, banking operations, and the Community Reinvestment Act.

Next Steps: Comments on the proposed rule are due by May 14, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the Federal Reserve's Web site.

# Federal Reserve and FDIC Release Resolution Plans for Certain Banking Organizations

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 15, 2015, the Federal Reserve and FDIC posted to their Web sites "the public portions of resolution plans for firms with generally less than \$100 billion in qualifying nonbank assets." The plans were prepared in response to a mandate of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which "requires that certain banking organizations with total consolidated assets of \$50 billion or more and nonbank financial companies designated for enhanced prudential supervision by the Financial Stability Oversight Council periodically submit resolution plans to the Federal Reserve Board and the FDIC."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the Federal Reserve's Web site.

#### **SASB**

#### SASB Issues Provisional Standards for the Resource Transformation Sector\*

**Affects:** Industries within the scope of the standards.

**Summary:** On March 25, 2015, the SASB issued provisional standards for the resource transformation sector. The standards are the seventh set in a planned series of industry-related SASB standards on accounting for environmental, social, and governance issues that could be material to a corporation's performance. The standards focus on material sustainability matters that corporations are already required to disclose in their Form 10-K or 20-F filings with the SEC.

The standards apply to the following industries:

- Aerospace and defense.
- · Chemicals.
- · Containers and packaging.
- Electrical and electronic equipment.
- · Industrial machinery and goods.

The Board's first six sets of provisional standards focus on technology and communications, financials, health care, nonrenewable resources, provisional services, and transportation.

**Other Resources:** For more information about the resource transformation sector, see the industry briefs on the SASB's Web site.

# SASB Proposes Sustainability Accounting Standards for the Consumption Sector

Affects: Industries within the scope of the standards.

**Summary:** On January 14, 2015, the SASB released seven proposed sustainability accounting standards for the consumption sector. The proposed standards apply to the following industries:

- · Agricultural products.
- · Meat, poultry, and dairy.
- · Processed foods.
- Nonalcoholic beverages.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- · Tobacco products.
- Household and personal products.

Next Steps: Comments on the proposed standards are due by April 14, 2015.

#### **SEC**

# SEC Issues Final Rule to Ease Smaller Companies' Access to Capital\*

**Affects:** SEC registrants.

**Summary:** On March 25, 2015, the SEC issued a final rule that amends and expands Regulation A, which exempts certain offerings from registration under the Securities Act of 1933. The rule implements a mandate in Section 401 of the JOBS Act to ease smaller companies' access to capital.

Under Regulation A before the amendments, a company could offer up to \$5 million of securities in a 12-month period and no more than \$1.5 million of those securities could be offered by the company's securityholders. Under the new rule, a company can offer and sell up to \$50 million of securities in a 12-month period if it meets specified eligibility, disclosure, and reporting requirements. The rule creates the following two tiers of offerings under Regulation A:

- "Tier 1: annual offering limit of \$20 million, including no more than \$6 million on behalf of selling securityholders that are affiliates of the issuer."
- "Tier 2: annual offering limit of \$50 million, including no more than \$15 million on behalf of selling securityholders that are affiliates of the issuer."

The final rule establishes offering and reporting requirements for issuers under both tiers; however, such requirements are more extensive for Tier 2 issuers, which must provide audited financial statements in their offering documents and file annual, semiannual, and current reports with the SEC. The rule also preserves, "with some modifications, existing provisions regarding issuer eligibility, offering circular contents, testing the waters, and 'bad actor' disgualification."

**Next Steps:** The final rule will become effective 60 days after the date of its publication in the *Federal Register*.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the SEC's Web site.

# SEC Proposes Increased Oversight of Broker-Dealers That Engage in Off-Exchange Trading\*

Affects: Broker-dealers.

**Summary:** On March 25, 2015, the SEC issued a proposed rule that would amend Rule 15b9-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, under which certain broker-dealers are exempted from membership in a registered national securities association. Specifically, the proposal "would narrow an exemption that currently exempts certain brokers-dealers from membership in a national securities association if they are a member of a national securities exchange, carry no customer accounts, and have annual gross income of no more than \$1,000 that is derived from securities transactions effected otherwise than on a national securities exchange of which they are a member." The purpose of the proposed amendments is to "enhance regulatory oversight of active proprietary trading firms, such as high frequency traders."

Next Steps: Comments on the proposed rule are due by June 1, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the SEC's Web site.

# **SEC Issues Rules on Security-Based Swaps**

**Summary:** On February 11, 2015, the SEC issued two final rules (Final Rule Release Nos. 34-74244 and 34-74246) that require registered security-based swap data repositories (SDRs) to "establish and maintain certain policies and procedures regarding how transaction data are reported and disseminated." In addition, certain registered SDRs must "establish and maintain policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that they comply with applicable reporting obligations."

The SEC also released a proposed rule that would "assign reporting duties for certain security-based swaps not addressed by the adopted rules, prohibit registered SDRs from charging fees to or imposing usage restrictions on the users of publicly disseminated security-based swap transaction data, and provide a compliance schedule for certain provisions of Regulation SBSR."

**Next Steps**: The final rules will become effective on May 18, 2015. Comments on the proposed rule are due by May 4, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the SEC's Web site.

### **SEC Proposes Hedging Disclosure Requirements**

Affects: SEC registrants.

**Summary:** On February 9, 2015, the SEC issued a proposed rule that would enhance corporate governance by requiring registrants to disclose employee and director information that may affect shareholders' interests. Specifically, the proposal, which is being issued in response to a requirement in Section 955 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, would require a registrant to disclose, in a proxy or information statement, whether "the registrant permits any employees (including officers) or directors of the registrant, or any of their designees, to purchase financial instruments (including prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars, and exchange funds) or otherwise engage in transactions that are designed to or have the effect of hedging or offsetting any decrease in the market value of equity securities."

Next Steps: Comments on the proposed rule are due by April 20, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the SEC's Web site.

# **SEC Releases Cybersecurity Publications**

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On February 3, 2015, the SEC issued the following two publications related to cybersecurity risks at brokerage and advisory firms:

- Risk alert Summarizes the findings associated with an examination of over 100 investment advisers and broker-dealers conducted by the SEC's Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations (OCIE). The OCIE observed the entities' practices related to "identifying risks related to cybersecurity; establishing cybersecurity governance, including policies, procedures, and oversight processes; protecting firm networks and information; identifying and addressing risks associated with remote access to client information and funds transfer requests; identifying and addressing risks associated with vendors and other third parties; and detecting unauthorized activity."
- Investor bulletin Provides investors with advice on how to protect their online investment
  accounts (e.g., selecting a strong password, two-step verification, careful use of public
  networks).

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the SEC's Web site.

#### SEC Publishes Examination Priorities for 2015

Affects: SEC registrants.

**Summary:** On January 13, 2015, the SEC's OCIE published its examination priorities for 2015. The priorities focus on "protecting retail investors, especially those saving for or in retirement; assessing market-wide risks; and using data analytics to identify signs of potential illegal activity." The document is not necessarily comprehensive and "may be adjusted in light of market conditions, industry developments, and ongoing risk assessment activities."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the SEC's Web site.

### **SEC Updates Financial Reporting Manual**

Affects: SEC registrants.

**Summary:** On January 12, 2015, the SEC's Division of Corporation Finance published an update to its Financial Reporting Manual (FRM). The changes were made in light of the FASB's November 2014 issuance of ASU 2014-17 on pushdown accounting and the related rescission of SAB Topic 5.J.

Other Resources: For more information, see the FRM page on the SEC's Web site.

#### **International**

## UN Releases Framework for Reporting on Human Rights\*

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On March 4, 2015, the UN released a framework on identifying human rights content for inclusion in an integrated report. The purpose of the framework is to help companies report on their human rights performance in a manner consistent with the UN's Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

**Next Steps:** The UN is expected to publish a related assurance framework in 2016, which will provide assurance providers with guidance on ensuring that information reported by companies is in line with the guiding principles in the reporting framework.

# **IOSCO Enhances Code of Conduct for Credit Rating Agencies\***

Affects: Credit rating agencies.

**Summary:** On March 24, 2015, IOSCO published revisions to its *Code of Conduct Fundamentals for Credit Rating Agencies*. The changes include:

- Enhancement of the "provisions regarding protecting the integrity of the credit rating process, managing conflicts of interest, providing transparency, and safeguarding non-public information."
- Incorporating measures for "governance, training, and risk management."
- Adding and amending definitions of key terms, reorganizing the code's structure, and eliminating redundancy.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on IOSCO's Web site.

# IOSCO and FSB Propose Assessment Methods for Identifying Nonbank Noninsurer Global Systemically Important Financial Institutions\*

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On March 4, 2015, IOSCO and the FSB issued a consultative document that proposes assessment methods for identifying nonbank noninsurer global systemically important financial institutions (NBNI G-SIFIs). The objective of the proposal is "to identify NBNI financial entities whose distress or disorderly failure, because of their size, complexity and systemic interconnectedness, would cause significant disruption to the wider financial system and economic activity at the global level or NBNI G-SIFIs in short."

Next Steps: Comments on the consultative document are due by May 29, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the FSB's Web site.

# IOSCO and CPMI Release Guidance on Disclosures Related to Central Counterparties

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On February 26, 2015, IOSCO and the CPMI issued a set of standards that provide guidance on quantitative information that central counterparties should disclose to stakeholders. The new guidance is consistent with the principles of the CPSS-IOSCO December 2012 disclosure framework, which is an effort to "improve the overall transparency of financial market infrastructures."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the BIS's Web site.

# IOSCO Seeks to Mitigate Risks Related to Non-Centrally-Cleared Derivatives

Affects: All entities.

**Summary:** On January 28, 2015, IOSCO issued a final report that prescribes "nine standards aimed at mitigating the risks in the non-centrally cleared OTC derivatives markets." The objective of the report is to "encourage the adoption of sound risk mitigation techniques to promote legal certainty over the terms of the non-centrally cleared OTC derivatives transactions, to foster effective management of counterparty credit risk and to facilitate timely resolution of disputes."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on IOSCO's Web site.

# Basel Committee and IOSCO Revise Implementation of Margin Requirements for Non-Centrally-Cleared Derivatives\*

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On March 18, 2015, the Basel Committee and IOSCO published revisions to the implementation of the margin requirements for non-centrally-cleared derivatives. Provisions of the revisions include (1) delaying — from December 1, 2015, to September 1, 2016 — "the beginning of the phase-in period for collecting and posting initial margin on non-centrally cleared trades" and (2) establishing "a six-month phase-in of the requirement to exchange variation margin" (this phase-in will begin on September 1, 2016).

**Other Resources:** For more information, see the press release and summary of changes on the BIS's Web site.

# Basel Committee Publishes Basel III Monitoring Report\*

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On March 3, 2015, the Basel Committee published its semiannual monitoring report, in which the committee "periodically review[s] the implications of the Basel III standards for banks." The report found, among other things, that "all large internationally active banks now meet the Basel III risk-based capital minimum requirements" and that "capital shortfalls relative to the higher target levels have been further reduced."

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the BIS's Web site.

#### Basel Committee Requests Feedback on Guidance on Expected Credit Losses

**Affects:** Banking entities.

**Summary:** On February 2, 2015, the Basel Committee issued a consultative document that requests comment on "supervisory expectations for banks relating to sound credit risk practices associated with implementing and applying an expected credit loss (ECL) accounting framework." The objective of the proposal is to update the committee's 2006 guidance on sound credit practices in light of the global transition to an ECL framework. (The 2006 guidance was based on an incurred-loss framework.)

**Next Steps:** Comments on the consultative document are due by April 30, 2015.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the BIS's Web site.

# Basel Committee Revises Pillar 3 Disclosure Requirements

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On January 28, 2015, the Basel Committee issued a final standard that would revise the Pillar 3 disclosure requirements for banks. The purpose of the revisions is to facilitate market participants' comparisons of banks' disclosures about risk-weighted assets.

**Next Steps:** The new disclosure requirements will become effective at the end of 2016.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the BIS's Web site.

# Basel Committee Issues Second Progress Report on Banks' Adoption of Risk Data Aggregation Principles

Affects: Banking entities.

**Summary:** On January 23, 2015, the Basel Committee issued its second report on the progress banks have made in implementing the committee's January 2013 *Principles for Effective Risk Data Aggregation and Risk Reporting*, which "aim to strengthen risk data aggregation and risk reporting practices at banks to improve risk management practices."

Next Steps: Global systemically important banks must comply with the principles by January 1, 2016.

Other Resources: For more information, see the press release on the BIS's Web site.

# Appendix A: Current Status of FASB Projects

This appendix summarizes the objectives,<sup>1</sup> current status, and next steps for the FASB's active standard-setting projects (excluding framework and research initiatives as well as PCC projects).

Project	Description	Status and Next Steps
Recognition and Measu	rement Projects	
Accounting for financial instruments	This project consists of three phases: (1) classification and measurement, (2) impairment, and (3) hedging.  The overall purpose of the project is to "significantly improve the decision usefulness of financial instrument reporting for users of financial statements. [The FASB believes] that simplification of the accounting requirements for financial instruments should be an outcome of this improvement."	Classification and Measurement The Board is currently deliberating targeted improvements to existing GAAP and is expected to issue a final standard during the second quarter of 2015. At its March 11, 2015, meeting, the FASB tentatively decided on transition requirements for other-than-temporarily impaired debt securities, purchased credit-impaired assets and certain beneficial interests, and all other assets. The Board also affirmed the ED's transition disclosure requirements. The Board directed the staff to draft a final ASU and obtain stakeholder feedback on the revised guidance. The Board will discuss the effective date at a future meeting. For more information, see Deloitte's February 2, 2015, Heads Up.
		Impairment The Board is currently deliberating aspects of the current expected credit loss model that it exposed for comment in 2012. At its February 11, 2015, meeting, the FASB redeliberated its credit impairment disclosure requirements. The FASB tentatively decided on the scope of disclosure requirements for (1) financial guarantee contracts, (2) programmatic loans, and (3) reinsurance receivables. Further, the Board decided to (1) retain existing U.S. GAAP disclosure requirements for available-for-sale debt securities with certain modifications, (2) define the term "originations," (3) require a rollforward of allowances for expected credit losses, and (4) require credit-quality indicators by vintage. The Board decided that the above disclosure requirements would apply to all entities, including nonpublic business entities. For more information, see Deloitte's August 14, 2014; September 4, 2014; October 30, 2014; and February 12, 2015, journal entries.
		Hedging On November 5, 2014, the FASB added the hedge accounting project to its technical agenda. In deliberating the project, the FASB will discuss (1) hedge effectiveness requirements, (2) component hedging, (3) possible elimination of the shortcut and critical-terms-match methods, (4) voluntary dedesignation of hedging relationships, (5) recognition of ineffectiveness for cash flow underhedges, (6) benchmark interest rates, (7) simplification of hedge documentation requirements, and (8) presentation and disclosure matters. On February 25, 2015, the FASB discussed hedge effectiveness thresholds and component hedging for nonfinancial items. The Board directed the staff to research these topics further. As intended, no decisions were made. For more information, see Deloitte's November 6, 2014, journal entry.
Accounting for goodwill for public business entities	The purpose of this project is to "reduce the cost and complexity of the subsequent accounting for	On November 5, 2014, the FASB discussed the results of the IASB's post-implementation review of IFRS 3 and directed

profit entities."

goodwill for public business entities and not-for-

and not-for-profit entities

the staff to continue researching (1) the amortization of

the impairment test.

goodwill, (2) the useful life of goodwill, and (3) simplifying

The quoted material related to the projects' objectives is from the respective project pages on the FASB's Web site.

Accounting for identifiable The purpose of the project is to "evaluate whether The FASB has not yet begun deliberating this project. certain intangible assets should be subsumed into intangible assets in a business combination for goodwill, with a focus on customer relationships public business entities and noncompete agreements." and not-for-profit entities Accounting for income The purpose of this project is to "simplify On October 22, 2014, the FASB tentatively decided that taxes: intra-entity asset accounting for income taxes by: (1) current and deferred tax assets and liabilities related transfers and balance to an intra-entity asset transfer would be recognized [1.] Eliminating the requirement in GAAP for sheet classifications of and (2) deferred income tax assets and liabilities would entities that present a classified statement of deferred taxes be presented as noncurrent in the statement of financial financial position to classify deferred tax assets and condition. On January 22, 2015, the FASB issued two EDs liabilities as current and noncurrent, and instead related to this project. Comments are due by May 29, 2015. requiring that they classify all deferred tax assets For more information, see Deloitte's January 30, 2015, and liabilities as noncurrent in the statement of Heads Up. financial position. [2.] Eliminating the prohibition in GAAP on the recognition of income taxes for the intra-entity differences between the tax basis of the assets in a buyer's tax jurisdiction and their cost as reported in the consolidated financial statements, and instead requiring recognition of the income tax consequences associated with an intra-entity transfer when the transfer occurs." Accounting issues in The purpose of this project is to address issues At its November 5, 2014, meeting, the FASB added this employee benefit plan related to: project to the EITF's agenda. At its March 19, 2015, financial statements (EITF meeting, the EITF reached a consensus-for-exposure on · Differences between the level of detail provided Issue 15-C) simplifying measurement and disclosure requirements for under the ASC 820 fair value measurement certain plan assets. For more information, see Deloitte's disclosure requirements and that provided under the March 2015 EITF Snapshot. disclosure requirements in the Codification topics on plan accounting (ASC 960, ASC 962, and ASC 965). Discrepancies in the requirements for disaggregating assets within those disclosures. • Inconsistencies between the measurement requirements in ASC 820 and those in the Codification topics on plan accounting with respect to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts. Accounting for The purpose of this project is to simplify the At its March 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB added this project measurement-period accounting for measurement-period adjustments to its technical agenda. The Board tentatively decided that adjustments in a business in a business combination. during the measurement period of a business combination, combination an entity would (1) recognize an adjustment to the provisional amounts in the reporting period in which it is determined and (2) record the cumulative effect on earnings of changes in depreciation, amortization, or other income effects as a result of the adjustment to the provisional amounts. For more information, see Deloitte's March 23, 2015, journal entry. Application of the normal The purpose of this project is to address whether At its November 5, 2014, meeting, the FASB added this purchases and normal certain contracts for the physical delivery of project to the EITF's agenda. At its March 19, 2015, sales (NPNS) scope electricity meet the physical delivery criterion under meeting, the EITF reached a consensus-for-exposure to exception to certain the NPNS scope exception. amend ASC 815's requirements related to the NPNS scope

electricity contracts in nodal energy markets (EITF Issue 15-A)

exception to include certain forward electricity contacts that meet the definition of a derivative within nodal energy markets. For more information, see Deloitte's March 2015 EITF Snapshot.

Clarifying the definition of a business	The purpose of this project is to "clarify the definition of a business with the objective of addressing whether transactions involving in-substance nonfinancial assets (held directly or in a subsidiary) should be accounted for as acquisitions (or disposals) of nonfinancial assets or as acquisitions (or disposals) of businesses. The project will include clarifying the guidance for partial sales or transfers and the corresponding acquisition of partial interests in a nonfinancial asset or assets."	At its December 17, 2014, meeting, the FASB discussed the definition of a business and made certain tentative decisions, including (1) a business must include inputs and one or more substantive processes to create outputs and (2) the definition of a business would retain the notion of "capable" as well as the market-participant concept. The Board instructed the staff to conduct additional research related to (1) revising the definition of outputs, (2) clarifying guidance on how to analyze an acquisition from a market participant's perspective, and (3) adding a de minimis or similar threshold to the definition of a business as well as indicators to consider in this assessment. In addition, the FASB deferred its decision of whether to provide illustrative examples related to applying the definition of a business until further research has been conducted. For more information, see Deloitte's December 18, 2014, journal entry and December 19, 2014, US GAAP Plus news article.
Consolidation: principal- versus-agent analysis	The purpose of this project is to "[p]rovide criteria for a reporting entity to evaluate whether a decision maker is using its power as a princip[al] or agent, [e]liminate inconsistencies in evaluating kick-out and participating rights, [and] [a]mend the requirements for evaluating whether a general partner controls a limited partnership."	On February 18, 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-02, which amends the consolidation requirements in ASC 810 and significantly changes the consolidation analysis required under U.S. GAAP. For more information, see Deloitte's February 19, 2015, <i>Heads Up</i> .
Customer's accounting for fees in a cloud computing arrangement	The purpose of this project is to "provide guidance to customers about whether a cloud computing arrangement includes a software license."	On August 20, 2014, the FASB issued an ED that provides guidance on a customer's accounting for fees paid in a cloud computing arrangement on the basis of whether the arrangement contains a software license element. At its February 18, 2015, meeting, the Board affirmed the proposal without modification. The Board directed the staff to draft a final ASU, which is expected to be issued in the second quarter of 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's August 20, 2014, and February 20, 2015, journal entries.
Effect of derivative contract novations on existing hedge accounting relationships (EITF Issue 15-D)	The purpose of this project is to clarify whether and when a novation of a derivative contract that is part of an existing hedge relationship under ASC 815 should result in the dedesignation of the hedging relationship and the discontinuation of hedge accounting.	At its March 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB added this project to the EITF's agenda. The EITF has not yet begun deliberating the project. For more information, see Deloitte's March 23, 2015, journal entry.
Employee share-based payment accounting improvements	The purpose of this project is to "reduce the cost and complexity and to improve the accounting for share-based payment awards issued to employees for public and private companies."	At its February 4, 2015, meeting, the FASB discussed transition methods and transition disclosures. Specifically, the Board tentatively decided on disclosure requirements related to (1) tax withholding requirements, (2) excess tax benefits/deficiencies upon vesting or settlement, (3) accounting for forfeitures, (4) cash flow presentation of withholding taxes paid when shares are withheld from employees and excess tax benefits, (5) classification of awards with repurchase features, (6) expected term, (7) measurement of awards at intrinsic value, and (8) transition disclosures. The Board directed the staff to draft a proposed ASU, which is expected to be issued in the second quarter of 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's October 24, 2014; December 19, 2014; and February 6, 2015, journal entries.
Evaluation of contingent put and call options embedded in debt instruments (EITF Issue 15-E)	The purpose of this project is to clarify the guidance on determining "whether the economic characteristics and risks of an embedded put or call option in a debt instrument are clearly and closely related to the economic characteristics and risks of its debt host."	At its March 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB added this project to the EITF's agenda. The EITF has not yet begun deliberating the project. For more information, refer to Deloitte's March 23, 2015, journal entry.

Insurance: targeted improvements to the accounting for long-duration contracts	The purpose of this project is to "develop targeted improvements to insurance accounting. Those improvements may address recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure requirements for long-duration insurance contracts."	In March 2014, the FASB decided to limit the scope of the project and focus on targeted improvements to existing GAAP. At its February 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB tentatively decided that deferred acquisition costs would be amortized either (1) "over the expected life of a book of contracts in proportion to the amount of insurance in force" or (2) on a straight-line basis (in proportion to the number of contracts outstanding) if "the amount of insurance in force is variable and cannot be reliably predicted or is otherwise not readily determinable." For more information, see Deloitte's November 20, 2014, and February 19, 2015, journal entries.
Liabilities and equity: short-term improvements	The purpose of this project is to "simplify the accounting guidance related to financial instruments with characteristics of liabilities and equity."	On November 5, 2014, the FASB added this project to its agenda and decided to address certain issues, including (1) determining whether an instrument is indexed to an entity's own stock; (2) the indefinite deferral related to mandatorily redeemable financial instruments of certain nonpublic entities and certain mandatorily redeemable noncontrolling interests; (3) freestanding contracts indexed to, and potentially settled in, an entity's own stock; and (4) navigating the Codification.
Leases	The purpose of this project is to "increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information."	The Board is redeliberating the proposals in its May 2013 ED. At its February 25, 2015, meeting, the FASB affirmed its previous decisions to (1) reassess certain variable lease payments when the lease liability is reassessed and (2) eliminate certain guidance on build-to-suit arrangements. Further, the FASB tentatively decided on transition guidance for (1) lessees and lessors, (2) sale-leaseback transactions, and (3) build-to-suit arrangements. For more information, see Deloitte's August 28, 2014; October 23, 2014; December 16, 2014; January 23, 2015; and February 26, 2015, journal entries.
Recognition of breakage for prepaid stored-value cards (EITF Issue 15-B)	The purpose of this project is to address "whether and when an entity should derecognize a prepaid card liability that exists before redemption of the card at a third-party merchant."	At its November 5, 2014, meeting, the FASB added this project to the EITF's agenda. At its March 19, 2015, meeting, the EITF reached a consensus-for-exposure (1) that certain prepaid stored-value cards are financial liabilities and (2) to amend the guidance in ASC 405-20 to include requirements related to recognizing breakage for certain prepaid stored-value cards. For more information, see Deloitte's March 2015 <i>EITF Snapshot</i> .
Revenue recognition: deferral of the effective date of ASU 2014-09	The purpose of this project is to defer the effective date of ASU 2014-09.	At its April 1, 2015, meeting the FASB tentatively decided to defer for one year the effective date of ASU 2014-09 for public and nonpublic entities reporting under U.S. GAAP. The Board also tentatively decided to permit entities to early adopt the standard. The tentative decisions will be exposed in an upcoming proposed ASU with a 30-day comment period. For more information, see Deloitte's April 1, 2015, <i>Heads Up</i> .

Revenue recognition: The purpose of this project is to clarify the On February 18, 2015, the FASB and IASB held a joint identifying performance guidance within ASU 2014-09 related to meeting to discuss implementation issues related to obligations and licenses identifying performance obligations and identifying performance obligations and accounting for accounting for a license of intellectual licenses of IP under their new revenue standard. Regarding the identification of performance obligations, the FASB property (IP). tentatively decided to (1) evaluate materiality of promises at the contract level, (2) clarify the term "distinct in the context of a contract," (3) require that shipping and handling costs incurred before transfer of control be accounted for as fulfillment costs, and (4) allow entities to elect an accounting policy of recording shipping and handling activities as fulfillment costs if such activities are not the predominant activities in the contract and they occur after control is transferred. Regarding licenses, the FASB tentatively decided to require entities to (1) characterize the nature of a license as either "functional" or "symbolic" and (2) apply the royalty constraint if the IP is the predominant feature to which the royalty is related. Certain decisions made by the FASB diverged from those of the IASB. The FASB expects to release an ED in the second quarter of 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's February 19, 2015, Heads Up. Revenue recognition: The purpose of this project is to provide narrow-On March 18, 2015, the FASB and IASB held a joint scope amendments and certain practical meeting. The FASB tentatively decided on practical narrow-scope improvements and expedients to clarify and address implementation expedients for (1) contract modifications and completed practical expedients issues related to ASC 606. contracts upon transition and (2) the presentation of sales taxes collected from customers. The Board also voted to clarify the guidance on (1) noncash consideration, (2) collectibility, and (3) principal-versus-agent considerations (reporting revenue gross versus net). For more information, see Deloitte's March 20, 2015, Heads Up. Simplifying the equity The purpose of this project is to simplify the At its March 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB tentatively method of accounting accounting for equity method investments. decided to remove the requirement for an investor to (1) record a "basis difference" in its investee, (2) remove the associated disclosures of a basis difference, and (3) apply this guidance on a modified prospective basis. In addition, the Board voted to remove the requirement under which an investor must retrospectively account for an investment that subsequently meets the criteria for an equity method investment in all periods presented. For more information, see Deloitte's March 23, 2015, journal entry. Simplifying the The purpose of this project is to "reduce costs measurement date for by aligning the measurement date of defined benefit plan assets with the date that valuation plan assets

information and the fair values of plan assets are provided by third-party service providers."

At its January 28, 2015, meeting, the FASB affirmed its previous decisions to (1) allow the practical expedient, (2) require "an entity to adjust the funded status for contributions and other significant events . . . occurring between the alternative measurement date and its fiscal year-end," and (3) require an entity to disclose the use of the practical expedient. Further, the Board decided to (1) allow the use of the practical expedient in interim remeasurements of significant events, (2) exclude employee benefit plans from the project, and (3) apply these changes to public entities for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those annual periods. On October 14, 2014, the FASB issued an ED. Comments were due by December 15, 2014. The FASB expects to release a final ASU in March 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's January 30, 2015, US GAAP Plus news article. Simplifying the subsequent measurement of inventory

The purpose of this project is to "reduce the cost and complexity of the subsequent measurement of inventory while maintaining or improving the usefulness of the information required to be reported by an entity." On July 15, 2014, the FASB issued an ED. At its December 17, 2014, meeting, the Board discussed comments received on the ED with respect to applying the lower-of-cost-and-net-realizable-value measurement concept to the (1) last-in, first-out method and (2) retail inventory measurement method. The Board decided to retain the scope of the project and directed the staff to further research the above measurement methods. For more information, see Deloitte's July 22, 2014, and December 17, 2014, journal entries.

Technical corrections and improvements

The purpose of this project is to "provide regular updates and improvements to the [Codification] based on feedback received from constituents."

On September 15, 2014, the FASB issued an ED; comments were due by December 1, 2014. For more information, see Deloitte's September 16, 2014, US GAAP Plus news article.

#### **Presentation and Disclosure Projects**

Clarifying certain existing principles related to the statement of cash flows The purpose of this project is to "to reduce diversity in practice in financial reporting by clarifying certain existing principles in [ASC 230], including providing additional guidance on how and what an entity should consider in determining the classification of certain cash flows."

At its April 1, 2015, meeting, the FASB decided that "clarifying certain existing principles [in ASC 230] would only incrementally reduce diversity in practice about the classification of cash receipts and cash payments. Therefore, the Board decided to have the [EITF] consider nine specific cash flow issues with the goal of reducing the existing diversity in practice on a timely basis. [These] include the classification of cash flows related to settlement of insurance claims, debt prepayment or extinguishment costs, restricted cash, settlement of zero coupon bonds, distributions received from equity method investees, settlement of life insurance contracts, contingent consideration payments made after a business combination, beneficial interests in securitization transactions, and application of the predominance principle."

Disclosures about hybrid financial instruments with bifurcated embedded derivatives The purpose of this project is to "increase the transparency and usefulness of the information provided in the notes to financial statements about hybrid financial instruments that contain bifurcated embedded derivatives."

On February 24, 2015, the FASB issued an ED. Comments are due by April 30, 2015. See Deloitte's February 27, 2015, *Heads Up* for more information.

Disclosure framework

The disclosure framework project consists of two phases: (1) the FASB's decision process and (2) the entity's decision process. The overall objective of the project is to "improve the effectiveness of disclosures in notes to financial statements by clearly communicating the information that is most important to users of each entity's financial statements. (Although reducing the volume of the notes to financial statements is not the primary focus, the Board hopes that a sharper focus on important information will result in reduced volume in most cases.)"

#### **FASB's Decision Process**

On March 4, 2014, the FASB issued an ED of a proposed concepts statement that would add a new chapter to the Board's conceptual framework for financial reporting. Comments on the ED were due by July 14, 2014. For more information, see Deloitte's March 6, 2014, *Heads Up*.

At its November 19, 2014, meeting, the FASB tentatively decided to (1) modify the description of materiality in Concepts Statement 8 "to explain that materiality is a legal concept that varies by jurisdiction" and "include the U.S. Supreme Court's description" and (2) "[r]etain the notion that materiality is an entity-specific judgment . . . different from relevance, which is assessed by the Board."

# **Entity's Decision Process**

The FASB staff is currently analyzing ways to "further promote the appropriate use of discretion" by entities. This process will take into account "section-specific modifications" to ASC 820, ASC 330, ASC 715, and ASC 740.

Disclosure framework: disclosure review — fair value measurement The purpose of this project is to improve the effectiveness of fair value measurement disclosures. At its February 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB discussed disclosure issues related to the fair value measurement guidance in ASC 820 and tentatively decided to add a disclosure objective to its proposed concepts statement on the conceptual framework. For more information, see Deloitte's February 20, 2015, journal entry.

At its March 4, 2015, meeting, the FASB made tentative decisions related to (1) modifying or eliminating certain disclosure requirements, (2) adding a new disclosure requirement for gains and losses, and (3) whether to move disclosure requirements to industry-specific Codification topics. For more information, see Deloitte's March 5, 2015, journal entry.

Disclosure framework: disclosure review — income taxes

The purpose of this project is to improve the effectiveness of income tax disclosures.

At its February 11, 2015, meeting, as part of its review of income tax disclosures, the FASB deliberated additional proposed disclosure requirements related to undistributed foreign earnings and tentatively decided that entities should:

- Disclose information separately about the domestic and foreign components of income before income taxes. Further, entities should separately disclose income before income taxes of individual countries that are significant in relation to total income before income taxes.
- Disclose the domestic tax expense recognized in the period related to foreign earnings.
- Disclose unremitted foreign earnings that, during the current period, are no longer asserted to be indefinitely reinvested and an explanation of the circumstances that caused the entity to no longer assert that the earnings are indefinitely reinvested. These disclosures should be provided in the aggregate and for each country for which the amount no longer asserted to be indefinitely reinvested is significant in relation to the aggregate amount.
- Separately disclose the accumulated amount of indefinitely reinvested foreign earnings for any country that is at least 10 percent of the aggregate amount.

The Board directed the staff to prepare examples of the proposed additional disclosures.

For more information, see Deloitte's February 12, 2015, journal entry.

Effects on historical earnings per unit of master limited partnership (MLP) dropdown transactions (EITF Issue 14-A) The purpose of this project is to address diversity in practice in the presentation of "earnings per unit for periods before the date of a dropdown transaction that occurs after formation of a master limited partnership."

The EITF reached a consensus-for-exposure that upon the occurrence of a dropdown transaction occurring after initial formation of an MLP and accounted for as a reorganization of entities under common control, the MLP would allocate "the net income (loss) of the transferred business prior to the date of the dropdown transaction entirely to the [general partner (GP)] as if only the GP had rights to that net income (loss)." On October 30, 2014, the FASB issued an ED; comments were due by January 15, 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's September 2014 EITF Snapshot.

At its March 19, 2015, meeting, the EITF reached a final consensus, reaffirming its consensus-for-exposure that "the earnings (losses) of the transferred net assets before the date of the dropdown transaction shall be allocated entirely to the general partner interest." Further, an MLP would disclose "how the rights to the earnings (losses) of the transferred net assets differ before and after the dropdown transaction occurs for purposes of computing earnings per unit."

For public companies, the final consensus will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption is permitted. A reporting entity will apply the final consensus retrospectively. For more information, see Deloitte's March 2015 EITF Snapshot.

Fair value hierarchy levels for certain investments measured at net asset value (EITF Issue 14-B) The purpose of this project is to address "diversity in practice related to how certain investments measured at net asset value with redemption dates in the future (including periodic redemption dates) are categorized within the fair value hierarchy."

The EITF reached a consensus-for-exposure that certain investments for which fair value is measured at net asset value would no longer need to be categorized in the fair value hierarchy. On October 30, 2014, the FASB issued an ED; comments were due by January 15, 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's September 2014 EITF Snapshot.

At its March 19, 2015, meeting, the EITF reaffirmed its consensus-for-exposure that investments for which the practical expedient is used to measure fair value at NAV would be removed from the fair value hierarchy. Instead, an entity would be required to include those investments as a reconciling line item so that the total fair value amount of investments in the disclosure is consistent with the amount on the balance sheet. Further, the final consensus requires entities to provide the disclosures in ASC 820-10-50-6A only for investments for which they elect to use the NAV practical expedient to determine fair value.

For public companies, the final consensus will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The effective date will be deferred by one year for private companies. Early adoption is permitted. A reporting entity will apply the final consensus retrospectively. For more information, see Deloitte's March 2015 EITF Snapshot.

Financial statements of not-for-profit entities

The purpose of this project is to "reexamine existing standards for financial statement presentation by not-for-profit entities (NFP), focusing on improving:

- 1. Net asset classification requirements
- Information provided in financial statements and notes about liquidity, financial performance, and cash flows."

At its February 25, 2015, meeting, the FASB discussed the following topics:

- Alignment of operating definitions in the statements of activities and cash flows.
- · Presentation and disclosure of investment returns.
- · Accounting write-offs and equity transfers.
- · Governing board designations.
- Proposed transition and effective date and comment period length.
- Potential benefits, costs, and complexities of the proposed amendments.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Board asked the staff to discuss the decisions reached with the Not-for-Profit Advisory Committee (NAC) during its March 3, 2015, meeting. After discussing the decisions reached with the NAC, the Board will determine whether the expected benefits of the proposed amendments justify the costs.

At its March 4, 2015, meeting, the FASB tentatively decided that the expected benefits justify the expected costs and complexities of implementing a proposed ASU and directed the staff to draft a proposal for public comment. The FASB expects to issue an ED for public comment by mid-April, with comments due by July 31, 2015.

Government assistance disclosures

The purpose of this project is to "develop disclosure requirements about government assistance that improves the content, quality and comparability of financial information and financial statements and that is responsive to the emerging issues in the changing financial and economic environment in which reporting entities operate."

The FASB began deliberating this project on October 8, 2014, and discussed scope issues.

At its December 17, 2014, meeting, the FASB discussed the types of arrangements that the newly developed disclosure requirements should apply to. The Board focused on four key areas:

- Disclosures "required for arrangements that are the result of a contract in which the entity receives value or benefit from the government."
- 2. Items to which disclosures would not apply:
  - "Assistance received from a government as the result of law entitling an entity to receive value or benefits simply by meeting eligibility requirements" or
  - b. "Transactions between an entity and a government in which the government is a customer. If a contract has multiple components, only components of the contract in which the government is a customer would be exempt from disclosure requirements."
- "The Board tentatively decided not to exclude a transaction in which the government participates in the ownership of an entity if it meets the criterion in (1) above."
- 4. The Board decided that in this project, government "refers to domestic and foreign local, regional, and national governments, related governmental entities, and intergovernmental organizations."

Insurance: disclosures about short- duration contracts

The purpose of this project is to "develop targeted improvements to disclosures about short-duration insurance."

In August 2014, the FASB confirmed previous decisions reached about disclosures for short-duration insurance contracts. It also voted to proceed with issuing a final ASU; however, the Board decided that it will provide a four-week fatal-flaw review period for the staff draft of the ASU. The Board will consider such feedback at a future meeting before taking a final vote on the ASU. For more information, see Deloitte's August 14, 2014, journal entry. The FASB is expected to issue a final standard in the second quarter of 2015.

At its March 11, 2015, meeting, the FASB made tentative decisions about whether (1) disclosures about claims development should be presented as required supplementary information, (2) tentative disclosure requirements for claim count information should be amended, (3) incurred but not reported amounts presented in the claims development tables should also include amounts for expected development related to reported claims, and (4) effective dates. In addition, the Board directed the staff to draft a final ASU for a vote by written ballot. For more information, see Deloitte's March 12, 2015, journal entry.

Investment companies: disclosures about investments in another investment company The purpose of this project is to "require disclosures in an investment company's financial statements that will provide transparency into the risks, returns, and expenses of an investee that is also an investment company."

On December 4, 2014, the FASB issued an ED that would (1) require a feeder fund in a master-feeder arrangement to provide the master fund's financial statements along with its own financial statements and (2) expand the scope of current investment-company disclosures about investments that exceed 5 percent of the net assets as of the reporting date. Comments on the ED were due by February 17, 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's April 4, 2014, and July 31, 2014, journal entries.

Simplifying the balance sheet classification of debt

The purpose of this project is to "reduce cost and complexity by replacing the fact-pattern specific guidance in GAAP with a principle to classify debt as current or noncurrent based on the contractual terms of a debt arrangement and an entity's current compliance with debt covenants."

At its January 28, 2015, meeting, the FASB tentatively decided to propose a new, principles-oriented approach for classifying debt as either current or noncurrent in an entity's balance sheet.

The Board tentatively decided that an entity should classify debt as noncurrent when either or both of the following conditions are met: (1) the "liability is due to be settled more than 12 months (or beyond the operating cycle)" — whichever is greater — "after the reporting period" or (2) "the entity has a right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months (or beyond its operating cycle [whichever is greater]) after the reporting period."

The Board also decided that the meaning of "right to defer" would be based on contractual legal rights rather than on the intentions of the borrower or lender. The presentation assessment would be performed as of the reporting date.

For more information, see Deloitte's January 29, 2015, journal entry.

Simplifying the presentation of debt issuance costs

The purpose of this project is to "simplify the accounting [for debt issuance costs] by aligning the presentation of debt discount or premium and issuance costs."

The FASB issued an ED on October 14, 2014; comments were due by December 15, 2014.

At its February 18, 2015, meeting, the FASB discussed constituents' feedback and decided to draft a final ASU that would require an entity to:

- Present debt issuance costs in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the debt liability in a manner consistent with the entity's accounting treatment of debt discounts.
- Apply the new guidance retrospectively to all prior periods.
- Provide transition disclosures, including (1) the nature of, and reason for, the change in accounting principle; (2) a description of the prior-period information that has been retrospectively adjusted; and (3) the effect of the change on the financial statement line item.

The FASB also decided that for public entities, the ASU would be effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those annual periods. For all other entities, the ASU would be effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption would be permitted.

The FASB expects to release the final ASU in April 2015. For more information, see Deloitte's February 19, 2015, journal entry.

## Appendix B: Significant Adoption Dates and Deadlines

The chart below illustrates significant adoption dates and deadline dates for FASB/EITF, AICPA, SEC, PCAOB, GASB, FASAB, and IASB/IFRIC standards and proposals. Content recently added or revised is highlighted in green.

FASB/EITF	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
ASU 2015-02, Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis (issued February 18, 2015)	Entities that are required to evaluate whether they should consolidate certain legal entities.	For public business entities, the amendments in the ASU are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2015. For all other entities, the amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, and for interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017. Early adoption, including adoption in an interim period, is permitted.
ASU 2015-01, Simplifying Income Statement Presentation by Eliminating the Concept of Extraordinary Items (issued January 9, 2015)	All entities.	Effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2015. A reporting entity may apply the amendments prospectively. A reporting entity also may apply the amendments retrospectively to all prior periods presented in the financial statements. Early adoption is permitted provided that the guidance is applied from the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption.
ASU 2014-18, Accounting for Identifiable Intangible Assets in a Business Combination — a consensus of the Private Company Council (issued December 23, 2014)	All entities except public business entities and not-for-profit entities, as those terms are defined in the Codification Master Glossary.	The effective date depends on the timing of the first in-scope transaction. If the first in-scope transaction occurs in the first fiscal year beginning after December 15, 2015, the elective adoption will be effective for that fiscal year's annual financial reporting and all interim and annual periods thereafter. If the first in-scope transaction occurs in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, the elective adoption will be effective in the interim period that includes the date of that transaction and subsequent interim and annual periods thereafter. Early application is permitted for any interim and annual financial statements that have not yet been made available for issuance.
ASU 2014-17, <i>Pushdown Accounting</i> — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued November 18, 2014)	Separate financial statements of an acquired entity and its subsidiaries that are a business or nonprofit activity (either public or nonpublic) upon the occurrence of an event in which an acquirer (an individual or an entity) obtains control of the acquired entity.	Effective November 18, 2014.
ASU 2014-16, Determining Whether the Host Contract in a Hybrid Financial Instrument Issued in the Form of a Share Is More Akin to Debt or to Equity — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued November 3, 2014)	Entities that are issuers of, or investors in, hybrid financial instruments that are issued in the form of a share.	For public business entities, the amendments in the ASU are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2015. For all other entities, the amendments are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption, including adoption in an interim period, is permitted.
ASU 2014-15, <i>Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern</i> (issued August 27, 2014)	All entities.	Effective for annual periods ending after December 15, 2016, and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted.

ASU 2014-14, Classification of Certain Government-Guaranteed Mortgage Loans Upon Foreclosure — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued August 8, 2014)	Creditors that hold government- guaranteed mortgage loans, including those guaranteed by the Federal Housing Administration and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.	For public business entities, the amendments in the ASU are effective for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2014. For all other entities, the amendments are effective for annual periods ending after December 15, 2015, and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption, including adoption in an interim period, is permitted if the entity already has adopted ASU 2014-04.
ASU 2014-13, Measuring the Financial Assets and the Financial Liabilities of a Consolidated Collateralized Financing Entity — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued August 5, 2014)	A reporting entity that is required to consolidate a collateralized financing entity under the variable interest entities subsections of ASC 810-10 when (1) the reporting entity measures all of the financial assets and the financial liabilities of that consolidated collateralized financing entity at fair value in the consolidated financial statements on the basis of other Codification topics and (2) the changes in the fair values of those financial assets and financial liabilities are reflected in earnings.	For public business entities, the amendments in the ASU are effective for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2015. For all other entities, the amendments are effective for annual periods ending after December 15, 2016, and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2016. Early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of an annual period.
ASU 2014-12, Accounting for Share-Based Payments When the Terms of an Award Provide That a Performance Target Could Be Achieved After the Requisite Service Period — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued June 19, 2014)	Reporting entities that grant their employees share-based payments in which the terms of the award stipulate that a performance target that affects vesting could be achieved after the requisite service period.	Effective for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted. The effective date for public business entities is the same as that for all other entities.
ASU 2014-11, Transfers and Servicing: Repurchase-to-Maturity Transactions, Repurchase Financings, and Disclosures (issued June 12, 2014)	Entities that enter into repurchase-to-maturity transactions or repurchase financings.	For public business entities, the accounting changes in the ASU are effective for the first interim or annual period beginning after December 15, 2014. For all other entities, the accounting changes are effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early application for a public business entity is prohibited; however, all other entities may elect to apply the requirements for interim periods beginning after December 15, 2014.
ASU 2014-10, Development Stage Entities (ASC 915): Elimination of Certain Financial Reporting Requirements, Including an Amendment to Variable Interest Entities Guidance in Topic 810, Consolidation (issued June 10, 2014)	Development-stage entities under U.S. GAAP, and reporting entities that may hold an interest in an entity that is a development-stage entity.	For public entities, the ASU is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods therein. For other entities, the ASU is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015.
		For public business entities, the amendment eliminating the exception to the sufficiency-of-equity-at-risk criterion for development-stage entities in ASC 810-10-15-16 should be applied retrospectively for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods therein. For all other entities, the amendments to ASC 810 should be applied retrospectively for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. Early application is permitted for any annual reporting period or interim period for which the entity's financial statements have not yet been

made available for issuance.

ASU 2014-09, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (issued May 28, 2014)	All entities.	For public entities, the ASU is effective for annual reporting periods (including interim reporting periods within those periods) beginning after December 15, 2016. Early application is not permitted.  For nonpublic entities, the ASU is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim reporting periods within annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018. Nonpublic entities may also elect to apply the ASU as of (1) the same effective date as that for public entities (annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2016, including interim periods); (2) annual periods beginning after December 15, 2016 (excluding interim reporting periods); or (3) annual periods beginning after December 15, 2017 (including interim reporting periods).
ASU 2014-08, Reporting Discontinued Operations and Disclosures of Disposals of Components of an Entity (issued April 10, 2014)	<ol> <li>Entities that have either of the following:</li> <li>A component of an entity that either is disposed of or meets the criteria in ASC 205-20-45-1E to be classified as held for sale.</li> <li>A business or nonprofit activity that, on acquisition, meets the criteria in ASC 205-20-45-1E to be classified as held for sale.</li> </ol>	Public business entities will apply the new ASU prospectively to all disposals (or classifications as held for sale) that occur in annual periods (and interim periods therein) beginning on or after December 15, 2014. For all other entities, the new ASU will be effective prospectively for annual periods beginning on or after December 15, 2014, and interim periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted for any annual or interim period for which an entity's financial statements have not yet been previously issued or made available for issuance.
ASU 2014-07, Applying Variable Interest Entities Guidance to Common Control Leasing Arrangements — a consensus of the Private Company Council (issued March 20, 2014)	All entities other than public business entities, not-for-profit entities, or employee benefit plans within the scope of ASC 960 through ASC 965 on plan accounting.	Effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early application is permitted, including application to any period for which an entity's annual or interim financial statements have not yet been made available for issuance.
ASU 2014-06, Technical Corrections and Improvements Related to Glossary Terms (issued March 14, 2014)	All entities.	Effective upon issuance for both public and nonpublic entities.
ASU 2014-05, Service Concession Arrangements — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued January 23, 2014)	Operating entities in a service concession arrangement entered into with a public-sector entity grantor when the grantor (1) controls or has the ability to modify or approve the services that the operating entity must provide with the infrastructure, to whom it must provide them, and at what price, and (2) controls, through ownership, beneficial entitlement, or otherwise, any residual interest in the infrastructure at the end of the term of the arrangement.	For public business entities, the ASU is effective for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2014. For entities other than public business entities, the ASU is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted. The ASU should be applied on a modified retrospective basis to service concession arrangements that exist at the beginning of an entity's fiscal year of adoption.
ASU 2014-04, Reclassification of Residential Real Estate Collateralized Consumer Mortgage Loans Upon Foreclosure — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued January 17, 2014)	Creditors who obtain physical possession (resulting from an in-substance repossession or foreclosure) of residential real estate property collateralizing a consumer mortgage loan in satisfaction of a receivable.	For public business entities, the ASU is effective for annual periods, and interim periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2014. For entities other than public business entities, the ASU is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015.

ASU 2014-03, Accounting for Certain Receive-Variable, Pay-Fixed Interest Rate Swaps — Simplified Hedge Accounting Approach — a consensus of the Private Company Council (issued January 16, 2014)	All entities except public business entities and not-for-profit entities as defined in the Master Glossary of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification, employee benefit plans within the scope of ASC 960 through ASC 965 on plan accounting, and financial institutions.	Effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015, with early adoption permitted. Private companies have the option of applying the amendments in this ASU by using either a modified retrospective approach or a full retrospective approach. Early application is permitted for any period for which the entity's financial statements have not yet been made available for issuance.
ASU 2014-02, Accounting for Goodwill — a consensus of the Private Company Council (issued January 16, 2014)	All entities except public business entities and not-for-profit entities as defined in the Master Glossary of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification and employee benefit plans within the scope of ASC 960 through ASC 965 on plan accounting.	The accounting alternative, if elected, should be applied prospectively to goodwill existing as of the beginning of the period of adoption and new goodwill recognized in annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within annual periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early application is permitted, including application to any period for which the entity's annual or interim financial statements have not yet been made available for issuance.
ASU 2014-01, Accounting for Investments in Qualified Affordable Housing Projects — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued January 15, 2014)	For reporting entities that meet the conditions, and that elect to use the proportional-amortization method, to account for investments in qualified affordable housing projects, all amendments in this ASU apply. For reporting entities that do not meet the conditions or that do not elect the proportional-amortization method, only the disclosure-related amendments in this ASU apply.	The amendments in this ASU are effective for public business entities for annual periods, and interim reporting periods within those annual periods, beginning after December 15, 2014. For all entities other than public business entities, the amendments are effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2014, and interim periods within annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2015. Early adoption is permitted. The amendments in this ASU should be applied retrospectively to all periods presented.
ASU 2013-11, Presentation of an Unrecognized Tax Benefit When a Net Operating Loss Carryforward, a Similar Tax Loss, or a Tax Credit Carryforward Exists — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued July 18, 2013)	Entities with unrecognized tax benefits for which a net operating loss carryforward, a similar tax loss, or a tax credit carryforward exists as of the reporting date.	Effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2013. For nonpublic entities, the amendments are effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2014. Retrospective application is permitted.
ASU 2013-06, Services Received From Personnel of an Affiliate — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued April 19, 2013)	Not-for-profit entities, including not-for- profit, business-oriented health care entities, that receive services from personnel of an affiliate that directly benefit the recipient not-for-profit entity and for which the affiliate does not charge the recipient not-for-profit entity.	Effective prospectively for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2014, and interim and annual periods thereafter. A recipient not-for-profit entity may apply the amendments by using a modified retrospective approach under which all prior periods presented on the adoption date should be adjusted but no adjustment should be made to the beginning balance of net assets for the earliest period presented. Early adoption is permitted.
ASU 2013-05, Parent's Accounting for the Cumulative Translation Adjustment Upon Derecognition of Certain Subsidiaries or Groups of Assets Within a Foreign Entity or of an Investment in a Foreign Entity — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued March 4, 2013)	Entities with foreign subsidiaries or foreign investments.	For public entities, the ASU is effective for fiscal years (and interim periods within those fiscal years) beginning after December 15, 2013. For nonpublic entities, the ASU is effective for the first annual period beginning on or after December 15, 2014, and interim and annual periods thereafter. Early adoption will be permitted for both public and nonpublic entities. The ASU should be applied prospectively from the beginning of the fiscal year of adoption.

ASU 2013-04, Obligations Resulting From Joint and Several Liability Arrangements for Which the Total Amount of the Obligation Is Fixed at the Reporting Date — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force (issued February 28, 2013)	Entities that are jointly and severally liable with other entities.	For public entities, the ASU is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2013 (and interim reporting periods within those years). For nonpublic entities, the ASU is effective for the first annual period ending on or after December 15, 2014, and interim and annual periods thereafter. The ASU should be applied retrospectively to obligations with joint-and-several liabilities existing at the beginning of an entity's fiscal year of adoption. Entities that elect to use hindsight in measuring their obligations during the comparative periods must disclose that fact. Early adoption is permitted.
Projects in Request-for-Comment Stage		
Proposed ASU, <i>Disclosures About Hybrid</i> Financial Instruments With Bifurcated Embedded Derivatives (issued February 24, 2015)	All entities.	Comments due April 30, 2015.
Proposed ASUs, I. Intra-Entity Asset Transfers and II. Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes (issued January 22, 2015)	All entities.	Comments due May 29, 2015.
AICPA	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
SAS 128, <i>Using the Work of Internal Auditors</i> (issued February 17, 2014)	Auditors.	Effective for audits of financial statements for periods ending on or after December 15, 2014.
SAS 129, Amendment to Statement on Auditing Standards No. 122 Section 920, Letters for Underwriters and Certain Other Requesting Parties, as Amended (issued July 28, 2014)	Auditors that issue comfort letters.	Effective for comfort letters issued on or after December 15, 2014. Early implementation is encouraged.
SSARS 21, Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services: Clarification and Recodification (issued October 23, 2014)	Entities that perform accounting and review services.	Effective for reviews, compilations, and engagements to prepare financial statements for periods ending on or after December 15, 2015.
SEC	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
Final Rule, Amendments to Regulation A (33-9741) (issued March 25, 2015)	SEC registrants.	Effective 60 days after the date of its publication in the <i>Federal Register</i> .
Final Rule, Security-Based Swap Data Repository Registration, Duties, and Core Principles (34-74246) (issued February 11, 2015)	Registered security-based swap dealers and registered major security-based swap participants.	Effective May 18, 2015.
Final Rule, <i>Regulation SBSR</i> — <i>Reporting</i> and <i>Dissemination of Security-Based Swap Information</i> (34-74244) (issued February 11, 2015)	Registered security-based swap dealers and registered major security-based swap participants.	Effective May 18, 2015.
Final Rule, <i>Asset-Backed Securities Disclosure</i> and <i>Registration</i> (33-9720) (issued February 3, 2015)	SEC registrants.	Effective February 6, 2015.
Final Rule, <i>Adoption of Updated EDGAR Filer</i> <i>Manual</i> (33-9692) (issued December 18, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective December 23, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Regulation Systems Compliance</i> and Integrity (34-73639) (issued November 19, 2014)	Certain self-regulatory organizations (including registered clearing agencies), alternative trading systems, plan processors, and exempt clearing agencies.	Effective February 3, 2015.

Final Rule, <i>Credit Risk Retention</i> (34-73407) (issued October 22, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective February 23, 2015. Compliance with the rule with respect to asset-backed securities collateralized by residential mortgages is required beginning December 24, 2015. Compliance with the rule with regard to all other classes of asset-backed securities is required beginning December 24, 2016.
Final Rule, <i>Adoption of Updated EDGAR Filer</i> <i>Manual</i> (33-9668) (issued October 20, 2014	SEC registrants.	Effective October 29, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Delegation of Authority to the</i> <i>Chief Financial Officer</i> (34-73229) (issued September 26, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective September 29, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Asset-Backed Securities Disclosure</i> and <i>Registration</i> (33-9638) (issued September 4, 2014)	Entities that offer asset-backed securities under the Securities Exchange Act of 1933.	Effective November 24, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations</i> (34-72936) (issued August 27, 2014)	Nationally recognized statistical rating organizations.	Effective November 14, 2014, except that the amendments to Sections 240.17g-3(a)(7) and (b)(2) and Form NRSRO become effective on January 1, 2015, and the amendments to Sections 240.17g-2(a)(9), (b)(13), (b)(14), and (b)(15); 240.17g-5(a)(3)(iii)(E), (c)(6), (c)(7), and (c)(8); 240.17g-7(a) and (b); and Form ABS-15G become effective on June 15, 2015.
Final Rule, <i>Money Market Fund Reform; Amendments to Form PF</i> (33-9616) (issued July 23, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective October 14, 2014.
Final Rule, Application of "Security-Based Swap Dealer" and "Major Security-Based Swap Participant" Definitions to Cross-Border Security-Based Swap Activities (34-72472) (issued June 25, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective September 8, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Adoption of Updated EDGAR Filer</i> <i>Manual</i> (33-9600) (issued June 16, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective June 20, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Adoption of Updated EDGAR Filer</i> <i>Manual</i> (33-9554) (issued March 4, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective March 10, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Registration of Municipal Advisors</i> (34-70462 and 34-71288) (issued September 20, 2013, and January 13, 2014)	Municipal advisers.	Effective July 1, 2014, except that amendatory instruction 11 removing Section 249.1300T becomes effective on January 1, 2015.
Final Rule, Prohibitions and Restrictions on Proprietary Trading and Certain Interests in, and Relationships With, Hedge Funds and Private Equity Funds (BHCA-1) (issued December 10, 2013)	Banking entities.	Effective April 1, 2014.
Final Rule, <i>Broker-Dealer Reports</i> (34-70073) (issued July 30, 2013)	Broker-dealers.	Effective June 1, 2014, except the amendment to Section 240.17a–5(e)(5), which becomes effective on October 21, 2013, and the amendments to Section 240.17a–5(a) and (d)(6) and Section 249.639, which become effective on December 31, 2013.
Final Rule, <i>Temporary Rule Regarding Principal Trades With Certain Advisory Clients</i> (IA-3522) (issued December 21, 2012)	SEC registrants.	Effective December 28, 2012, and the expiration date for 17 CFR 275.206(3)-3T is extended to December 31, 2014.
Interim Final Temporary Rule, <i>Extension</i> of <i>Exemptions for Security-Based Swaps</i> (33-9545) (issued February 5, 2014)	SEC registrants.	Effective February 10, 2014. The expiration dates in Interim Final Rule 240 under the Securities Act, Interim Final Rules 12a-11 and 12h-1(i) under the Exchange Act, and Interim Final Rule 4d-12 under the Trust Indenture Act will be extended to February 11, 2017.

Interim Final Temporary Rule, <i>Treatment</i> of Certain Collateralized Debt Obligations Backed Primarily by Trust Preferred Securities With Regard to Prohibitions and Restrictions on Certain Interests in, and Relationships With, Hedge Funds and Private Equity Funds (BHCA-2) (issued January 17, 2014)	Banking entities.	Effective April 1, 2014.
Interim Final Temporary Rule, <i>Extension of Temporary Registration of Municipal Advisors</i> (34-70468) (issued September 23, 2013)	Municipal advisers.	Effective September 30, 2013. The expiration of the effective period of Interim Final Temporary Rule 15BA2-6T and Form MA-T is delayed from September 30, 2013, to December 31, 2014.
<b>Projects in Request-for-Comment Stage</b>		
Proposed Rule, <i>Disclosure of Hedging by Employees, Officers and Directors</i> (33-9723) (issued February 9, 2015)	SEC registrants.	Comments due April 20, 2015.
Proposed Rule, <i>Regulation SBSR</i> — <i>Reporting</i> and <i>Dissemination of Security-Based Swap Information</i> (34-74245) (issued February 11, 2015)	Registered security-based swap dealers and registered major security-based swap participants.	Comments due May 4, 2015.
Proposed Rule, Exemption for Certain Exchange Members (34-74581) (issued March 25, 2015)	SEC registrants.	Comments due June 1, 2015.
PCAOB	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
Auditing Standard 18, Amendments to Certain PCAOB Auditing Standards Regarding Significant Unusual Transactions, and Other Amendments to PCAOB Auditing Standards (issued June 10, 2014)	Auditors of public entities.	Effective for audits of financial statements for fiscal years beginning on or after December 15, 2014, including reviews of interim financial information within those fiscal years.
Auditing Standard 17, Auditing Supplemental Information Accompanying Audited Financial Statements (issued October 10, 2013, and December 19, 2013)	Auditors of public entities.	Effective for audit procedures and reports on supplemental information that accompany financial statements for fiscal years ending on or after June 1, 2014.
Attestation Standards, Examination Engagements Regarding Compliance Reports of Brokers and Dealers, and Review Engagements Regarding Exemption Reports of Brokers and Dealers (issued October 10, 2013)	Independent public accountants of brokers and dealers.	Effective for examination engagements and review engagements for fiscal years ending on or after June 1, 2014.
GASB	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
Statement 72, Fair Value Measurement and Application (issued March 2, 2015)	Governmental entities.	Effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2015. Early application is encouraged.
Statement 71, Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date (issued November 25, 2013)	Governmental entities.	Effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2014.
Statement 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions — an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27 (issued June 2012)	Governmental entities.	Effective for financial statements for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2014. Early application is encouraged.
FASAB	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
Statement 47, <i>Reporting Entity</i> (issued December 23, 2014)	U.S. federal government entities.	Effective for periods beginning after September 30, 2017. Earlier application is prohibited.

Statement 46, <i>Deferral of the Transition to Basic Information for Long-Term Projections</i> (issued October 17, 2014)	U.S. federal government entities.	Effective upon issuance.
Statement 44, Accounting for Impairment of General Property, Plant, and Equipment Remaining in Use (issued January 3, 2013)	U.S. federal government entities.	Effective for periods beginning after September 30, 2014. Early application is encouraged.
Statement 42, Deferred Maintenance and Repairs — Amending Statements of Federal Financial Accounting Standards 6, 14, 19, and 32 (issued April 25, 2012)	U.S. federal government entities.	Effective for periods beginning after September 30, 2014. Early application is encouraged.
Statement 36, Reporting Comprehensive Long-Term Fiscal Projections for the U.S. Government (issued September 28, 2009)	U.S. federal government entities.	This Statement provides for a phased-in implementation, but early implementation is encouraged. All information will be reported as required supplementary information for the first five years of implementation (fiscal years 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014). Beginning in fiscal year 2015, the required information will be presented as a basic financial statement, disclosures, and required supplementary information as designated within the standard.
IASB/IFRIC	Affects	Status
Final Guidance		
Disclosure Initiative — amendments to IAS 1 (issued December 18, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted. Entities are not required to disclose the information required by paragraphs 28–30 of IAS 8 in relation to these amendments.
Investment Entities: Applying the Consolidation Exception — amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 28 (issued December 18, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted. If an entity applies those amendments for an earlier period, it must disclose that fact.
Annual Improvements to IFRSs: 2012–2014 Cycle (issued September 25, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Varies for each IFRS affected.
Sale or Contribution of Assets Between an Investor and Its Associate or Joint Venture — amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28 (issued September 11, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective prospectively for sales or contributions of assets occurring in annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted. If an entity applies the amendments earlier, it must disclose that fact.
Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements — amendments to IAS 27 (issued August 12, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. An entity must apply the amendments retrospectively in accordance with IAS 8. Earlier application is permitted. If an entity applies the amendments to an earlier period, it must disclose that fact.
IFRS 9, <i>Financial Instruments</i> (issued July 24, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018. Earlier application is permitted.
Agriculture: Bearer Plants — amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 41 (issued June 30, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted.
IFRS 15, Revenue From Contracts With Customers (issued May 28, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2017. Earlier application is permitted.
Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation — amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 38 (issued May 12, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted.

Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations — amendments to IFRS 11 (issued May 6, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted.
IFRS 14, <i>Regulatory Deferral Accounts</i> (issued January 30, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective January 1, 2016. Earlier application is permitted.
Defined Benefit Plans: Employee Contributions — amendments to IAS 19 (issued November 21, 2013)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after July 1, 2014. Earlier application is permitted.
Projects in Request-for-Comment Stage		
IASB Exposure Draft ED/2014/6, <i>Disclosure Initiative</i> — proposed amendments to IAS 7 (issued December 18, 2014)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Comments due April 17, 2015.
IASB Exposure Draft ED/2015/1, Classification of Liabilities — proposed amendments to IAS 1 (issued February 10, 2015)	Entities reporting under IFRSs.	Comments due June 10, 2015.

### Appendix C: Glossary of Standards and Other Literature

FASB Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-02, Amendments to the Consolidation Analysis

FASB Accounting Standards Update No. 2015-01, Simplifying Income Statement Presentation by Eliminating the Concept of Extraordinary Items

FASB Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-17, Pushdown Accounting — a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force

FASB Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-15, Disclosure of Uncertainties About an Entity's Ability to Continue as a Going Concern

FASB Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-09, Revenue From Contracts With Customers

FASB Accounting Standards Update No. 2009-17, Improvements to Financial Reporting by Enterprises Involved With Variable Interest Entities

FASB Proposed Accounting Standards Update, *Disclosures About Hybrid Financial Instruments With Bifurcated Embedded Derivatives* 

FASB Proposed Accounting Standards Updates, I. Intra-Entity Asset Transfers and II. Balance Sheet Classification of Deferred Taxes

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820, Fair Value Measurement

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 810, Consolidation

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 740, Income Taxes

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 715, Compensation — Retirement Benefits

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 606, Revenue From Contracts With Customers

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Topic 230, Statement of Cash Flows

FASB Accounting Standards Codification Subtopic 405-20, Liabilities: Extinguishments of Liabilities

FAF Request for Comment, Three-Year Review of the Private Company Council

EITF Issue No. 15-C, "Employee Benefit Plan Simplifications"

EITF Issue No. 15-B, "Recognition of Breakage for Prepaid Stored-Value Cards"

EITF Issue No. 15-A, "Application of the Normal Purchases and Normal Sales Scope Exception to Certain Electricity Contracts Within Nodal Energy Markets"

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# Appendix D: Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
AICPA	American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
ASC	FASB Accounting Standards Codification
ASU	FASB Accounting Standards Update
AT	U.S. Attestation Standards
AU-C	U.S. Clarified Auditing Standards
ВНС	bank holding company
BIS	Bank for International Settlements
CAQ	Center for Audit Quality
CFO	chief financial officer
coso	Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission
CPE	continuing professional education
СРМІ	Committee on Payments and Market Infrastructure
CPSS	Committee on Payment and Settlement Systems
ECL	expected credit loss
ED	exposure draft
EDT	Eastern Daylight Time
EITF	Emerging Issues Task Force
ERC	Ethics Research Center
FAF	Financial Accounting Foundation
FASAB	Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board
FASB	Financial Accounting Standards Board
FDIC	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
FSB	Financial Stability Board
GAAP	generally accepted accounting principles
GAAS	generally accepted auditing standards
GASB	Governmental Accounting Standards Board
IAASB	International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board
IAS	International Accounting Standard
IASB	International Accounting Standards Board
IFAC	International Federation of Accountants
IFIAR	International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators
IFRIC	IFRS Interpretations Committee
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standard
IIA	Institute of Internal Auditors

Abbreviation	Definition
IOSCO	
IOSCO	International Organization of Securities Commissions
IP	intellectual property
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standard
IPSASB	International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board
IPTF	International Practices Task Force
ISA	International Standard on Auditing
ISO	independent system operator
IVSC	International Valuation Standards Council
JOBS	Jumpstart Our Business Startups
LEI	legal entity identifier
LMP	locational marginal pricing
M&A	mergers and acquisitions
MLP	master limited partnership
NAV	net asset value
NBNI G-SIFI	nonbank noninsurer global systemically important financial institution
NPNS	normal purchases and normal sales
NRSRO	nationally recognized statistical rating organization
occ	Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
OCIE	Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations
отс	over-the-counter
PCAOB	Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
PCC	Private Company Council
Q&As	questions and answers
RPG	recommended practice guideline
SAB	SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin
SAS	Statement on Auditing Standards
SASB	Sustainability Accounting Standards Board
SDR	swap data repository
SEC	Securities and Exchange Commission
SSARS	Statement on Standards for Accounting and Review Services
TRG	transition resource group
UN	United Nations
VIE	variable interest entity
XBRL	eXtensible Business Reporting Language

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