

ISA 510

Initial Audit Engagement - Opening balance

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Applicability:

An engagement in which either:

The financial statements for the prior period were not audited; or The financial statements for the prior period were audited by a predecessor auditor.

Scope:

ISA 510 deals with auditor's responsibilities relating to opening balances when conducting an initial audit engagement.

Objectives of the auditor:

To obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence about whether

- · Opening balances contain misstatements that materially affect the current period's financial statements; and
- · Appropriate accounting policies reflected in the opening balances have been consistently applied in the current period FS, or changes thereto are properly accounted for, presented and disclosed in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.



Audit procedures to be performed as per ISA 510:

When prior period financial Statements are audited by predecessor auditor

Obtain opening Trial balance



to determine whether prior period balances have been correctly brought forward.

Review the prior period financial statements



- To identify any significant disclosures.
- · To ensure consistent application of accounting policies from the prior period financials.

Review important documents



- (like Audit Report, Statement of uncorrected misstatements, management Letter etc.)
- For any significant observations is to be noted.

2 approaches can be followed here



Review of predecessor auditor's workpaper.

or

In detail testing of opening balances.

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Audit procedures to be performed as per ISA 510:

Test all above performance materiality balances

Examples

For receivables/payables



- Ageing report can be obtained for prior period; or
- Subsequent testing for all material balances

For bank balances



· For bank balances

For fixed assets/investments/long term debt



Obtain fixed asset register/ investment, share certificate/ loan agreement



Audit Conclusion and Reporting

If auditor is unable to obtain audit evidence regarding opening balances



Qualified/Disclaimer opinion

If

Opening balances contain misstatement s /not properly presented or disclosed

Accounting policies are not consistently applied in relation to opening balances

Modification in predecessor's auditor report is relevant and material to the current period's financial statements

Qualified/ Adverse opinion

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