Featured article
PCAOB adopts changes to the auditor's report
This Heads Up provides an overview of the PCAOB’s new auditing standard on the auditor's report. While retaining the current “pass/fail” opinion of the existing auditor’s report, the new standard includes several significant modifications that are intended to increase the informational value, usefulness, and relevance of the auditor’s report. The key changes to the auditor’s report under the standard are:

• Standardized ordering and inclusion of section headers, with the opinion section appearing first.

• Enhanced descriptions of the auditor’s role and responsibilities, including a statement regarding independence requirements.

• Communication of critical audit matters (CAMs).

• Disclosure of auditor tenure — The year in which the auditor began serving consecutively as the company’s auditor.

Publications and topics of interest
CAQ report explores key role for CPAs in addressing cybersecurity risk
A report from the Center for Audit Quality outlines how the auditing profession can help companies and the capital markets address the challenges of cybersecurity, and provides perspective on the new AICPA framework. The report highlights the attributes audit firms can bring to addressing cybersecurity challenges, including adherence to core values of independence, objectivity, and skepticism; experience with independent evaluations; and multidisciplinary strengths.

Bricker discusses role of audit committees, auditors, and regulators in providing credible reporting
SEC’s chief accountant Wesley Bricker noted that a high-quality financial reporting process starts with companies and their audit committees. In a recent speech, Bricker highlighted issues his staff is addressing to enhance the investors’ trust in financial reporting, and discussed
the critical roles that auditors and audit regulation play in maintaining the public’s trust in the audit profession while at the same time fostering innovation.

As Sustainability Takes Root, Finance Takes Notice
Proponents of sustainability—which include investors, consumers, regulators, and nongovernmental organizations—are looking to companies to consider the affect their operations and decisions are having on the environment and society. This issue of CFO Insights explores emerging standards that simplify sustainability reporting and provides companies with insights that can improve performance.

Culture and conduct risk: elevating internal audit’s role
Traditionally, internal audit has focused on providing assurance with respect to known risks and the effectiveness of controls in mitigating those risks. Regulators, however, are increasingly interested in an organization’s ability to identify vulnerabilities that may undermine the integrity of the risk management environment, including the risk of misconduct. Internal audit functions can play a pivotal role by substantively testing culture and identifying potential risk-related outliers that may not be visible via other means.

Rulemaking and standard-setting developments
PCAOB issues proposals to enhance and strengthen requirements for auditing accounting estimates, including fair value, and to address the auditor’s use of the work of specialists
This Audit & Assurance Update addresses the key provisions of the PCAOB’s June 1, 2017, proposals for changes to its performance standards on auditing accounting estimates, including fair value measurements, and the auditor’s use of the work of specialists.

Implementing the new revenue standard—how do your disclosures stack up?
This Heads Up discusses observations from Deloitte’s review of SAB 74 disclosures that Fortune 1000 companies included in periodic SEC filings regarding their adoption of the FASB’s new revenue standard. The companies have disclosed varied amount of qualitative and quantitative information, with most registrants expanding qualitative discussions of implementation efforts and few quantifying the impact of adoption.

Upcoming Dbriefs webcasts
Quarterly accounting roundup: An update on Q2 2017 important developments
June 27, 2:00 pm ET
More | Register now

Reputation matters: Developing resilience ahead of a crisis
June 29, 2:00 pm ET
More | Register now

View the full list of upcoming Dbriefs.

Other Deloitte resources
Subscribe to the Audit Committee Brief and other publications
Audit Committee page
Center for Board Effectiveness

About Deloitte
Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, a UK private company limited by guarantee (“DTTL”), its network of member firms, and their related entities. DTTL and each of its member firms are legally separate and independent entities. DTTL (also referred to as “Deloitte Global”) does not provide services to clients. In the United States, Deloitte refers to one or more of the US member firms of DTTL, their related entities that operate using the “Deloitte” name in the United States and their respective affiliates. Certain services may not be available to attest clients under the rules and regulations of public accounting. Please see www.deloitte.com/about to learn more about our global network of member firms.

Copyright © 2017 Deloitte Development LLC. All rights reserved.