

Summary

This Practice Note outlines information issuers should be aware of when announcing a change of auditor.

Relevant NZX Listing Rules: 2.13, 3.7.1, 3.20.1(d)

Under Rule 9.15.1 of the NZX Listing Rules (**Rules**), NZX Limited (**NZX**) may act by and through NZX Regulation Limited (**NZ RegCo**) in performing any function or discharging any power set out in the Rules. References in this Guidance Note to NZX therefore also include NZ RegCo in relation to any regulatory activity or discretion.

Under the Auditor Regulation Act 2011, the Financial Reporting Act 2013 and the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013, licensed auditors are required to carry out audits in accordance with applicable auditing and assurance standards.

The annual report of Issuers of quoted financial products must include audited financial statements and the associated audit report.

The Audit Committee of Equity Issuers has the responsibility for recommending the appointment and removal of independent auditors.

When must an Issuer announce a change of auditor?

Issuers must release over MAP promptly and without delay any decision to change their auditor. This obligation applies regardless of whether the change of auditor occurs at a later date.

What information must an Issuer include in the announcement?

Announcements should clearly set out the auditor or audit firm it has appointed and when their appointment becomes effective.

Auditors and Audit Firms

The Auditor Regulation Act 2011 established a regulatory regime for auditors of FMC reporting entities. All auditors who carry out FMC audits are required to be licensed under the Auditor Regulation Act 2011, and all audit firms engaged or appointed to act as auditor in respect of FMC audits must be registered and have at least one engagement partner or director that is licensed.

Further information

[Financial Markets Authority - Auditors](#)
[Companies Office - Auditors Register](#)

If you have any questions please contact NZ RegCo at issuer@nzregco.com