

BOARD CHARTER

AUSQUEST LIMITED ("COMPANY")

1. Role of the Board

The role of the Board is to provide leadership for and supervision of the Company's senior management. The Board provides the strategic direction of the Company and regularly measures the progression by senior management of that strategic direction.

2. Role of Senior Management

Those who have the opportunity to materially influence the integrity, strategy and operation of the Company and its financial performance are considered to be part of senior management.

The role of senior management is to progress the strategic direction provided by the Board. In particular, the chief executive officer, or equivalent, is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the Company in advancing the strategic direction.

3. Responsibilities of the Board

The Board is collectively responsible for promoting the success of the Company by:

- (a) overseeing the Company, including its control and accountability systems;
- (b) appointing the chief executive officer, or equivalent, for a period and on terms as the directors see fit and, where appropriate, removing the chief executive officer, or equivalent;
- (c) ratifying the appointment and, where appropriate, the removal of senior executives, including the chief financial officer and the company secretary;
- (d) ensuring the Company's *Policy and Procedure for Selection and (Re)Appointment of Directors* is reviewed in accordance with the Company's *Nomination Committee Charter*;
- (e) approving the Company's policies on risk oversight and management, internal compliance and control, *Code of Conduct*, and legal compliance;
- (f) satisfying itself that senior management has developed and implemented a sound system of risk management and internal control in relation to financial reporting risks and reviewed the effectiveness of the operation of that system;

- (g) assessing the effectiveness of senior management's implementation of systems for managing material business risk including the making of additional enquiries and to request assurances regarding the management of material business risk, as appropriate;
- (h) monitoring, reviewing and challenging senior management's performance and implementation of strategy;
- (i) ensuring appropriate resources are available to senior management;
- (j) approving and monitoring operating budgets, the progress of major capital expenditure, capital management, and acquisitions and divestitures;
- (k) monitoring the financial performance of the Company;
- (l) ensuring the integrity of the Company's financial (with the assistance of the Audit Committee, if applicable) and other reporting through approval and monitoring;
- (m) providing overall corporate governance of the Company, including conducting regular reviews of the balance of responsibilities within the Company to ensure division of functions remain appropriate to the needs of the Company;
- (n) appointing the external auditor (where applicable, based on recommendations of the Audit Committee) and the appointment of a new external auditor when any vacancy arises, provided that any appointment made by the Board must be ratified by shareholders at the next annual general meeting of the Company;
- (o) engaging with the Company's external auditors and Audit Committee (where there is a separate Audit Committee);
- (p) monitoring compliance with all of the Company's legal obligations, such as those obligations relating to the environment, native title, cultural heritage and occupational health and safety;
- (q) appointing the chair;
- (r) approving the entity's remuneration framework; and
- (s) make regular assessment of whether each non-executive director is independent in accordance with the Company's *Policy on Assessing the Independence of Directors*.

The Board may not delegate its overall responsibility for the matters listed above. However, it may delegate to senior management the responsibility of the day-to-day activities in fulfilling the Board's responsibility provided those matters do not exceed the Materiality Threshold as defined below.

Directors are encouraged to request information from senior executives where they consider such information necessary to make informed decisions.

The Board must convene regular meetings with such frequency as is sufficient to appropriately discharge its responsibilities. It is usual practice for the Board to meet at least four times annually.

4. Materiality Threshold

The Board has agreed on the following guidelines for assessing the materiality of matters:

Materiality – Quantitative

Balance sheet items

Balance sheet items are material if they have a value of more than 10% of pro-forma net asset.

Profit and loss items

Profit and loss items are material if they will have an impact on the current year operating result of 10% or more.

Materiality – Qualitative

Items are also material if:

- (a) they impact on the reputation of the Company;
- (b) they involve a breach of legislation;
- (c) they are outside the ordinary course of business;
- (d) they could affect the Company's rights to its assets;
- (e) if accumulated they would trigger the quantitative tests;
- (f) they involve a contingent liability that would have a probable effect of 10% or more on balance sheet or profit and loss items; or
- (g) they will have an effect on operations which is likely to result in an increase or decrease in net income or dividend distribution of more than 10%.

Material Contracts

Contracts will be considered material if:

- (a) they are outside the ordinary course of business;

- (b) they contain exceptionally onerous provisions in the opinion of the Board;
- (c) they impact on income or distribution in excess of the quantitative tests;
- (d) there is a likelihood that either party will default, and the default may trigger any of the quantitative or qualitative tests;
- (e) they are essential to the activities of the Company and cannot be replaced, or cannot be replaced without an increase in cost of such a quantum, triggering any of the quantitative tests;
- (f) they contain or trigger change of control provisions;
- (g) they are between or for the benefit of related parties; or
- (h) they otherwise trigger the quantitative tests.

Any matter which falls within the above guidelines is a matter which triggers the materiality threshold ("**Materiality Threshold**").

5. Statement of Position or Authority

The division of responsibilities between the Chair, the lead independent director, if any, and the Managing Director is set out below.

6. Responsibilities of the Chair

The Chair is responsible for leadership of the Board, for the efficient organisation and conduct of the Board's function and for the briefing of all directors in relation to issues arising at Board meetings. The Chair is also responsible for shareholder communication and arranging Board performance evaluation. The Chair should facilitate the effective contribution of all directors and promote constructive and respectful relations between directors and between board and senior management.

Any other position which the Chair may hold either inside or outside the Company should not hinder the effective performance of the Chair in carrying out their role as Chair of the Company.

7. Responsibilities of the Lead Independent Director

Where the Chair is not an independent director, a lead independent director will be appointed. The lead independent director will take over the role of the Chair when the Chair is unable to act in that capacity as a result of their lack of independence.

8. Responsibilities of the Managing Director

The Managing Director is responsible for running the affairs of the Company under delegated authority from the Board and to implement the policies and strategy set by the Board. In carrying out their responsibilities the Managing

Director must report to the Board in a timely manner on those matters included in the Company's risk profile, all relevant operational matters and any other matter that is likely to have to fall within the Materiality Threshold.

All reports to the Board must present a true and fair view of the Company's financial condition and operational results.

The Managing Director is also responsible for appointing and, where appropriate, removing senior executives, including the chief financial officer and the company secretary, with the approval of the Board. The Managing Director is responsible for evaluating the performance of senior executives.

9. Responsibilities of Non-Executive and/or Independent Directors

The Board determines whether each of the non-executive directors of the Company is independent on a regular basis in accordance with its *Policy on Assessing the Independence of Directors*. The Board recognises the importance of the appropriate balance between independent and non-independent representation on the Board. In making this determination, the Board takes into account the skills and experience required, in the context of the Company's operations and activities.

The independent directors may meet without other directors present, if appropriate.

The non-executive directors may meet without senior management present at times scheduled from time to time. Such meetings may be facilitated by the Chair or the lead independent director, as appropriate.

10. Directors and Officers

Individual directors should devote the necessary time to the tasks entrusted to them. All directors should consider the number and nature of their directorships and calls on their time from other commitments.

Directors and officers of the Company should be aware of their legal obligations, some of which are set out in the *Overview of Duties Imposed on Directors of Public Companies*.

11. Responsibilities of Senior Management

Senior Management is responsible for supporting the Managing Director and to assist the Managing Director implement the running of the general operations and financial business of the Company, in accordance with the delegated authority of the Board.

Senior Management is responsible for reporting all matters which fall within the Materiality Threshold at first instance to the Managing Director or, if the matter concerns the Managing Director, then directly to the Chair or the lead independent director, as appropriate.

12. Responsibilities of the Company Secretary

The role of the Company Secretary includes the following:

- a) advising the board and its committees on governance matters;
- b) monitoring that the board and committee policy and procedures are followed;
- c) coordinating the timely completion and despatch of board and committee papers;
- d) ensuring that the business at board and committee meetings is accurately captured in the minutes; and
- e) helping to organise and facilitate the induction and professional development of directors.

13. Conflicts of Interest and Related Party Transactions

Conflicts of Interest

On appointment, Directors will have an opportunity to declare any such interests and they will be entered into the Company's Register of Ongoing Conflicts of Interests.

Directors should update this disclosure by notifying the Company Secretary in writing as soon as they become aware of any conflicts. Directors are also expected to indicate to the Chairman any actual or potential conflict of interest situation as soon as it arises. To ensure Directors have an opportunity to disclose new conflicts of interest, the first agenda item for each Board meeting will be the disclosure of any conflicts of interest. Any amendments to disclosures are to be tabled at this time and entered into the Register of Ongoing Conflicts of Interest.

The Board can request a Director to take reasonable steps to remove the conflict of interest. If a Director cannot or is unwilling to remove a conflict of interest then the Director must absent himself or herself from the room when discussion and voting occur on matters to which the conflict relates. The entry and exit of the Director concerned will be minuted by the Company Secretary. Directors do not have to absent themselves when either (a) conflict of interest relates to an interest common to all Company members/shareholders or (b) the Board passes a resolution that identifies the Director, the nature and extent of the Director's interest and clearly states that the other Directors are satisfied that the interest should not disqualify the Director concerned from discussion and/or voting on the matter.

Related Party Transactions

Related party transactions include any financial transaction between a Director or officer and the Company and will be reported in writing to each Board meeting.

In general, the Corporations Act requires related party transactions to be approved by the shareholders; the Board cannot approve these transactions. An exemption to this requirement occurs where the financial benefit is given on arm's length terms.

To assist the Board in showing that a financial benefit, such as the awarding of a contract to a company in which a Director is a partner, is given on arm's length terms, the process outlined below (Potential Related Party Transaction) will be followed. The Board has also resolved that where applications are made by a related party to a Director or officer of the Company then the Director or officer shall exclude himself/herself from the approval process.

Related party for this process means:

- (a) an entity that controls the Company;
- (b) directors of the Company;
- (c) directors of an entity that controls the Company;
- (d) if the Company is controlled by an entity that is not a body corporate, each of the persons making up the controlling entity;
- (e) spouses and de facto spouses of the persons referred to in (b) and (d);
- (f) parents and children of any of the persons referred to in (b) to (e) above;
- (g) any entity controlled by a related party referred to in (a) to (f) unless the entity is also controlled by the Company;
- (h) an entity who was a related party of the Company of a kind referred to in (a) to (g) above at any time within the previous 6 months or an entity that believes or has reasonable grounds to believe that it is likely to become a related party of the Company of the kind referred to in (a) to (g) above at any time in the future; or
- (i) an entity that acts in concert with a related party of the Company on the understanding that the related party will receive a financial benefit if the Company gives the entity a financial benefit.

The Company Secretary will maintain a Register of Related Parties Transactions as well as the Register of Ongoing Conflicts of Interests.

Potential Related Party Transaction

To minimise the risk of a transaction being a related party transaction the following steps should be taken.

Step 1: Invite expressions of interest and circulate the tender documentation.

Step 2: Tenderers should respond to the Board accordingly.

Step 3: The Board will review all tenders utilising the selection criteria stipulated in the Invitation to Tender. Tenders should not be assessed solely on the basis of who is cheaper, but on a number of related issues such as:

- Open and effective competition.
- Value for money.
- Enhancing the capabilities of local business and industry.
- Environmental protection.
- Ethical behaviour and fair dealing.

The Board members with relevant skills and knowledge appropriate to the value and importance of the work being tendered and those free of any conflict of interest that might undermine the objectivity of the assessment will be responsible for the assessment and will ensure that a fair and equitable procedure has been carried out.

Step 4: Any person with an interest in either the recommended tenderer or another tenderer should not be present for the discussion of the recommended tenderer and may not vote to approve or disapprove the recommended tenderer. The final recommendation of the Board should be supported by the considerations taken into account in writing, minuted and authority to enter into the transaction delegated accordingly.