

**Report on**

**2014 Inspection of Daszkal Bolton LLP  
(Headquartered in Boca Raton, Florida)**

Issued by the

**Public Company Accounting Oversight Board**

**April 30, 2015**

**THIS IS A PUBLIC VERSION OF A PCAOB INSPECTION REPORT**

**PORTIONS OF THE COMPLETE REPORT ARE OMITTED  
FROM THIS DOCUMENT IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH  
SECTIONS 104(g)(2) AND 105(b)(5)(A)  
OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

## **2014 INSPECTION OF DASZKAL BOLTON LLP**

### Preface

In 2014, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB" or "the Board") conducted an inspection of the registered public accounting firm Daszkal Bolton LLP ("the Firm") pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("the Act").

Inspections are designed and performed to provide a basis for assessing the degree of compliance by a firm with applicable requirements related to auditing issuers. For a description of the procedures the Board's inspectors may perform to fulfill this responsibility, see Part I.C of this report (which also contains additional information concerning PCAOB inspections generally). Overall, the inspection process included reviews of portions of selected issuer audits completed by the Firm. These reviews were intended to identify whether deficiencies existed in those portions of the inspected audits, and whether such deficiencies indicated defects or potential defects in the Firm's system of quality control over audits. In addition, the inspection included a review of policies and procedures related to certain quality control processes of the Firm that could be expected to affect audit quality.

The Board is issuing this report in accordance with the requirements of the Act. The Board is releasing to the public Part I of the report and portions of Part IV of the report. Part IV of the report consists of the Firm's comments, if any, on a draft of the report. If the nonpublic portions of the report discuss criticisms of or potential defects in the firm's system of quality control, those discussions also could eventually be made public, but only to the extent the firm fails to address the criticisms to the Board's satisfaction within 12 months of the issuance of the report.

**PROFILE OF THE FIRM<sup>1</sup>**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Number of offices                         | 3 (Boca Raton, Jupiter, and Sunrise, Florida) |
| Ownership structure                       | Limited liability partnership                 |
| Number of partners                        | 12  |
| Number of professional staff <sup>2</sup> | 77  |
| Number of issuer audit clients            | 7   |

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<sup>1</sup> The information presented here is as understood by the inspection team, generally as of the outset of the inspection, based on the Firm's self-reporting and the inspection team's review of certain information. Additional information, including additional detail on audit reports issued by the Firm, is available in the Firm's filings with the Board, available at [http://pcaobus.org/Registration/rasr/Pages/RASR\\_Search.aspx](http://pcaobus.org/Registration/rasr/Pages/RASR_Search.aspx).

<sup>2</sup> The number of partners and professional staff is provided here as an indication of the size of the Firm, and does not necessarily represent the number of the Firm's professionals who participate in audits of issuers.

## **PART I**

### **INSPECTION PROCEDURES AND CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS**

Members of the Board's inspection staff ("the inspection team") conducted primary procedures for the inspection from August 11, 2014 to August 14, 2014.<sup>3</sup>

#### **A. Review of Audit Engagements**

The inspection procedures included a review of portions of two issuer audits performed by the Firm. The inspection team identified a matter that it considered to be a deficiency in the performance of the work it reviewed.

The description of the deficiency in Part I.A of this report includes, at the end of the description of the deficiency, references to specific paragraphs of the auditing standards that relate to that deficiency. The text of those paragraphs is set forth in Appendix A to this report. The references in this sub-Part include only standards that primarily relate to the deficiency; they do not present a comprehensive list of every auditing standard that applies to the deficiency. Further, certain broadly applicable aspects of the auditing standards that may be relevant to a deficiency, such as provisions requiring due professional care, including the exercise of professional skepticism; the accumulation of sufficient appropriate audit evidence; and the performance of procedures that address risks, are not included in the references to the auditing standards in this sub-Part, unless the lack of compliance with these standards is the primary reason for the deficiency. These broadly applicable provisions are described in Part I.B of this report.

The deficiency identified was of such significance that it appeared to the inspection team that the Firm, at the time it issued its audit report, had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion that the financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. In other words, in this audit, the auditor issued an opinion

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<sup>3</sup> For this purpose, "primary procedures" include field work, other review of audit work papers, and the evaluation of the Firm's quality control policies and procedures through review of documentation and interviews of Firm personnel. Primary procedures do not include (1) inspection planning, which is performed prior to primary procedures, and (2) inspection follow-up procedures, wrap-up, analysis of results, and the preparation of the inspection report, which extend beyond the primary procedures.

without satisfying its fundamental obligation to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements were free of material misstatement.

The fact that the deficiency reaches this level of significance does not necessarily indicate that the financial statements are misstated. It is often not possible for the inspection team, based only on the information available from the auditor, to reach a conclusion on those points.

Whether or not associated with a disclosed financial reporting misstatement, an auditor's failure to obtain the reasonable assurance that the auditor is required to obtain is a serious matter. It is a failure to accomplish the essential purpose of the audit, and it means that, based on the audit work performed, the audit opinion should not have been issued.<sup>4</sup>

The audit deficiency that reached this level of significance is described below—

Issuer A

the failure to perform sufficient procedures to evaluate the completeness, valuation, and presentation and disclosure of discontinued operations (AS No. 13, paragraphs 8 and 36, and AS No. 14, paragraphs 30 and 31)

B. Auditing Standards

The deficiency described above could relate to several applicable provisions of the standards that govern the conduct of audits, including both the paragraphs of the standards that are cited at the end of the description of the deficiency included in Part I.A of this report and one or more of the specific paragraphs discussed below.

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<sup>4</sup> Inclusion in an inspection report does not mean that the deficiency remained unaddressed after the inspection team brought it to the Firm's attention. Depending upon the circumstances, compliance with PCAOB standards may require the Firm to perform additional audit procedures, or to inform a client of the need for changes to its financial statements or reporting on internal control, or to take steps to prevent reliance on its previously expressed audit opinions. The Board expects that firms will comply with these standards, and the inspections staff may include in its procedures monitoring or assessing a firm's compliance.

Many audit deficiencies involve a lack of due professional care. AU 230, *Due Professional Care in the Performance of Work* ("AU 230"), paragraphs .02, .05, and .06, requires the independent auditor to plan and perform his or her work with due professional care and sets forth aspects of that requirement. AU 230, paragraphs .07 through .09, and Auditing Standard ("AS") No. 13, *The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement* ("AS No. 13"), paragraph 7, specify that due professional care requires the exercise of professional skepticism. These standards state that professional skepticism is an attitude that includes a questioning mind and a critical assessment of the appropriateness and sufficiency of audit evidence.

AS No. 13, paragraphs 3, 5, and 8, requires the auditor to design and implement audit responses that address the risks of material misstatement, and AS No. 15, *Audit Evidence* ("AS No. 15"), paragraph 4, requires the auditor to plan and perform audit procedures to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a reasonable basis for the audit opinion. Sufficiency is the measure of the quantity of audit evidence, and the quantity needed is affected by the risk of material misstatement (in the audit of financial statements) and the quality of the audit evidence obtained. The appropriateness of evidence is measured by its quality; to be appropriate, evidence must be both relevant and reliable in support of the related conclusions.

The table below lists the specific auditing standards that are referenced for the deficiency included in Part I.A of this report. See the description of the deficiency in Part I.A for identification of the specific paragraphs, in addition to those noted above, that relate to that deficiency.

| PCAOB Auditing Standard   | Issuer |
|---|--------|
| AS No. 13, <i>The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement</i> | A      |
| AS No. 14, <i>Evaluating Audit Results</i>                                      | A      |

C. Information Concerning PCAOB Inspections Generally Applicable to Triennially Inspected Firms

Board inspections include reviews of certain portions of selected audit work performed by the inspected firm and reviews of certain aspects of the firm's quality control system. The inspections are designed to identify deficiencies in audits and

defects or potential defects in the firm's system of quality control related to the firm's audits. The focus on deficiencies, defects, and potential defects necessarily carries through to reports on inspections and, accordingly, Board inspection reports are not intended to serve as balanced report cards or overall rating tools. Further, the inclusion in an inspection report of certain deficiencies, defects, and potential defects should not be construed as an indication that the Board has made any determination about other aspects of the inspected firm's systems, policies, procedures, practices, or conduct not included within the report.

#### C.1. Reviews of Audit Work

Inspections include reviews of portions of selected audits of financial statements and, where applicable, audits of internal control over financial reporting ("ICFR"). For these audits, the inspection team selects certain portions of the audits for inspection, and it reviews the engagement team's work papers and interviews engagement personnel regarding those portions. If the inspection team identifies a potential issue that it is unable to resolve through discussion with the firm and any review of additional work papers or other documentation, the inspection team ordinarily provides the firm with a written comment form on the matter and the firm is allowed the opportunity to provide a written response to the comment form. If the response does not resolve the inspection team's concerns, the matter is considered a deficiency and is evaluated for inclusion in the inspection report.

The inspection team selects the audits, and the specific portions of those audits, that it will review, and the inspected firm is not allowed an opportunity to limit or influence the selections. Audit deficiencies that the inspection team may identify include a firm's failure to identify, or to address appropriately, financial statement misstatements, including failures to comply with disclosure requirements,<sup>5</sup> as well as a firm's failures to perform, or to perform sufficiently, certain necessary audit procedures.

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<sup>5</sup> When it comes to the Board's attention that an issuer's financial statements appear not to present fairly, in a material respect, the financial position, results of operations, or cash flows of the issuer in conformity with applicable accounting principles, the Board's practice is to report that information to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "the Commission"), which has jurisdiction to determine proper accounting in issuers' financial statements. Any description in this report of financial statement misstatements or failures to comply with SEC disclosure requirements should not be understood as an indication that the SEC has considered or made any determination regarding these issues unless otherwise expressly stated.

The inspection may not involve the review of all of a firm's audits, nor is it designed to identify every deficiency in the reviewed audits. Accordingly, a Board inspection report should not be understood to provide any assurance that a firm's audit work, or the relevant issuers' financial statements or reporting on ICFR, are free of any deficiencies not specifically described in an inspection report.

In some cases, the conclusion that a firm did not perform a procedure may be based on the absence of documentation and the absence of persuasive other evidence, even if the firm claimed to have performed the procedure. AS No. 3, *Audit Documentation* ("AS No. 3"), provides that, in various circumstances including PCAOB inspections, a firm that has not adequately documented that it performed a procedure, obtained evidence, or reached an appropriate conclusion, must demonstrate with persuasive other evidence that it did so, and that oral assertions and explanations alone do not constitute persuasive other evidence. In reaching its conclusions, the inspection team considers whether audit documentation or any persuasive other evidence that a firm might provide to the inspection team supports a firm's contention that it performed a procedure, obtained evidence, or reached an appropriate conclusion. In the case of every matter cited in the public portion of a final inspection report, the inspection team has carefully considered any contention by the firm that it did so but just did not document its work, and the inspection team has concluded that the available evidence does not support the contention that the firm sufficiently performed the necessary work.

Identified deficiencies in the audit work that exceed a significance threshold (which is described in Part I.A of the inspection report) are summarized in the public portion of the inspection report.<sup>6</sup>

The Board cautions against extrapolating from the results presented in the public portion of a report to broader conclusions about the frequency of deficiencies throughout the firm's practice. Individual audits and areas of inspection focus are most often selected on a risk-weighted basis and not randomly. Areas of focus vary among selected audits, but often involve audit work on the most difficult or inherently uncertain

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<sup>6</sup> The discussion in this report of any deficiency observed in a particular audit reflects information reported to the Board by the inspection team and does not reflect any determination by the Board as to whether the Firm has engaged in any conduct for which it could be sanctioned through the Board's disciplinary process. In addition, any references in this report to violations or potential violations of law, rules, or professional standards are not a result of an adversarial adjudicative process and do not constitute conclusive findings for purposes of imposing legal liability.



areas of financial statements. Thus, the audit work is generally selected for inspection based on factors that, in the inspection team's view, heighten the possibility that auditing deficiencies are present, rather than through a process intended to identify a representative sample.

## C.2. Review of a Firm's Quality Control System

QC 20, *System of Quality Control for a CPA Firm's Accounting and Auditing Practice*, provides that an auditing firm has a responsibility to ensure that its personnel comply with the applicable professional standards. This standard specifies that a firm's system of quality control should encompass the following elements: (1) independence, integrity, and objectivity; (2) personnel management; (3) acceptance and continuance of issuer audit engagements; (4) engagement performance; and (5) monitoring.

The inspection team's assessment of a firm's quality control system is derived both from the results of its procedures specifically focused on the firm's quality control policies and procedures, and also from inferences that can be drawn from deficiencies in the performance of individual audits. Audit deficiencies, whether alone or when aggregated, may indicate areas where a firm's system has failed to provide reasonable assurance of quality in the performance of audits. Even deficiencies that do not result in an insufficiently supported audit opinion may indicate a defect or potential defect in a firm's quality control system.<sup>7</sup> If identified deficiencies, when accumulated and evaluated, indicate defects or potential defects in the firm's system of quality control, the nonpublic portion of this report would include a discussion of those issues. When evaluating whether identified deficiencies in individual audits indicate a defect or potential defect in a firm's system of quality control, the inspection team considers the nature, significance, and frequency of deficiencies;<sup>8</sup> related firm methodology, guidance, and practices; and possible root causes.

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<sup>7</sup> Not every audit deficiency suggests a defect or potential defect in a firm's quality control system.

<sup>8</sup> An evaluation of the frequency of a type of deficiency may include consideration of how often the inspection team reviewed audit work that presented the opportunity for similar deficiencies to occur. In some cases, even a type of deficiency that is observed infrequently in a particular inspection may, because of some combination of its nature, its significance, and the frequency with which it has been observed in previous inspections of the firm, be cause for concern about a quality control defect or potential defect.

Inspections also include a review of certain of the firm's practices, policies, and processes related to audit quality, which constitute a part of the firm's quality control system. This review addresses practices, policies, and procedures concerning audit performance, training, compliance with independence standards, client acceptance and retention, and the establishment of policies and procedures.

END OF PART I



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PARTS II AND III OF THIS REPORT ARE NONPUBLIC  
AND ARE OMITTED FROM THIS PUBLIC DOCUMENT

## **PART IV**

### **RESPONSE OF THE FIRM TO DRAFT INSPECTION REPORT**

Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7214(f), and PCAOB Rule 4007(a), the Firm provided a written response to a draft of this report. Pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), the Firm's response, minus any portion granted confidential treatment, is attached hereto and made part of this final inspection report.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> The Board does not make public any of a firm's comments that address a nonpublic portion of the report unless a firm specifically requests otherwise. In some cases, the result may be that none of a firm's response is made publicly available. In addition, pursuant to section 104(f) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 7214(f), and PCAOB Rule 4007(b), if a firm requests, and the Board grants, confidential treatment for any of the firm's comments on a draft report, the Board does not include those comments in the final report at all. The Board routinely grants confidential treatment, if requested, for any portion of a firm's response that addresses any point in the draft that the Board omits from, or any inaccurate statement in the draft that the Board corrects in, the final report.



**DASZKALBOLTON**  
accountants & advisors

February 24, 2015

Ms. Helen A. Munter, Director  
Division of Registration and Inspections  
Public Company Accounting Oversight Board  
1666 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20006

**Re: Response to Part I of the Draft Report on the 2014 Inspection of Daszkal Bolton LLP**

Dear Ms. Munter:

We welcome this opportunity to provide our response to Part I of the draft Report of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB" or the "Board") on the 2014 inspection of Daszkal Bolton LLP (the "Firm"). We continue to support the Board's goal of improving audit quality and, consequently, the reliability of financial reporting.

Our objective is to make certain that all aspects of our auditing and quality control processes are of high quality. The Board's inspections assist us in identifying areas where we can continue to improve our performance.

We respect the Board's inspection process, and understand that judgments are involved both in the performance of an audit and in the subsequent inspection of an audit. However, based on the limited selection of audits inspected, the Board's findings are not necessarily reflective of a firm's practice in general.

We have evaluated each of the matters described in Part I of the draft Report, and have considered whether it was necessary to perform additional procedures in accordance with AU 390, *Consideration of Omitted Procedures After the Report Date*, and AU 561, *Subsequent Discovery of Facts Existing at the Date of the Auditor's Report* and, where appropriate, performed such procedures. Our response to Part I of the draft Report is as follows:

The Board asserts that the Firm failed to perform sufficient procedures to evaluate the completeness, valuation, and presentation and disclosure of discontinued operations.

The Registrant had an operating subsidiary with net liabilities and was in negotiations with its lender to foreclose on collateral. The Registrant's disposal (and deconsolidation) occurred on January 11, 2013, resulting in a limited number of days (11 days) of operations.

Discontinued operations of the subsidiary are comprised of (i) net loss during the 11 days prior to disposal and (ii) net gain on disposal. The net gain on disposal is calculated based on the difference between the proceeds received (or relief of indebtedness) and the net assets/(liabilities) transferred. Therefore, an uncorrected misstatement in reported net loss, if any, would result in an equal and offsetting misstatement in the net gain on disposal, with no net effect to the total amount reflected in discontinued operations.

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Per SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 99 ("SAB 99"), the omission or misstatement of an item in a financial report is material if, in the light of surrounding circumstances, the magnitude of the item is such that it is probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying upon the report would have been changed or influenced by the inclusion or correction of the item. As such, in a SAB 99 analysis, as noted above, there would be no net effect to the total amount reflected in discontinued operations. Therefore, the member firm concludes that the judgment of a reasonable user of the financial statements would not change due to the lack of a net effect on the total amount reflected in discontinued operations.

The member firm's lack of a workpaper that provides a tie-out of the calculation "Gain = Proceeds - Cost" represents a deficiency in the view of the PCAOB staff. The PCAOB staff not only identifies this workpaper omission as a significant deficiency to the entire audit, but a weakness that calls to question the member firm's entire quality control process with respect to accounting for and auditing of discontinued operations. We could not disagree more.

The member firm performed a risk-based audit of the registrant. As such, the member firm identified management override of controls as a significant fraud risk during its risk assessment process. Furthermore, the member firm developed tailored audit responses to address this risk including:

- Assignment of audit staff based on consideration of audit risk
- Procedures to incorporate an element of unpredictability in the audit
- Consideration of the selection and application of significant accounting principles
- Examination of journal entries
- Review of accounting estimate for bias
- Evaluation of business rationale for unusual transactions
- Evaluation of the appropriateness of fraud-related inquiries performed

The member firm did not identify the recalculation of the gain on disposal as a specific procedure that it was to perform. As described above, due to the net zero effect on the total amount reflected in discontinued operations, the member firm deems this as a reasonable approach.

The planned procedure for income and expenses was to perform analytical analysis over expense accounts, as all assertions within income and expenses were assessed at a combined risk of "low."

The member firm performed according to its planned audit approach by testing expenses analytically during both its preliminary analytics as well as during its income statement analysis workpaper.

None of the matters identified by the Board or the results of procedures subsequently performed impacted our previously issued report on the financial statements.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide our response to the Board and we look forward to continuing to work with the PCAOB on the most effective means of improve our audit performance and quality control systems.

Respectfully submitted,



Daszkal Bolton, LLP

## **APPENDIX A**

### **AUDITING STANDARDS REFERENCED IN PART I**

This Appendix provides the text of the auditing standard paragraphs that are referenced in Part I.A of this report. Footnotes that are included in this Appendix, and any other Notes, are from the original auditing standards that are referenced. While this Appendix contains the specific portions of the relevant standards cited with respect to the deficiency in Part I.A of this report, other portions of the standards (including those described in Part I.B of this report) may provide additional context, descriptions, related requirements, or explanations; the complete standards are available on the PCAOB's website at <http://pcaobus.org/STANDARDS/Pages/default.aspx>.

| <b>AS No. 13, <i>The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement</i></b>    |   |          |
|---|---|----------|
| <b>RESPONSES INVOLVING THE NATURE, TIMING, AND EXTENT OF AUDIT PROCEDURES</b>             |   |          |
| AS No. 13.8   | The auditor should design and perform audit procedures in a manner that addresses the assessed risks of material misstatement for each relevant assertion of each significant account and disclosure.   | Issuer A |
| <b>SUBSTANTIVE PROCEDURES</b>   |   |          |
| AS No. 13.36  | The auditor should perform substantive procedures for each relevant assertion of each significant account and disclosure, regardless of the assessed level of control risk.   | Issuer A |
| <b>AS No. 14, <i>Evaluating Audit Results</i></b>   |   |          |
| <b>EVALUATING THE RESULTS OF THE AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>                        |   |          |
| <b>Evaluating the Presentation of the Financial Statements, Including the Disclosures</b> |   |          |
| AS No. 14.30  | <p>The auditor must evaluate whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in conformity with the applicable financial reporting framework.</p> <p>Note: AU sec. 411, <i>The Meaning of Present Fairly in Conformity With Generally Accepted Accounting Principles</i>, establishes requirements</p> | Issuer A |



|              |  |          |
|--------------|--|----------|
|              | <p>for evaluating the presentation of the financial statements. Auditing Standard No. 6, <i>Evaluating Consistency of Financial Statements</i>, establishes requirements regarding evaluating the consistency of the accounting principles used in financial statements.</p> <p>Note: The auditor should look to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission for the company under audit with respect to the accounting principles applicable to that company.</p>  |          |
| AS No. 14.31 | <p>As part of the evaluation of the presentation of the financial statements, the auditor should evaluate whether the financial statements contain the information essential for a fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with the applicable financial reporting framework. Evaluation of the information disclosed in the financial statements includes consideration of the form, arrangement, and content of the financial statements (including the accompanying notes), encompassing matters such as the terminology used, the amount of detail given, the classification of items in the statements, and the bases of amounts set forth.</p> <p>Note: According to AU sec. 508, if the financial statements, including the accompanying notes, fail to disclose information that is required by the applicable financial reporting framework, the auditor should</p> | Issuer A |

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   | express a qualified or adverse opinion and should provide the information in the report, if practicable, unless its omission from the report is recognized as appropriate by a specific auditing standard. <sup>18</sup> |  |
| <p><u>Footnote to AS No. 14.31</u></p> <p><sup>18</sup> AU secs. 508.41-.44</p> |  |  |