

## When Do Financial Statements Go Stale?

At the close of business on the following dates in 2014 (for issuers with a fiscal year ended December 31, 2013)

Q3 financial statements for IPOs, Loss Corporations, delinquent filers		Q3 financial statements of Accelerated Filers (same date 2013 10-K is due)		Year-end financial statements of Large Accelerated Filers and Accelerated Filers (Q1 10-Q is due May 12*)		Q1 financial statements of Large Accelerated Filers and Accelerated Filers (Q2 10-Q is due Aug 11*)		Q2 financial statements of Large Accelerated Filers and Accelerated Filers (Q3 10-Q is due Nov 10*)		
Feb 14	Mar 3*	Mar 17*	Mar 31	May 9	May 14	Aug 7	Aug 12	Nov 6	Nov 12*	
	Q3 financial statements of Large Accelerated Filers (same date 2013 10-K is due)		Q3 financial statements of all other filers (same date 2013 10-K is due)		Year-end financial statements of all other filers (Q1 10-Q is due May 15)		Q1 financial statements of all other filers (Q2 10-Q is due Aug 14)		Q2 financial statements of all other filers (Q3 10-Q is due Nov 14)	

- A "Loss Corporation" does not expect to report positive income after taxes but before extraordinary items and the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle for (a) the most recently ended fiscal year and (b) at least one of the two prior fiscal years.
- A "Large Accelerated Filer" has an aggregate market value held by nonaffiliates of \$700m or more as of the last business day of the most recent Q2. Once you are in, you have to fall below \$500m to get out.
- An "Accelerated Filer" has an aggregate market value held by non-affiliates of greater than \$75m but less than \$700m as of the last business day of the most recent Q2 (unless you were previously a Large Accelerated Filer, in which case the range is \$50-500m). Once you are in, you have to fall below \$50m to get out.
- JAN 1: After Dec 31, in-process audits affect the ability to obtain negative assurance for "change period" comfort on periods ending after Sep 30
- FEB 11: Comfort can be even more problematic after Feb 11 because PCAOB AU 634 (paragraph 47) permits accountants to give traditional negative assurance only up to 134 days after the end of the most recent period for which the accountant has performed an audit or review, although "pass through" comfort (procedures and findings comfort under PCAOB AU 634) may still be an option after Feb 11
- SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR TIMELY FILERS: Staleness dates do not correspond exactly with the Form 10-Q filing deadlines because the 10-Q deadlines run from the end of the most recently ended quarter, whereas the staleness dates run from the end of the preceding quarter. However, the SEC Staff generally provides an accommodation for repeat issuers that have been timely filers for the past 12 months by allowing such issuers' registration statements to become effective during the gap period between the staleness dates shown above and the nearest 10-Q filing deadline, absent unusual circumstances. As a result, for most repeat issuers, the effective staleness date is the same as the 10-Q filing deadline.

<sup>\*</sup> Dates reflect a permitted extension to the next business day where dates would have otherwise occurred on a weekend or federal holiday



For more detailed information on financial statement requirements in US securities offerings, see these related publications from Latham & Watkins and KPMG:



Financial Statement Requirements in US Securities Offerings: What You Need to Know



Financial Statement Requirements in US Securities Offerings: What Non-US Issuers Need to Know Additional desktop references from Latham & Watkins for those navigating the US capital markets:



Accessing the US
Capital Markets from
Outside the United
States



**Giving Good Guidance** 



The JOBS Act After One
Year: A Review of the New
IPO Playbook

The American Lawyer gave Latham & Watkins 29 Top 10 rankings, the most received by any firm, in its 2013 Corporate Scorecard. Latham & Watkins resources offering definitions and explanations in plain English:



Book of Jargon®: US Corporate and Bank Finance Blog and App



**Words of Wisdom Blog** 

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