2022 Inspection Crowe LLP

(Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois)

November 7, 2023

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



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

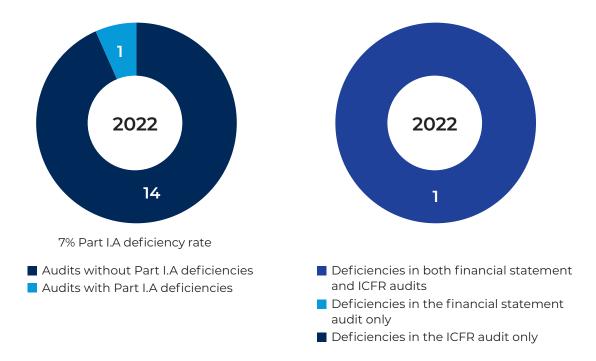
Our 2022 inspection report on Crowe LLP provides information on our inspection to assess the firm's compliance with Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) standards and rules and other applicable regulatory and professional requirements. This executive summary offers a high-level overview of what is included in this report:

- Part I.A of the report discusses deficiencies ("Part I.A deficiencies") in certain issuer audits that were of such significance that we believe the firm, at the time it issued its audit report(s), had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s) on the issuer's financial statements and/or internal control over financial reporting (ICFR).
- Part I.B of the report discusses certain deficiencies ("Part I.B deficiencies") that relate to instances of non-compliance with PCAOB standards or rules other than those where the firm had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s). This section does not discuss instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.
- Part I.C of the report, which is new commencing with our 2022 inspection reports, discusses instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence ("Part I.C deficiencies").

If we include a Part I.A or Part I.B deficiency in this report — other than those deficiencies for audits with incorrect opinions on the financial statements and/or ICFR — it does not necessarily mean that the issuer's financial statements are materially misstated or that undisclosed material weaknesses in ICFR exist. If we include a Part I.C deficiency in this report, it does not necessarily mean that the Board has concluded the firm was not objective and impartial throughout the audit and professional engagement period. If we include a deficiency in Part I.A, Part I.B, or Part I.C of this report, it does not necessarily mean that the firm has not addressed the deficiency.

Overview of the 2022 Deficiencies Included in Part I

One of the 15 audits we reviewed in 2022 is included in Part I.A of this report due to the significance of the deficiencies identified. The identified deficiencies related to the firm's testing of controls over and/or substantive testing of revenue and inventory.



The most common Part I.A deficiencies in 2022 related to identifying controls related to a significant account or relevant assertion and in some cases the resulting overreliance on controls when performing substantive testing.

The Part I.B deficiency in 2022 related to Form AP.

The Part I.C deficiencies in 2022 related to non-audit services and audit committee pre-approval.

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2022 INSPECTION

In the 2022 inspection of Crowe LLP, the PCAOB assessed the firm's compliance with laws, rules, and professional standards applicable to the audits of public companies.

We selected for review 15 audits of issuers with fiscal years ending in 2021. For each issuer audit selected, we reviewed a portion of the audit. We also evaluated elements of the firm's system of quality control.

What's Included in this Inspection Report

This report includes the following sections:

- Overview of the 2022 Inspection and Historical Data by Inspection Year: Information on our inspection, historical data, and common deficiencies.
- Part I Inspection Observations:
 - o Part I.A: Deficiencies that were of such significance that we believe the firm, at the time it issued its audit report(s), had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s) on the issuer's financial statements and/or ICFR.
 - o Part I.B: Certain deficiencies that relate to instances of non-compliance with PCAOB standards or rules other than those where the firm had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s). This section does not discuss instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.
 - o Part I.C: Instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.

Consistent with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act ("Act"), it is the Board's assessment that nothing in Part I of this report deals with a criticism of, or potential defect in, the firm's quality control system. We discuss any such criticisms or potential defects in Part II. Further, you should not infer from any Part I deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, that we identified a quality control finding in Part II.

- Part II Observations Related to Quality Control: Criticisms of, or potential defects in, the firm's system of quality control. Section 104(g)(2) of the Act restricts us from publicly disclosing Part II deficiencies unless the firm does not address the criticisms or potential defects to the Board's satisfaction no later than 12 months after the issuance of this report.
- Appendix A Firm's Response to the Draft Inspection Report: The firm's response to a draft of this report, excluding any portion granted confidential treatment.

2022 Inspection Approach

In selecting issuer audits for review, we use both risk-based and random methods of selection. We make the majority of our selections based on (1) our internal evaluation of audits we believe have a heightened risk of material misstatement, including those with challenging audit areas, and (2) other risk-based characteristics, including issuer and firm considerations. We also select audits randomly to provide an element of unpredictability.

When we review an audit, we do not review every aspect of the audit. Rather, we generally focus our attention on audit areas we believe to be of greater complexity, areas of greater significance or with a heightened risk of material misstatement to the issuer's financial statements, and areas of recurring deficiencies. We may also select some audit areas for review in a manner designed to incorporate unpredictability.

Our selection of audits for review does not constitute a representative sample of the firm's total population of issuer audits. Additionally, our inspection findings are specific to the particular portions of the issuer audits reviewed. They are not an assessment of all of the firm's audit work nor of all of the audit procedures performed for the audits reviewed.

View the details on the scope of our inspections and our inspections procedures.

OVERVIEW OF THE 2022 INSPECTION AND HISTORICAL DATA BY INSPECTION YEAR

The following information provides an overview of our 2022 inspection as well as data from the previous two inspections. We use a combination of risk-based and random methods to select audits for review and to identify areas on which we focus our review. Because our inspection process evolves over time, it can, and often does, focus on a different mix of audits and audit areas from year to year and firm to firm. As a result of this variation, we caution that our inspection results are not necessarily comparable over time or among firms.

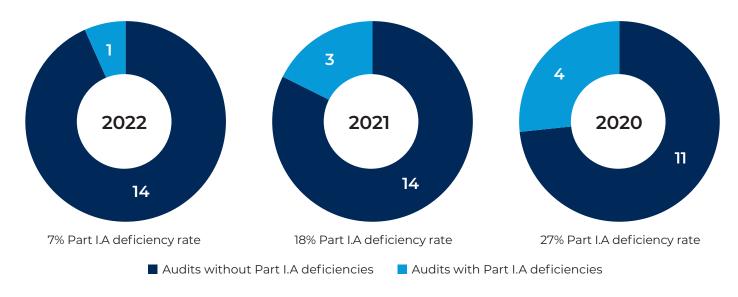
Audits Selected for Review

	2022	2021	2020			
Total audits reviewed						
Total audits reviewed	15	17	15			
Select	ion method					
Risk-based selections	13	11	13			
Random selections	2	4	2			
Target team selections ¹	0	2	0			
Total audits reviewed	15	17	15			
Princi	pal auditor					
Audits in which the firm was the principal auditor	15	17	15			
Audits in which the firm was not the principal auditor	0	0	0			
Total audits reviewed	15	17	15			
Audit type						
Integrated audits of financial statements and ICFR	11	9	13			
Financial statement audits only	4	8	2			
Total audits reviewed	15	17	15			

¹ For further information on the target team's activities in 2021, refer to that inspection report.

Part LA Deficiencies in Audits Reviewed

In 2022, the audit appearing in Part I.A was selected for review using risk-based criteria. In 2021, two of the three audits appearing in Part I.A were selected for review using risk-based criteria. In 2020, three of the four audits appearing in Part I.A were selected for review using risk-based criteria.

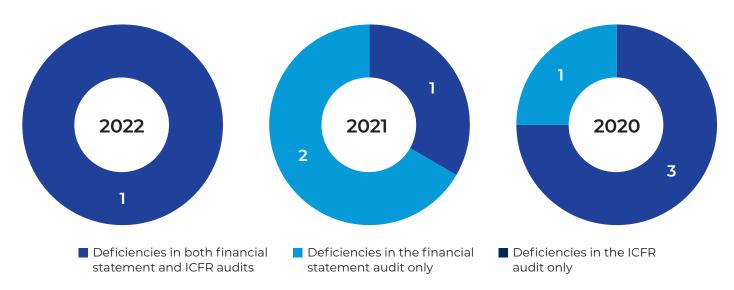


If we include a deficiency in Part I.A of our report, it does not necessarily mean that the firm has not addressed the deficiency. In many cases, the firm has performed remedial actions after the deficiency was identified. Depending on the circumstances, remedial actions may include performing additional audit procedures, informing management of the issuer of the need for changes to the financial statements or reporting on ICFR, or taking steps to prevent reliance on prior audit reports.

Our inspection may include a review, on a sample basis, of the adequacy of a firm's remedial actions, either with respect to previously identified deficiencies or deficiencies identified during the current inspection. If a firm does not take appropriate actions to address deficiencies, we may criticize its system of quality control or pursue a disciplinary action.

If we include a Part I.A or Part I.B deficiency in our report — other than those deficiencies for audits with incorrect opinions on the financial statements and/or ICFR — it does not necessarily mean that the issuer's financial statements are materially misstated or that undisclosed material weaknesses in ICFR exist. It is often not possible for us to reach a conclusion on those points based on our inspection procedures and related findings because, for example, we have only the information that the auditor retained and the issuer's public disclosures. We do not have direct access to the issuer's management, underlying books and records, and other information.

Audits Affected by the Deficiencies Identified in Part I.A



The following tables and graphs summarize inspection-related information, by inspection year, for 2022 and the previous two inspections. We caution against making any comparison of the data provided without reading the descriptions of the underlying deficiencies in each respective inspection report.

Most Frequently Identified Part I.A Deficiencies

Deficiencies in audits of financial	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies			
statements	2022	2021	2020	
Did not obtain sufficient evidence as a result of overreliance on controls (due to deficiencies in testing controls)	1	1	0	
Did not perform sufficient testing related to a significant account or disclosure or to address an identified risk	1	0	0	

Deficiencies in ICFR audits	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies			
Deficiencies in ICFR addits	2022	2021	2020	
Did not identify and test any controls that addressed the risks related to a significant account or relevant assertion	1	0	0	
Did not identify and/or sufficiently test controls over the accuracy and completeness of data or reports that the issuer used in the operation of controls	1	1	0	
Did not test the accuracy and completeness of information that the firm used to make selections for testing the operating effectiveness of a control	1	0	0	

Audit Areas Most Frequently Reviewed

This table reflects the five audit areas we have selected most frequently for review in each inspection year (and the related Part I.A deficiencies). For the issuer audits selected for review, we selected these areas because they were generally significant to the issuer's financial statements, may have included complex issues for auditors, and/or involved complex judgments in (1) estimating and auditing the reported value of related accounts and disclosures and (2) implementing and auditing the related controls.

2022			2021			2020		
Audit area	Audits reviewed	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies	Audit area	Audits reviewed	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies	Audit area	Audits reviewed	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies
Allowance for credit losses/ Allowance for loan losses	11	0	Allowance for credit losses/ Allowance for loan losses	10	2	Allowance for loan losses	10	3
Investment securities	7	0	Investment securities	4	0	Investment securities	6	0
Business combinations	4	0	Revenue and related accounts	4	0	Revenue and related accounts	4	1
Revenue and related accounts	3	1	Cash and cash equivalents	3	0	Business combinations	3	0
Inventory	2	1	Deposit liabilities	2	1	Deposit liabilities	2	0

Audit Areas with Frequent Part I.A Deficiencies

This table reflects the audit areas with the most frequently identified Part I.A deficiencies in each inspection year with the corresponding results for the other two years presented.

	2022		2021		2020	
Audit area	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies	Audits reviewed	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies	Audits reviewed	Audits with Part I.A deficiencies	Audits reviewed
Revenue and related accounts	1	3	0	4	1	4
Inventory	1	2	0	0	0	1
Allowance for credit losses/ Allowance for loan losses	0	11	2	10	3	10
Deposit liabilities	0	1	1	2	0	2

Revenue and related accounts: The deficiencies in 2022 related to testing controls over revenue. The deficiencies in 2020 related to substantive testing of revenue.

Inventory: The deficiencies in 2022 related to substantive testing of, and testing controls over, inventory.

Allowance for credit losses/Allowance for loan losses: The deficiencies in 2021 and 2020 related to substantive testing of, and testing controls over, the qualitative reserve component of the allowance for loan losses.

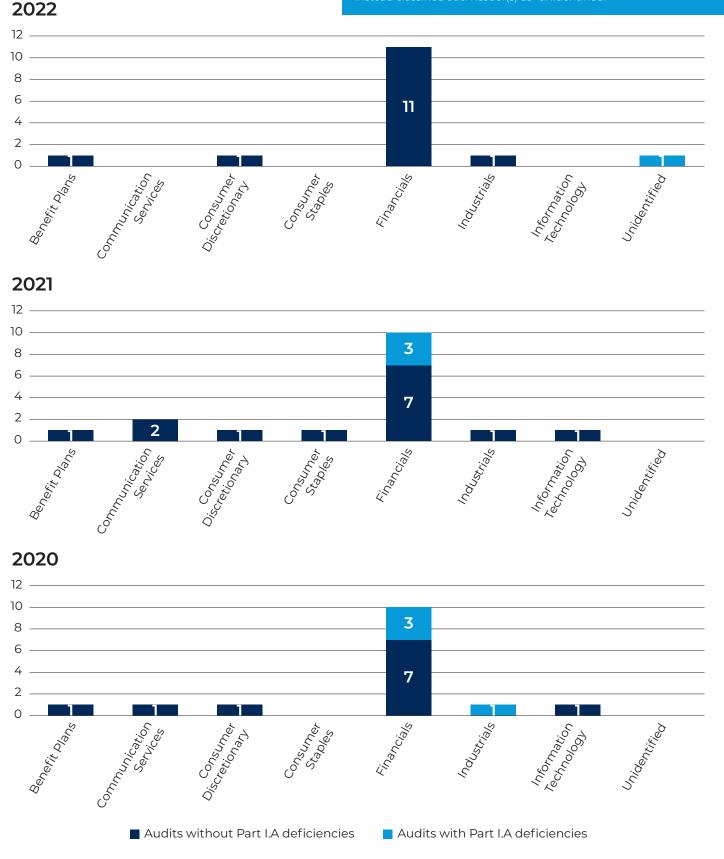
Deposit liabilities: The deficiencies in 2021 related to testing controls over deposit liabilities and the resulting overreliance on controls when performing substantive testing.

Auditing Standards Associated with Identified Part I.A Deficiencies

The following lists the auditing standards referenced in Part I.A of the 2022 and the previous two inspection reports, and the number of times that the standard is cited in Part I.A.

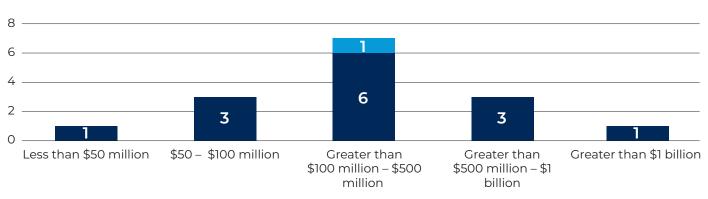
PCAOB Auditing Standards	2022	2021	2020
AS 1105, Audit Evidence	2	2	0
AS 2201, An Audit of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting That Is Integrated with An Audit of Financial Statements	3	3	3
AS 2301, The Auditor's Responses to the Risks of Material Misstatement	2	6	0
AS 2315, Audit Sampling	1	1	0
AS 2501, Auditing Accounting Estimates, Including Fair Value Measurements (effective for fiscal years ending on or after December 15, 2020)	0	3	-
AS 2501, Auditing Accounting Estimates (effective for fiscal years ending before December 15, 2020)	-	0	4

Inspection Results by Issuer **Industry Sector**

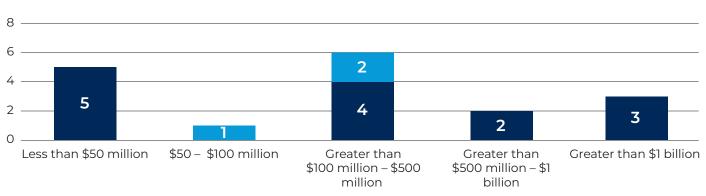


Inspection Results by Issuer Revenue Range

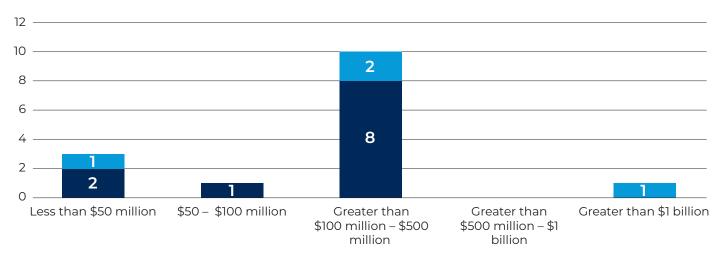
2022



2021



2020

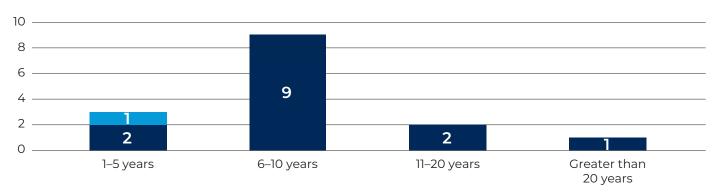


■ Audits without Part I.A deficiencies

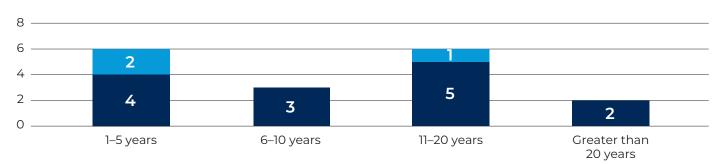
Audits with Part I.A deficiencies

Inspection Results by the Firm's Tenure on the Issuer

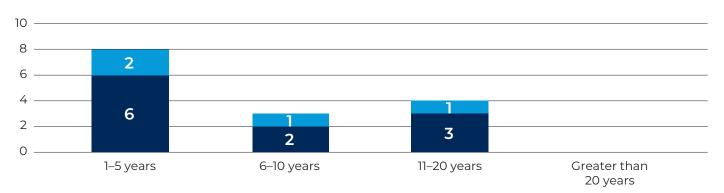
2022



2021



2020



■ Audits without Part I.A deficiencies

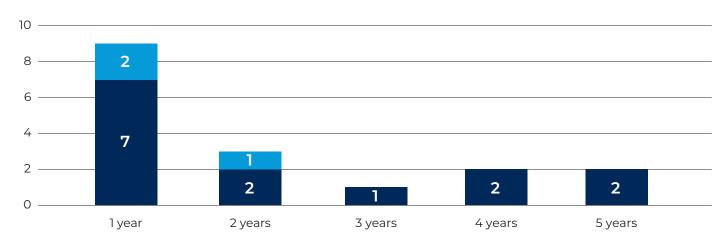
Audits with Part I.A deficiencies

Inspection Results by the Engagement Partner's Tenure on the Issuer

2022



2021



2020



Audits without Part I.A deficiencies Audits with Part I.A deficiencies

Classification of Audits with Part I.A Deficiencies

Within Part I.A of this report, we classify each issuer audit in one of the categories discussed below based on the Part I.A deficiency or deficiencies identified in our review.

The purpose of this classification system is to group and present issuer audits by the number of Part I.A. deficiencies we identified within the audit as well as to highlight audits with an incorrect opinion on the financial statements and/or ICFR.

Audits with an Incorrect Opinion on the Financial Statements and/or ICFR

This classification includes instances where a deficiency was identified in connection with our inspection and, as a result, an issuer's financial statements were determined to be materially misstated, and the issuer restated its financial statements. It also includes instances where a deficiency was identified in connection with our inspection and, as a result, an issuer's ICFR was determined to be ineffective, or there were additional material weaknesses that the firm did not identify, and the firm withdrew its opinion, or revised its report, on ICFR. This classification does not include instances where, unrelated to our review, an issuer restated its financial statements and/or an issuer's ICFR was determined to be ineffective. We include any deficiencies identified in connection with our reviews of these audits in the audits with multiple deficiencies or audits with a single deficiency classification below.

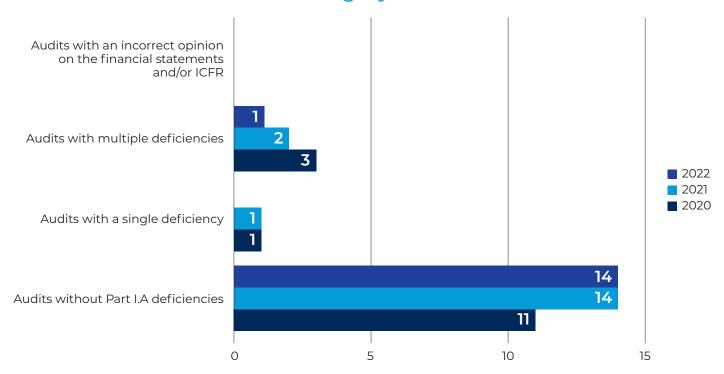
Audits with Multiple Deficiencies

This classification includes instances where multiple deficiencies were identified that related to a combination of one or more financial statement accounts, disclosures, and/or important controls in an ICFR audit.

Audits with a Single Deficiency

This classification includes instances where a single deficiency was identified that related to a financial statement account or disclosure or to an important control in an ICFR audit.

Number of Audits in Each Category



PART I: INSPECTION OBSERVATIONS

Part I.A of our report discusses deficiencies that were of such significance that we believe the firm, at the time it issued its audit report(s), had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s) on the issuer's financial statements and/or ICFR.

Part I.B discusses certain deficiencies that relate to instances of non-compliance with PCAOB standards or rules other than those where the firm had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s). This section does not discuss instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.

Part I.C discusses instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.

Consistent with the Act, it is the Board's assessment that nothing in Part I of this report deals with a criticism of, or potential defect in, the firm's quality control system. We discuss any such criticisms or potential defects in Part II. Further, you should not infer from any Part I deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, that we identified a quality control finding in Part II.

PART I.A: AUDITS WITH UNSUPPORTED OPINIONS

This section of our report discusses the deficiencies identified, by specific issuer audit reviewed, in the audit work supporting the firm's opinion(s) on the issuer's financial statements and/or ICFR.

We identify each issuer by a letter (e.g., Issuer A). Each deficiency could relate to several auditing standards, but we reference the PCAOB standard(s) that most directly relates to the requirement with which the firm did not comply.

We present issuer audits below within their respective deficiency classifications (as discussed previously). Within the classifications, we generally present the audits based on our assessment as to the relative significance of the identified deficiencies, taking into account the significance of the financial statement accounts and/or disclosures affected, and/or the nature or extent of the deficiencies.

Audits with an Incorrect Opinion on the Financial Statements and/or ICFR

None

Audits with Multiple Deficiencies

Issuer A

Type of audit and related areas affected

In our review, we identified deficiencies in the financial statement and ICFR audits related to Revenue and Inventory. The firm's internal inspection program inspected this audit and reviewed these areas but did not identify the deficiencies below.

Description of the deficiencies identified

With respect to **Revenue**, for which the firm identified a fraud risk:

The issuer recognized revenue when customer invoices were generated based on shipment information that was entered into the issuer's systems. The firm did not identify and test any controls that addressed

whether customer invoices were associated with valid customer orders and shipments. Further, the firm did not identify and test any controls that addressed whether the performance obligation had been satisfied when revenue was recognized. (AS 2201.39)

The firm selected for testing a control that consisted of the issuer's review and approval of certain revenue deductions. The firm did not test, or test any controls over, the accuracy and completeness of the system-generated report that it used to select its samples for testing this control. (AS 1105.10)

With respect to **Inventory**:

The firm selected for testing controls over inventory but did not identify and test any controls over the accuracy and completeness of certain system-generated data or reports that the control owners used in the operation of these controls. (AS 2201.39)

The firm did not identify and test any controls that addressed whether the unit costs the issuer used to record inventory were based on the standard material, labor, and overhead rates that the issuer had determined. (AS 2201.39)

As a result of the firm's control testing deficiencies discussed above, the firm did not perform sufficient substantive procedures, as follows:

- The sample sizes the firm used in certain of its substantive procedures to test inventory were too small to provide sufficient appropriate audit evidence because these procedures were designed based on a level of control reliance that was not supported. (AS 2301.16, .18, and .37; AS 2315.19, .23, and .23A)
- The firm did not perform procedures to test, or sufficiently test controls over, the accuracy and completeness of a system-generated report that it used in its substantive testing of inventory. (AS 1105.10)

The firm's substantive procedures to test the unit cost of certain inventory included selecting a sample of items for testing. The firm did not perform sufficient procedures to test the labor and overhead costs of the selected items because the firm did not test the labor and overhead rates the issuer had determined, beyond reviewing the nature of the cost types that the issuer used to calculate the overhead rates. (AS 2301.08)

Audits with a Single Deficiency

None

PART I.B: OTHER INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH PCAOB STANDARDS OR RULES

This section of our report discusses certain deficiencies that relate to instances of non-compliance with PCAOB standards or rules other than those where the firm had not obtained sufficient appropriate audit evidence to support its opinion(s). This section does not discuss instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.

When we review an audit, we do not review every aspect of the audit. As a result, the area below was not necessarily reviewed on every audit. In some cases, we assess the firm's compliance with specific PCAOB standards or rules on other audits that were not reviewed and include any instances of non-compliance below.

We identified the following deficiency:

In one of five audits reviewed, the firm's report on Form AP omitted information related to the participation in the audit by an other accounting firm. In this instance, the firm was non-compliant with PCAOB Rule 3211, Auditor Reporting of Certain Audit Participants.

PART I.C: INDEPENDENCE

This section of our report discusses instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of non-compliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence. An instance of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or an instance of non-compliance with PCAOB rules does not necessarily mean that the Board has concluded the firm was not objective and impartial throughout the audit and professional engagement period. Although this section includes instances of potential non-compliance that the firm brought to our attention, there may be other instances of non-compliance with SEC or PCAOB rules related to independence that were not identified through our procedures or the firm's monitoring activities.

PCAOB-Identified

We did not identify any instances of potential non-compliance with SEC rules or instances of noncompliance with PCAOB rules related to maintaining independence.

Firm-Identified

During the inspection, the firm brought to our attention that it had identified, through its independence monitoring activities, two instances across two issuers,² representing approximately 1% of the firm's total reported issuer audits, in which the firm appeared to have impaired its independence because it may not have complied with SEC Rule 2-01(c) of Regulation S-X related to maintaining independence. One of these instances of potential non-compliance involved a non-U.S. associated firm.

While we have not evaluated the underlying reasons for the instances of potential non-compliance, the number, large or small, of firm-identified instances of potential non-compliance may be reflective of the size of the firm, including the number of non-U.S. associated firms in the global network; the design and effectiveness of the firm's independence monitoring activities; and the size and/or complexity of the issuers it audits, including the number of affiliates of the issuer. Therefore, we caution against making any comparison of these firm-identified instances of potential non-compliance across firms.

The instances of potential non-compliance related to audit committee pre-approval and non-audit services:

- The firm reported one instance of potential non-compliance with Rule 2-01(c)(7) of Regulation S-X regarding audit committee pre-approval. This instance related to services provided by a non-US associated firm without the firm obtaining audit committee pre-approval.
- The firm reported one instance of potential non-compliance with Rule 2-01(c)(4) of Regulation S-X regarding non-audit services. This instance related to certain services that the firm determined to be prohibited. The firm concluded it was not independent and subsequently resigned from the issuer audit client.

The firm has reported to us that it has evaluated these instances of potential non-compliance and determined for the first instance discussed above that its objectivity and impartiality were not impaired.

² The firm-identified instances of potential non-compliance do not necessarily relate to the issuer audits that we selected for review.

PART II: OBSERVATIONS RELATED TO QUALITY CONTROL

Part II of our report discusses criticisms of, and potential defects in, the firm's system of quality control.

We include deficiencies in Part II if an analysis of the inspection results, including the results of the reviews of individual audits, indicates that the firm's system of quality control does not provide reasonable assurance that firm personnel will comply with applicable professional standards and requirements. Generally, the report's description of quality control criticisms is based on observations from our inspection procedures.

This report does not reflect changes or improvements to the firm's system of quality control that the firm may have made subsequent to the period covered by our inspection. The Board does consider such changes or improvements in assessing whether the firm has satisfactorily addressed the quality control criticisms or defects no later than 12 months after the issuance of this report.

When we issue our reports, we do not make public criticisms of, and potential defects in, the firm's system of quality control, to the extent any are identified. If a firm does not address to the Board's satisfaction any criticism of, or potential defect in, the firm's system of quality control within 12 months after the issuance of our report, we will make public any such deficiency.

APPENDIX A: FIRM'S RESPONSE TO THE 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, excluding any portion granted confidential treatment, is attached hereto and made part of this final inspection report.

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. 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.



Crowe LLP

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October 30, 2023

Ms. Christine Gunia, Acting 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 2022 Inspection of Crowe LLP

Dear Ms. Gunia:

Crowe LLP appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's ("PCAOB") draft report on the 2022 Inspection of Crowe LLP (the "Report").

We believe the PCAOB's inspection process serves an important role in improving audit quality for the benefit of investors and the public interest. We take seriously the matters identified by the PCAOB, which we analyze in our ongoing efforts to strengthen our quality control processes and audit performance.

We have carefully considered the matters identified in Part I of the Report and have taken actions to address the matters in accordance with PCAOB standards and our policies. These actions included performing additional procedures when appropriate and adding documentation in our files to further describe and support our procedures and conclusions.

Crowe LLP is committed to performing high quality audits, and we have designed our quality control and monitoring systems to drive continuous improvement. We look forward to continued dialogue with the PCAOB to advance the shared goal of audit quality.

Sincerely,

CROWE UP

Crowe LLP

