Term paper



Part 4

Author Course Name and Code Institution Instructor Date



4: In-depth Analysis of the impacts of KAMs

4.1: Effects of KAMs at the corporate level

KAMs(Key audit matters) play a crucial role in the corporate decision-making process and strategic planning. The identification and closure of key audit matters at the corporate level provide valuable insights into a company's financial records and other critical operational aspects. By highlighting important audit issues, key audit matters facilitate deeper insights into the potential complexities and risks in a company's business operations. The demonstrated transparency empowers company's management to effectively make informed decisions on risk management strategies, business performance, and overall resource allocation.

The presence of key audit matters is important in enhancing internal control mechanisms and timely financial reporting processes. The focus on key audit areas is important as a company strengthens their management structures and operations to improve the reliability and accuracy of the financial recording and disclosures. As a result, the management of key audit matters fosters accountability, honesty, and transparency within an organization which thereby reduces the likelihood of financial errors and mysterious irregularities (Shao, 2020). The effective communication of key audit matters is useful for corporate stakeholders, including senior executives, board members and shareholders to comprehensively understand the audit process and the outcomes. Audit transparency builds confidence and trust in the reliability of presented financial information.

The management's feedback involves collaboration of different functional areas and departments within the organization which forces the comprehensive compliance and risk management approach. This is because different stakeholders join hands to address challenging issues identified in key audit matters (Shao, 2020). By promoting knowledge sharing and breaking down silos, the process of managing key audit matters promotes teamwork and collaboration, which are essential aspects while addressing complex audit challenges and promoting a sustainable business(Genç & Erdem, 2021). Proactive management also enables organizations to mitigate potential risks before they become significant issues that affect companies' performance.

Shareholders can make informed data-driven assessments of the company risk profile, prospects, and performance, leading to more stakeholder engagements and promotion of company initiatives. KAMs is a catalyst for innovation and continuous improvement in a corporate governance landscape. The comprehensive process of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and addressing KAMs encourages companies to promptly adapt best practices in internal controls and overall financial reporting. By addressing areas of concern in key audit matters, organizations enhance operational efficiency, strengthen their competitive position, and drive sustainable growth of their business. The integration of KAMs in corporate governance not only reinforces transparency and reliability of financial outcomes but also promotes resilience and excellence in evolving business challenges (Du, 2022).



4.2:Influence of KAMs on the Capital Market

The disclosure of key matters has a profound impact on the decision-making processes and behaviors of participants in the capital markets. Analysts, investors, and other stakeholders depend on audit reports to determine the accuracy and reliability of financial data disclosed by organizations(Chrityakierne, 2022). By promoting informative insights into significant audit issues can foster deeper understanding of the potential risks and uncertainties associated with the financial statements of organizations. The enhanced transparency promotes investor confidence and encourages the company's financial health.

The disclosure of KAMs in the audit report enhances the transparency of financial reporting which maintains market integrity and overall investor trust. Investors who rely on audit reports for transparent communication, gain access to reliable and quality financial information presented by their company of interest. High transparency builds confidence in financial markets hence attracting investors and reduces costs for companies. The process of audit reports is a signal for the capital market regarding organizations' governance practices and risk profiles (Chrityakierne, 2022). Investors often pay attention to areas identified by auditors as they provide insights into risk management practices and the internal control environment. Organizations with a comprehensive approach to analyzing key ideas are preferable by investors as they showcase accountability, transparency, and quality governance practices. The disclosure of KAMs also has an impact on market valuation and a company's stock price.

The disclosure of key audit matters can also influence investment decisions as investors may adjust their portfolio allocations based on the results of audit reports. That transparent communication enables investors to assess the potential impact of available issues on prospects and financial performance hence informing risk management practices and investment decisions (Al Lawati & Hussainey, 2022). In general, the disclosure of key audit matters influences investor perceptions and market sentiments about the overall market risks. Once investors identify common auditions across different companies in the same sectors, they may raise concerns regarding the stability of an industry. This can cause high investor scrutiny and increased market volatility. The disclosure of key audit matters has far-reaching impacts on investor sentiments and market dynamics which shape investors' behaviors in the long-term.

4.3:Critical Discussion

Organizations can promptly implement mitigation measures to improve compliance processes, strengthen internal controls, and enhance risk management practices by identifying the latest trends in key audit areas. The proactive approach minimizes financial irregularities and reduces the likelihood of material misstatement. The disclosure of KAMs safeguards a company's credibility and reputation by enhancing the overall quality of financial formation provided by stakeholders, including regulatory authorities, investors, and creditors (Genç & Erdem, 2021). The transparency of key audit issues gives insights to external parties into their uncertainties. Transparency builds confidence and trust in the audit



process thereby facilitating investment attractiveness and company financial health.

Effective management of key audit matters contributes to the long-term resilience and sustainability of an organization by addressing key control mechanisms that enhance ability to withstand destruction and external shocks such as regulatory changes, industry disruptions, and economic downturns. Additionally, the disclosure of key audit matters enables potential investors to analyze the credibility and reliability of the audit process using detailed information about audit procedures provided by KAMs(Alves Júnior & Galdi, 2020). The disclosure of KAMs also facilitates open communication between investors and auditors and enables auditors to offer explanations about key audit issues. Investors' offers financial statements and the audit process. Enhanced communication fosters confidence and trust which strengthens the relationship between auditors and investors and enhances market liquidity.



References

Al Lawati, H., & Hussainey, K. (2022). The Determinants and Impact of Key Audit Matters Disclosure in the Auditor's Report. *International Journal of Financial Studies*, *10*(4), 107. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijfs10040107

Alves Júnior, E. D., & Galdi, F. C. (2020). The informational relevance of key audit matters. *Revista Contabilidade & Finanças, 31*(82), 67–83. https://doi.org/10.1590/1808-057x201908910

Chrityakierne, K. (2022). Properties of Key Audit Matters: Determinants and Impacts on the Capital Market. *Ses.library.usyd.edu.au*, (99). https://ses.library.usyd.edu.au/handle/2123/29913

Du, N. (2022). Impact of Key Audit Matters on Accounting Information Management by REA Model. *SHS Web of Conferences*, *151*(654), 01007. https://doi.org/10.1051/shsconf/202215101007

Genç, E. G., & Erdem, B. (2021). The Analysis of the Relationship between Key Audit Matters (KAM) and Firm Characteristics: The Case of Turkey. *EMAJ: Emerging Markets Journal, 11*(1), 60–66. https://doi.org/10.5195/emaj.2021.219

Hussin, N., Md Salleh, M. F., Ahmad, A., & Rahmat, M. M. (2023). The association between audit firm attributes and key audit matters readability. *Asian Journal of Accounting Research*, 8(4), 322-333.

Li, H. (2017, December 1). *The Benefit of Adding Key Audit Matters to the Auditing Report*. Www.atlantis-Press.com; Atlantis Press. https://doi.org/10.2991/icemse-17.2017.6

Li, H. (2020). A Study of Key Audit Matters Disclosure. Modern Economy, 11(02), 399–406. https://doi.org/10.4236/me.2020.112030

Nathalya Tampubolon, & Tobing, R. P. (2021). Key Audit Matters Implementation on Public Sector Audit Report: Case Study of the Audit Board of Indonesia. *Advances in Social Science, Education, and Humanities Research, 654*(54). https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.210531.047

Pinto, I., & Morais, A. I. (2018). What matters in disclosures of key audit matters: Evidence from Europe. *Journal of International Financial Management & Accounting*, *30*(2), 145–162. https://doi.org/10.1111/jifm.12095

Rautiainen, A., Saastamoinen, J., & Pajunen, K. (2021). Do key audit matters (KAMs) matter? Auditors' perceptions of KAMs and audit quality in Finland. *Managerial Auditing Journal, 36*(3), 386-404.

Shao, X. (2020). Research on Disclosure Status and Influencing Factors of Key Audit Matters. *Modern Economy*, *11*(03), 701–725. https://doi.org/10.4236/me.2020.113052



Velte, P., & Issa, J. (2019). The impact of key audit matter (KAM) disclosure in audit reports on stakeholders' reactions: a literature review. *Problems and Perspectives in Management*, *17*(3), 323–341. https://doi.org/10.21511/ppm.17(3).2019.26



