

AUDIT REPORT

**TO THE READERS OF THE CONTROLLER AND AUDITOR-GENERAL'S
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005**

We have been appointed by the House of Representatives to carry out the audit of the financial statements of the Controller and Auditor-General for the year ended 30 June 2005.

Unqualified Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of the Controller and Auditor-General on pages 61 to 96:

- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
- fairly reflect:
 - the Controller and Auditor-General's financial position as at 30 June 2005;
 - the results of its operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
 - its service performance achievements measured against the performance targets adopted for the year ended on that date.

The audit was completed on 30 September 2005, and is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis of our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the Controller and Auditor-General and our responsibilities, and explain our independence.

Basis of Opinion

We carried out the audit in accordance with New Zealand Auditing Standards.

We planned and performed the audit to obtain all the information and explanations we considered necessary in order to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements did not have material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error.

Material misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts and disclosures that would affect a reader's overall understanding of the financial statements. If we had found material misstatements that were not corrected, we would have referred to them in our opinion.

The audit involved performing procedures to test the information presented in the financial statements. We assessed the results of those procedures in forming our opinion.

Audit procedures generally include:

- determining whether significant financial and management controls are working and can be relied on to produce complete and accurate data;
- verifying samples of transactions and account balances;
- performing analyses to identify anomalies in the reported data;
- reviewing significant estimates and judgements made by the Controller and Auditor-General;

- confirming year-end balances;
- determining whether accounting policies are appropriate and consistently applied; and
- determining whether all financial statement disclosures are adequate.

We did not examine every transaction, nor do we guarantee complete accuracy of the financial statements.

We evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements. We obtained all the information and explanations we required to support our opinion above.

Responsibilities of the Controller and Auditor-General and the Auditor

The Controller and Auditor-General is responsible for preparing financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Those financial statements must fairly reflect the financial position of the Controller and Auditor-General as at 30 June 2005. They must also fairly reflect the results of its operations and cash flows and service performance achievements for the year ended on that date. This responsibility arises from section 37 of the Public Audit Act 2001.

We are responsible for expressing an independent opinion on the financial statements and reporting that opinion to you. This responsibility arises from section 38 of the Public Audit Act 2001 and the Public Finance Act 1989.

Independence

When carrying out the audit we followed the independence requirements of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.

We carry out audit assignments on behalf of the Controller and Auditor-General. The level of work from these assignments is no greater than the level of work prior to our appointment as auditor. Other than the audit and these assignments, we have no relationship with or interests in the Controller and Auditor-General.

CST Nexia Audit

CST Nexia Audit
Chartered Accountants
Manukau City, New Zealand

MATTERS RELATING TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESENTATION OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This audit report relates to the financial statements of the Controller and Auditor-General for the year ended 30 June 2005 included on the Controller and Auditor-General's web-site. The Controller and Auditor General is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Controller and Auditor-General's web site.

We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Controller and Auditor-General's web site. We accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the web site.

The audit report refers only to the financial statements named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information, which may have been hyperlinked to/from these financial statements. If readers of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communication, they should refer to the published hard copy of the audited financial statements and related audit report dated 30 September 2005 to confirm the information included in the audited financial statements presented on this web site.

Legislation in New Zealand governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.