

# 6. - STATUTORY AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE ANNUAL REPORT

# **AUDIT AND CONTROL COMMITTEE**

# 2018-2019















#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the section 4 (f) of the article 529 fourteenth of the Corporate Law passed on the Law 31/2014 of December 3<sup>rd</sup> amending the Corporate Law for the corporate governance improvement, and by virtue of the provisions of the article 17.2 of the Rules of the Board of Directors, where it is established that: "On an annual basis, prior to the audit report, issue a report containing an opinion on the independence of the auditors. This report in any event must cover the details of the provision of the additional services referred to in the preceding section, taken individually and as a whole, other than the legal audit, as regards independence of the auditors and regulations governing audits".

This document pronounces on the evaluation of the additional services rendered, individually and as a whole, others than the statutory audit, and related to the independence or to the applicable regulations affecting the Statutory Auditors, as well as the precautions observed in order to ensure its independence, according to the Law 22/2015 of June 20<sup>th,</sup> of Accounts Auditing ("Audit Law" from now on). Consequently, the Audit and Control Committee prepares this report.

## 2. RECRUITMENT CONDITIONS

The Annual Shareholders' Meeting held on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 agreed to appoint as auditors for the annual accounts of the Company and of its consolidated Group for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 to Deloitte, S.L. and PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L. in joint action.

The tender process of Deloitte and PricewaterhouseCoopers was carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Audit Act 22/2015, of July 20, which, in its article 40, establishes the rules on hiring, rotation and appointment of auditors; and in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014 of the European Parliament, of April 16, 2014.

Hiring process is set up before the beginning of the duties of the external auditors for the current fiscal year, and was previously informed by the Audit and Control Committee on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Related to the terms and conditions of the audit contract, the Audit and Control Committee has verified that the obligation to rotate the Statutory Auditor is satisfied.

Fees related to audit services of the financial statements of the year 2018-2019, rendered to Logista Group by Deloitte amount € 843 Thousand, and those rendered by PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores amounted € 491 Thousand. The update of said fees has been analyzed and approved by the Audit and Control Committee in its session of November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Regarding the audit services agreed both with Deloitte, S.L. and PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L., the Audit and Control Committee considers that they have not been influenced or affected by the rendering of other additional services or based on any contingency or condition other than the changes in the context discussed to set the audit fees, according to stated at the Audit Law, and according to what the auditors have expressed in their Independence Report.



## 3. COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDITOR

The Audit and Control Committee has maintained the opportune relations with the co-auditors to receive information on issues that may pose a threat to their independence and any other related to the process of developing the audit of accounts, as well as those other communications foreseen in the legislation of audit of accounts and in the technical norms of audit.

During the 2018-2019 financial year, the co-auditors of accounts have not informed the Audit and Control Committee of any issue that could put their independence at risk.

# 4. NON- AUDIT FEES RENDERED BY DELOITTE INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE LOGISTA GROUP

The breakdown of the services invoiced during the fiscal year 2018-2019, not considering the fees for the account auditing are presented in the following table:

	<b>Thousand Euros</b>
Other Verification Services	35
Transfer Pricing	173
Other services	4
Total	212

## 4.1. OTHER VERIFICATION SERVICES

This heading includes:

- Fees paid for the <u>limited review of the half-year financial statements</u> of the Compañía de Distribución Integral Logista Holdings, S.A. and its subsidiaries, according to the half-year financial statements review international regulations of the independent auditor of the ISRE 2410, in joint action, amounting € 17 Thousand.
- Fees paid for reviewing and issuing, in joint action, the <u>report on the Internal Control over Financial Reporting Framework (ICFR)</u> released to the market for the fiscal year 2017-2018, included in the Corporate Governance Annual Report, amounting € 10 Thousand. The scope of the review procedures used by the auditor shall be defined according to the circular note E14/2013, of July 19<sup>th</sup> 2013, of the" Instituto de Censores Jurados de Cuentas" of Spain.
- The execution of the required verifications on the disclosure of containers and packaging that has to be annually sent to ECOEMBES, to be attached to the self-assessment of the related taxes, for Spain and France, amounting € 8 Thousand.



It should be noted that the nature of these works, such as the half-year limited review of the Consolidated Accounts or the review of the Internal Control System of Financial Information, is closely related to the audit of accounts, not involving a risk or threat to the independence of the accounts audit itself.

Regarding the relationship of the verification on the declaration of ECOEMBES, the typology of this type of service supposes the verification of certain control mechanisms (consistency of the information relative to the unit weight of the packaging) and verification of the agreement of the declarations of containers for the benefit of the conservation of the environment, having no impact neither on the internal control systems, nor on the financial statements, nor on the process of elaboration thereof, and therefore not meaning a threat to the independence.

#### 4.2. TRANSFER PRICING

All the invoiced fees correspond to the assistance in updating the <u>documentation of the supporting dossiers on transfer pricing</u> of the different entities of the Group, as well as assistance for advice regarding the friendly process regarding transfer pricing, after the tax inspection carried out at Logista Italia, S.p.A.

This service is limited to assist the Logista Group in complying with its documentation obligations regarding transfer pricing in the countries in which the Group is present, focusing mainly on assistance in the preparation and / or review of the documentation of transfer pricing. The scope and content of the service does not include the provision of tax advisory services, nor assistance to the Group in defending its transfer pricing policies to the tax authorities of the countries concerned.

#### 4.3. OTHER SERVICES

Detail of other services fees invoiced during the current fiscal year are the following:

Report of <u>Agreed Procedures on the status "Economic sales of the cigarette distribution business</u>
 <u>in Peninsula, Ceuta, Melilla and Baleares</u>" for the annual year closed in 2017 of Compañía Integral
 de Distribución Logista S.A.U. and for an amount of € 4 thousand.

Given the fact that it is an analysis of items corresponding to fiscal years already closed and audited (2017), the Administrator of Logista, S.A.U. are responsible for the definition and scope of the procedures, and it is the reader of the report who obtains their own conclusions in the light of the objective findings on which they are informed, and is also responsible for the sufficiency of the procedures carried out to the purposes pursued, does not imply a risk of independence to the audit of accounts.

Therefore, the hiring of these services to Deloitte has been done according to stated at art. 14. Incompatibility causes of Audit Law, not being included in the prohibited services according to that Law.



# 5. NON- AUDIT FEES RENDERED BY PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE LOGISTA GROUP

The breakdown of the services invoiced during the fiscal year 2018-2019, not considering the fees for the account auditing are presented in the following table:

	<b>Thousand Euros</b>
Reporting package to Imperial Brands, PLC	304
Other verification services	53
Other services	19
Total	376

#### 5.1. REPORTING PACKAGE AND OTHER VERIFICATION SERVICES

This heading includes:

- Review of the consolidation reporting package sent to Imperial Brands, PLC. of Compañía Integral
  de Distribución Logista Holdings, S.A, with regards to the audit and intermediate review of the
  consolidation package to Imperial Brands at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, and also for the six-month
  period review ended March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and third quarter of 2019, amounting € 304 Thousand.
- Fees paid for the <u>limited review of the half-year financial statements</u> of the Compañía de Distribución Integral Logista Holdings, S.A. and its subsidiaries, according to the half-year financial statements review international regulations of the independent auditor of the ISRE 2410, in joint action, amounting € 19 Thousand.
- Fees paid for reviewing and issuing, in joint action, the <u>report on the Internal Control over Financial Reporting Framework (ICFR)</u> released to the market for the fiscal year 2017-2018, included in the Corporate Governance Annual Report, amounting € 12 Thousand. The scope of the review procedures used by the auditor shall be defined according to the circular note E14/2013, of July 19<sup>th</sup> 2013, of the" Instituto de Censores Jurados de Cuentas" of Spain.
- Fees paid for the verification of the Non-Financial Information Statement, in accordance with the <u>Law on non-financial information and diversity</u>, of December 28, 2018, amounting € 22.5 thousand.

It should be noted that the nature of these works are closely related to the audit of accounts, not involving a risk or threat to the independence of the accounts audit itself.



#### **5.2. OTHER SERVICES**

This amount fully corresponds to invoiced services related to obtaining a report "SSAE16 SOC 1 Type 2", -a standard report to prove the efficiency of the controls of activities subcontracted to third parties-, intended for a customer of the subsidiary of Logista Italia in relation to the storage and supply activities of one of its work centers.

It has been considered as a compatible service given that no design or implementation services are provided in relation to the internal control system over the financial information of Grupo Logista, but rather the service is provided to assess the adequacy of the relevant controls for the Logista Italia customer and not for its own internal control system. In addition, the calendar of the insurance report is based on the client's closing process (31.12.2018) and not on the closing period of Logista Group (30.09.2018).

Therefore, the hiring of these services to PricewaterhouseCoopers has been done according to stated at art. 14. Incompatibility causes of Audit Law, not being included in the prohibited services according to that Law.

# 6. PROPORTION OF INCOME

In the Rules of the Board, section 46.2 "Relations with Auditors", exposes that "The Board of Directors shall refrain from hiring those audit firms whose projected fees including all items exceed five per cent of its total revenues during the previous financial year" and "The Board of Directors shall make public the total fees paid to the audit firm for services other than auditing".

During the fiscal year 2018-2019, Logista Group has hired audit services and other non-audit services:

- To Deloitte, amounting a total of € 1.055 Thousand, which represent a 0.0025 % of the annual revenues disseminated by Deloitte global for its fiscal year 2018-2019.
- To PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, amounting a total of € 867 Thousand, which represent a 0.0054 % of the annual revenues disseminated by PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L. global for its fiscal year 2018-2019.

## 7. INDEPENDENCE DISCLOSURE FROM THE STATUTORY AUDITOR

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the audit partners in charge of the issuance of the statutory audit report for the consolidated accounts of Compañía de Distribución Integral Logista Holdings, S.A., have confirmed to the Audit and Control Committee their independence.

The document developed by the Group Statutory Auditors, contains the written confirmation of their independence in relation to the Group and its subsidiaries, as well as the information regarding the additional services other than the Statutory audit, considered both individually and as a whole, rendered to the aforementioned companies by the auditors or related persons.



During fiscal year 2018-2019, the Statutory Auditors have not revealed in the Audit and Control Committees any issue that could impair their independence. In addition, Deloitte and PricewaterhouseCoopers have declared that, in application of their internal procedures, they have not identified circumstances that, individually or as a whole, could result in a significant threat to their independence and, therefore, could be grounds for incompatibility.

## 8. CONCLUSION

The Audit and Control Committee unanimously agrees sending to the Board of Directors of the Compañía de Distribución Integral Logista Holdings, S.A. the present report, where it is certified that the Statutory Auditors, Deloitte S.L. and PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L., have been and acted independently, in relation to the issuance of the report after the examination and evaluation of the annual accounts, individual and consolidated, of the Compañía de Distribución Integral Logista Holdings, S.A., regarding the fiscal year 2018-2019.

Furthermore, it has been concluded that there are no objective reasons that would allow contesting the Statutory Auditors independence, and that such independence has not been threatened or impaired during the fiscal year 2018-2019, due to the rendering of non-audit services. In particular:

- PricewaterhouseCoopers and Deloitte have confirmed in writing their independence in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014 of April 16, 2014 on the specific requirements for the legal audit of entities of public interest, Law 22 / 2015, of July 20, of Audit of Accounts, the Royal Decree 877/2015, of October 2 that approves the Regulation of the Law of Audit, and in the technical norms of audit issued by the Institute of Accounting and Audit of Accounts.
- The fees corresponding to the audit services are set by the auditor prior to the start of their duties for the entire period in which they must perform them. The fees are not influenced or determined by the provision of additional services, nor are they based on contingencies or conditions other than changes in the circumstances that serve as the basis for setting the fees.
- Fees for the services provided do not constitute a significant percentage of the total annual income of the auditor.
- During the fiscal year 2018-2019, the Audit and Control Committee has established the appropriate relationships with the firms Deloitte and PricewaterhouseCoopers (Co-auditors) in order to receive information on those issues that could put their independence at risk.
- In the information obtained through the aforementioned communication channels, no aspects have been identified that question compliance with the auditor's regulatory norms regarding the auditor's independence and, in particular, no aspects of the audit have been identified. This nature is related to the provision of additional services, individually considered and as a whole, other than the legal audit.



• The Audit and Control Committee has analyzed all the proposals for contracting services with the Accounts Auditor in the fiscal year 2018-2019, other than the account audit service, in order to ensure that they are not incompatible with his work as auditors, thus not calling into question his independence, in accordance with the limitations established in the current legislation.

The current report is the one that has been approved by the Audit and Control Committee in its session held on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Leganés, October 29th, 2019

**D. Rafael de Juan López** Audit and Control Committee Secretary