INVESTIGATING THE USE OF ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES BY PRACTICING AUDITORS IN WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN KUALA LUMPUR

PREPARED BY :

ROS NORITA ABD SAMAD ITHNAHAINI BAHARUDDIN ANITA CHE HASSAN

AUGUST 2008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, The Most Beneficent and The Most Merciful

Praise is to Allah for giving us opportunity and strength to complete this research.

This research was carried out with the help of so many people and it would be difficult to mention each and every one of them. Nonetheless, we are indebted to the following people and units whose cooperation has been vital for completion of this project.

First and foremost, we are thankful to all the auditors who have participated in this survey. Without their cooperation, this research would be impossible to complete.

Second, we extend our appreciation to Research Management Institute for providing assistance for this research.

Finally, our deepest gratitude goes to those who participated in reviewing our research.

May Allah bless them.

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to provide information on the current practice of analytical review procedures within the context of auditing in Malaysia. One hundred and sixteen auditors from Wilayah Persekutuan participated in the survey. The study reveals four important findings. First, the use of judgmental techniques and simple quantitative techniques such as comparison of two points, simple reasonableness test and ratio analysis are preferred compared to advanced quantitative techniques. Second, the use of analytical review procedures are most effective in achieving audit objectives of identifying significant fluctuation in financial statements and assessing overall fairness of presentation. Third, the study also suggests that overall change in the audit approach and increase in professional guidance are the most possible explanation for the increase use of analytical review procedures. Finally, in contrast to prior research, the use of analytical review stage of an audit.

TABLE OF CONTENT

Letter of Submission	ii
Letter of Declaration	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Table of Contents	v
List of Tables	viii
List of Abbreviations	х
Abstract	xi

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1	Background of the Study	1
1.2	Background on the use of Analytical Procedures	2
1.3	Problem Statement/ Motivation of the study	4
1.4	Research Objectives	6
1.5	Significance of the Research	6
1.6	Definition of Terms	7
1.7	Organisation of the Present Research	7

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1	Introduction and Organisation of the Chapter	9
2.2	Professional Guidance	9
2.3	Purpose and Effectiveness of Analytical Procedure	11
2.4	Analytical Review Procedure Techniques	14
2.5	The Extent of Use	16
2.6	Reliance on Analytical Review Procedures	19

3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1	Introduction and Organisation of the Chapter	21
3.2	Population and Sample	21
3.3	Data Collection Method	24
3.4	Questionnaire Design	27
3.5	Data Analysis Procedures	29

4.0 DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

4.1	Introduction and Organisation of the Chapter	31
4.2	Demographic Profiles	31
4.3	The extent of use of specific AP techniques in audits	34
4.4	Changes in the use of AP techniques	36
4.5	Reasons not using the sophisticated techniques	38
4.6	The extent of use of AP in different stages of an audit	39
4.7	The Perception on use of AP by different level of auditors	41