

# **Corporate Finance Liaison**



ASIC

Australian Securities & Investments Commission

**November 2013** 

#### **ASIC** wide issues & statistics

- Senate Inquiry
- ASIC Stakeholder Survey

- ASIC Report 371 Overview of decisions on relief applications (February to May 2013)
- Lodgement statistics

# Fundraising Issues

# **Hybrids**

- ASIC Report 365 Hybrid Securities
- Need for effective prospectus disclosure
- Use of non-prospectus selling documents
- ASIC continues to work with issuers, educate investors and monitor advertising

# **Emerging market issuers**

- ASIC Report 368 Emerging Market Issuers
- Challenges for EMIs include:
  - Complex ownership
  - Risk management/corporate governance
  - Reliable information
- Transparent disclosure & investor education

#### Forecast financial information

- Forecasts in prospectuses ASIC focus
- ASIC Regulatory Guide 170: Prospective Financial Information
- Disclosure of assumptions
- Forecasts in continuous disclosure announcements

#### Electronic disclosure

- Electronic distribution of disclosure documents
- CP 211 Facilitating electronic offers of securities: Update to RG 107 (June)
- Updated guidance to reflect market practice & technology
- Publish late 2013/early 2014

#### Unlisted debentures & charities

 Unlisted debentures – ASIC has made recommendations to Treasury

 Charities – review of exemptions for debentures and managed investment schemes

# Mining & Exploration - JORC

- New ASX listing rules and JORC code effective December 2013
- ASX JORC FAQs
  - Transition
  - Competent persons
  - Exploration targets
  - Production targets

http://www.asxgroup.com.au/asx-mining-reporting-faqs.htm

# Pro rata rights offers

- Disclosure:
  - control effects and underwriting
  - Coppermoly Panel decision
- Section 615 nominees

#### Other fundraising issues

 Crowd sourced equity fundraising – CAMAC Discussion Paper

 FoFA and stamping fees – ASIC Market Supervision Update (Issue 38)

# Mergers & Acquisitions

### Takeovers Regulatory Guides

- Four new guides released in June (Regulatory Guides 5,6,9 and 10)
- 11 new class orders (CO 13/518 CO 13/528)
- Key changes and clarifications:
  - Joint bids
  - Termination of underwriting
  - Financial accommodation: s609(1)
  - Acceptance facilities

#### **Takeovers Enforcement**

- Identifying matters that warrant enforcement action
- Pro rata rights offers Laneway Panel matter
- Substantial holding disclosure

#### Independent expert reports

- Item 7 of section 611 transactions: ASIC Regulatory Guide 111
  - should compare shares pre-transaction on a control basis, with the shares post-transaction on a minority basis
- Convertible notes
  - Full fairness assessment required
- Independence of experts: ASIC Regulatory Guide 112

# Corporate Governance & other matters

#### **Employee incentive schemes**

- ASIC Consultation Paper 218 Employee incentive schemes released in November
- Fundamental settings will not change, expand scope of relief
- Issues:
  - Type of financial products
  - People who can be made offers
  - Non-executive directors
  - Unlisted bodies
  - Lodgment requirements
  - ASIC determination power

#### **Confidential information**

Analyst briefing review

Transaction review

Report findings in first half 2014

# Stapled securities

 ASIC Consultation Paper 217 Presentation of financial statements by stapled entities

Combined financial reports for stapled securities.

Submissions close 30 November

# **Next meeting**

- Structure of liaison meetings
- Next meeting May 2014
- Questions?