

Technical Summary



This extract has been prepared by IASC Foundation staff and has not been approved by the IASB. For the requirements reference must be made to International Financial Reporting Standards.

IAS 11 Construction Contracts

The objective of this Standard is to prescribe the accounting treatment of revenue and costs associated with construction contracts. Because of the nature of the activity undertaken in construction contracts, the date at which the contract activity is entered into and the date when the activity is completed usually fall into different accounting periods. Therefore, the primary issue in accounting for construction contracts is the allocation of contract revenue and contract costs to the accounting periods in which construction work is performed.

This Standard shall be applied in accounting for construction contracts in the financial statements of contractors.

A *construction contract* is a contract specifically negotiated for the construction of an asset or a combination of assets that are closely interrelated or interdependent in terms of their design, technology and function or their ultimate purpose or use.

The requirements of this Standard are usually applied separately to each construction contract. However, in certain circumstances, it is necessary to apply the Standard to the separately identifiable components of a single contract or to a group of contracts together in order to reflect the substance of a contract or a group of contracts.

Contract revenue shall comprise:

- (a) the initial amount of revenue agreed in the contract; and
- (b) variations in contract work, claims and incentive payments:
 - (i) to the extent that it is probable that they will result in revenue; and
 - (ii) they are capable of being reliably measured

Contract revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Contract costs shall comprise:

- (a) costs that relate directly to the specific contract;
- (b) costs that are attributable to contract activity in general and can be allocated to the contract; and
- (c) such other costs as are specifically chargeable to the customer under the terms of the contract.

When the outcome of a construction contract can be estimated reliably, contract revenue and contract costs associated with the construction contract shall be recognised as revenue and expenses respectively by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity at the end of the reporting period.

When the outcome of a construction contract cannot be estimated reliably:

- (a) revenue shall be recognised only to the extent of contract costs incurred that it is probable will be recoverable; and
- (b) contract costs shall be recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

When it is probable that total contract costs will exceed total contract revenue, the expected loss shall be recognised as an expense immediately.