

Companies Act 2006

2006 CHAPTER 46

PART 27

MERGERS AND DIVISIONS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES

CHAPTER 2

MERGER

Requirements applicable to merger

909 Expert's report (merger)

- (1) An expert's report must be drawn up on behalf of each of the merging companies.
- (2) The report required is a written report on the draft terms to the members of the company.
- (3) The court may on the joint application of all the merging companies approve the appointment of a joint expert to draw up a single report on behalf of all those companies.

If no such appointment is made, there must be a separate expert's report to the members of each merging company drawn up by a separate expert appointed on behalf of that company.

- (4) The expert must be a person who—
 - (a) is eligible for appointment as a statutory auditor (see section 1212), and
 - (b) meets the independence requirement in section 936.
- (5) The expert's report must—
 - (a) indicate the method or methods used to arrive at the share exchange ratio;
 - (b) give an opinion as to whether the method or methods used are reasonable in all the circumstances of the case, indicate the values arrived at using each such

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- method and (if there is more than one method) give an opinion on the relative importance attributed to such methods in arriving at the value decided on;
- (c) describe any special valuation difficulties that have arisen;
- (d) state whether in the expert's opinion the share exchange ratio is reasonable; and
- (e) in the case of a valuation made by a person other than himself (see section 935), state that it appeared to him reasonable to arrange for it to be so made or to accept a valuation so made.
- (6) The expert (or each of them) has—
 - (a) the right of access to all such documents of all the merging companies, and
 - (b) the right to require from the companies' officers all such information, as he thinks necessary for the purposes of making his report.
- (7) The requirement in this section is subject to section 915 (circumstances in which reports not required) [F1, section 915A (other circumstances in which reports and inspection not required)][F2 and section 918A (agreement to dispense with expert's report)].

Textual Amendments

- F1 Words in s. 909(7) inserted (1.8.2011 with application in accordance with reg. 1(2)) by The Companies (Reporting Requirements in Mergers and Divisions) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 2011/1606), reg. 8
- **F2** Words in s. 909(7) inserted (6.4.2008) by The Companies (Mergers and Divisions of Public Companies) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/690), **reg. 2(1)**

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