Research on the Accounting and Auditing Risk Calculation Strategies of Enterprises in the Information Age

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Abstract: After entering the information age, the accounting and auditing work of Chinese enterprises must be updated according to the new changes of the society and the enterprises. As the top priority of modern enterprise management, enterprise accounting auditing requires continuous optimization of the management within the enterprises so that the enterprises’ development could keep pace with the social changes. By introducing information technology into enterprise accounting auditing, it is possible to improve the efficiency of enterprise accounting auditing and to ensure the accuracy of enterprise auditing. This article starts with the status quo of enterprise accounting auditing in the information age. Then, it analyses the current risks of enterprise accounting audit and puts forward some suggestions to prevent the risks. This thesis is expected to provide useful reference for the development of enterprise accounting auditing in the information age.

Keywords: Information Age; Enterprise Accounting; Audit Risk; Talent Introduction

1. Introduction

With the continuous development of the modern economy and society, information technology is widely used in all walks of life, and has a far-reaching impact on the social development. At the same time, great changes have taken place in enterprise accounting and auditing work in the information age. Generally speaking, enterprise accounting audit is a work that covers all aspects of the enterprise operation and the core of the audit is statistical management. Enterprise accounting auditing can accurately and directly reflect the current operating status of the enterprise[1]. The application of information technology enterprise in enterprise accounting auditing requires the staff of accounting and auditing departments to apply the current information technology to the processing of various data in enterprises to improve the efficiency and accuracy of enterprise accounting auditing.

2. The status quo of enterprise accounting auditing in the information age

The primary changes of enterprise accounting auditing in the information age are summarized as follows:

First of all, change the auditing methods. Influenced by the current advanced information technology, the auditing methods of enterprise accounting have changed greatly. The most striking example is the application of intelligent audit sampling in accounting audit. Through information technology, audit work has become more informative in the sampling process. In addition, it also allows for the fast updating of the sampling model frequently in a short period of time, and to make deduction of the similar auditing to enriching the sampling experience. Intelligent sampling audit helps

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with the increase of the efficiency of audit and the effectiveness of decision-making. Moreover, information technology has greatly improved the audit system. Information technology makes it possible to quickly process and classify the data in the information database. This data processing method is far more reliable than manual sampling processing, which can greatly improve the accuracy of data in audit prediction.

Second, audit security has changed in the information age. Auditing is always accompanied by certain risks, and auditing through information technology helps with effective control risks. By means of the traditional audit mode, accounting auditing staff often analyzes audit-related materials in a phased manner and they also need to add post-audit to ensure the authenticity and objectivity of the audit process[2]. However, the application of information technology for auditing no longer requires post-audit to become an essential procedure, and objective supervision can be carried out during the auditing process. Therefore, compared with the past, the audit risk in the information age has been reduced to a certain extent. In addition, the application of information technology for auditing can help examiners keep close contact with auditors, so that they can also effectively follow up the audit after the audit manuscripts are filed.

3. Risks Faced by enterprise accounting audits in the information age

3.1 Risk of false alarm

Information technology auditing work must be based on information technology. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that the level of audit work is consistent with the level of information technology when conducting informatization audit. Information audit refers to the integration and calculation of the relevant data of the enterprise through computer information technology, and presents the conclusions to managers in the form of reports. Compared with manual data calculation method., this method is more accurate and reduces the workload of auditors. However, at present, it is still highly risky to use computers as the major instrument of audit work data processing. For example, a computer may make mistakes without supervision, so the authenticity and reliability of the accounting results cannot be guaranteed. In that case, it is easy to cause false positives. If an enterprise uses computer misreported audit data without rechecking, it will cause immeasurable risks and losses to the enterprise. In addition, imperfect information technology may lead to information leakage and bring great risks to the information audit. For example, when the computer of an enterprise is suffering from a cyber-attack, criminals may be peeping the information in the computer, which will cause great risks to the operation of the enterprise. At the same time, it is also dangerous to rely on the hard disk or disk of the computer to save the relevant data. Once the storage devices such as hard disk or disk are blocked, it will cause data loss and interrupt the daily audit work.

3.2 Inspection risk

In order to ensure the authenticity and validity of the audit process, it is necessary to confirm the accuracy and reliability of the audit data after information audit. It requires auditors to master their professional skills. They should also grasp adequate information technology, and are competent of processing audit data proficiently through various of information technology software. In the process of data processing, auditors must always pay attention to the running status of the computer to reduce the distortion of audit results caused by computer failures. However, in the current information audit work, auditors pay excessively limited attention to the inspection process, and a large number of auditors have neglect their duties in the process of using computers to audit. In other words, they fail to monitor computer audit and accounting work, so the frequent audit errors pose great risks to the accuracy of information audit.

3.3 Competition risk

In recent years, with the vigorous development of China’s economy, the market competition pressure faced by enterprises has also increased dramatically. With the continuous improvement of China’s socialist market economic system, although the application of auditing is more and more extensive and frequent, the information auditing system has not been improved. That will increase the risk of accounting. Enterprises must establish a set of scientific and complete accounting and auditing methods and management systems, so as to the security and stability of enterprises develop-
ment. Although the current information-based auditing methods provide some support for the accounting audit work of enterprises, and help enterprises avoid some of the potential risks in audit, the competitiveness of the majority of the current enterprises is far from adequate. To solve such problems by unreasonably tampering with their own audit data in auditing process, the enterprise will face greater risks.

4. Reasons for enterprise accounting audit risks in the information age

4.1 Enlargement of audit content and objects

In recent years, the prosperity of China’s market economy helps to promote the overall development of the China’s market. The influx of a large number of foreign companies has influenced the development of Chinese companies. In order to adapt to the current complex market situation, enterprises must improve their market competitiveness by reforming the original methods. During such a process, enterprises have adapted to the new changes of the market, and the industrial structure has also changed. As a result, the content and objects involved in enterprise accounting are constantly expanding\(^3\). Hence, the enterprise audit work will be a great challenge. It requires enterprise audits to integrate all information and objects in audits efficiently to ensure the authenticity and reliability of audit results. The expansion of audit content and objects increases audit workload, which leads to higher risk of false report of errors.

4.2 Low quality of auditors

The application of information technology enterprise in enterprise accounting audit has not only changes the traditional audit methods, but also requires higher proficiency of auditors. Auditors need to be familiar with auditing-related theories and accumulate rich experience. Besides, it is necessary to be competent in applying information technology to audit work, so as to ensure the efficiency of information audit. In view of the current development of enterprise accounting audit, information technology has gradually become an important driving force for promote the development of audit work. Information auditing will gradually replace traditional auditing approach, and it requires that accountants should grasp more knowledge and skills. In addition to professional accounting skills, accountants also need to be able to complete the application of information technology, to use accounting and audit-related software proficiently, to effectively supervise the information audit process and to solve the problems encountered in the audit process to ensure accurate audit. However, the review of the current situation of enterprise accounting audit shows that the talents in accounting auditing are far from adequate. The abilities of most auditors are not enough for them to complete the information audit. A large number of auditors fail to master solid audit knowledge or experience, so they cannot perform information technology software operations. Hence, the current accounting audit is facing higher risks and has caused serious economic security problems for enterprise.

4.3 Market competition

The continuous improvement of China’s socialist market economic system casts positive impact on the development of various industries. However, as far as the current audit work is concerned, the current audit work still lags behind the overall development level of the market and the existing audit cannot effectively meet the market demand. With such audit, the competitiveness of enterprises in the market will gradually decline, and it is difficult to guarantee long-term development. At present, some companies have realized the importance of accounting auditing in their development and adopted advanced information-based auditing methods to improve the overall efficiency and level of enterprise auditing. However, as a result of the limited information technology skills of enterprise accountants, it is difficult to make full use of the informatization audit, which hinders the development of informatization audit to a certain extent.

5. Countermeasures for enterprise accounting audit risks in the information age
5.1 Strengthen safety management

Accounting and auditing work is very important to enterprises, and the risks have a profound impact on the business development of enterprises. Hence, the application of information technology in enterprise accounting and auditing require the managers of relevant enterprises to improve their risk awareness. They need to pay attention to and participate in the information audit work, so as to minimize the risk in the information audit. Enterprise managers should take risk awareness as the primary content of accounting training, improve the risk awareness of accountants and make accountants could attach adequate importance to risk management. In addition, accountants should increase the application of information technology in auditing and stress risk control.

The rapid development of information technology contributes to the improvement of enterprise management level. At the same time, security of enterprise management will also bring risks of enterprise audit. Therefore, in the enterprise accounting audit work, we should highlight the security management issues in the application of information technology to ensure the authenticity of audit data and the smooth development of audit.

5.2 Enrollment and training of talents

Firstly, in the information age, the efficiency and profitabilty of informationized enterprise accounting audits will be greatly improved when compared to traditional audits, but the technical skills and operational capabilities of auditors play a crucial role in enterprise accounting audits. If auditors’ knowledge is limited to the traditional auditing, they cannot audit information. Therefore, the first step should be the enrollment of informationized auditing talents, and the training courses to ensure the talents should grasp adequate professional knowledge, technical skills and practical operation experience of audit informatization. Secondly, enterprises should attach importance to cooperation with educational institutions. They need to obtain stable resources of professionals from higher education institutions. Support higher education with efficient and first-class teaching materials, the information audit talents could be trained to be as professional as enterprises demand. Finally, it is necessary to strengthen the management of audit talents. Enterprise should not only standardize the audit procedures and mechanism, but also cultivate the auditor’s sense of responsibility and professional ethics, so as to promote the standardized development of information audit.

5.3 Refinement of the principles of informatization audit

The future development of auditing will be based on information technology. The changes of audit market will necessarily require long-term development of accounting information auditing. In the continuous refinement of informatization auditing and its wide application, government departments should play a leading role via establishing principles for the use of informatization auditing that are compatible with the current status quo, and put forward audit standards according to the needs of audit departments. At the same time, government departments should always pay attention to the implementation of audit principles in information auditing as a supervisor. In accordance with the existing problems in the audit process and the important information obtained from the feedback, the government should effectively make up for the shortcomings with the information audit principles, optimize the audit principles and ensure its wide application. In addition, accountants must adhere to the guiding concept of continuous development of audit and to regard the principles of informatization audit as the core of its work, so that informatization audit work can be comprehensively and effectively promoted and applied.

6. Conclusion

The vigorous development of information technology has created the conditions for the wide application of it. The application of information technology to enterprise accounting auditing will help with the significant improvement of the overall efficiency and reliability of auditing. However, as far as the current application is concerned, there are still some risks in informationized auditing, which are the result of some factors. In this paper, the current situation of enterprise accounting information auditing is introduced. The current misreporting, inspection, and competition risks of information auditing are analyzed in detail. Besides, the advice on security management strengthening, talent enrollment
and training, and the improvement of informationization will be provided. The countermeasures and suggestions of auditing principles are expected to help with the optimization of informatization auditing in corporations, which will cast positive influence on the development of the enterprise.

References