Cash, Fraud, and Internal Control

Chapter 8

Wild, Kwok, Venkatesh and Shaw Fundamental Accounting Principles

3rd Edition

Chapter 8 Learning Objectives

CONCEPTUAL

- **C1** Define internal control and identify its purpose and principles.
- **C2** Define cash and cash equivalents and explain how to report them.

ANALYTICAL

A1 Compute the days' sales uncollected ratio and use it to assess liquidity.

PROCEDURAL

- **P1** Apply internal control to cash receipts and payments.
- **P2** Explain and record petty cash fund transactions.
- **P3** Prepare a bank reconciliation.
- **P4** Appendix 8A Describe use of documentation and verification to control cash payments.

Learning Objective C1

Define internal control and identify its purpose and principles.

Internal Control System

Policies and procedures used to:

- Protect assets.
- Ensure reliable accounting.
- Promote efficient operations.
- Uphold company policies.

Principles of Internal Control

Internal control principles common to all companies:

- 1. Establish responsibilities.
- 2. Maintain adequate records.
- 3. Insure assets and bond key employees.
- 4. Separate recordkeeping from custody of assets.
- 5. Divide responsibility for related transactions.
- 6. Apply technological controls.
- 7. Perform regular and independent reviews.

Internal Control: Establish Responsibilities

Establish responsibilities:

- 1. Tasks should be clearly established.
- 2. Tasks should be assigned to one person.
- 3. Can then determine who is at fault.

Internal Control: Maintain Adequate Records

Maintain Adequate Records:

- 1. Protects assets.
- 2. Helps managers monitor company activities.
- 3. Includes:
 - 1. Detailed records.
 - 2. Use of chart of accounts.
 - 3. Preprinted forms.
 - 4. Prenumbered sales slips.
 - 5. Computerized point-of-sale systems.

Internal Control: Insure Assets and Bond Key Employees

Insure Assets and Bond Key Employees:

- 1. Assets should be insured against losses.
- 2. Employees handling a lot of cash and other assets should be bonded.
- 3. Bonded means the company has purchased an insurance policy against theft by that employee.

Internal Control: Separate Recordkeeping from Custody of Assets

Separate Recordkeeping from Custody of Assets:

- 1. Person who controls or has access to assets must not have access to that asset's accounting records.
- 2. Reduces risk of theft or waste of an asset.
- 3. Employees would need to collude, agree in secret to commit fraud under this control.

Internal Control: Divide Responsibility for Related Transactions

Divide Responsibility for Related Transactions:

- 1. Responsibility for a transactions should be divided between two or more individuals.
- 2. Ensures work of one person acts as a check on the other to prevent fraud or errors.
- 3. Called separation of duties.

Internal Control: Apply Technological Controls

Apply Technological Controls:

- 1. Cash registers make an electronic file/record of each sale.
- 3. Time clock records exact time employee works.
- Personal scanners limit access to authorized individuals.

Internal Control: Perform Regular and Independent Reviews

Perform Regular and Independent Reviews

- 1. Helps ensure that procedures are followed.
- 2. Preferably done by auditors not directly involved in the activities.
- 3. Auditors evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of internal controls.

Discussion Question

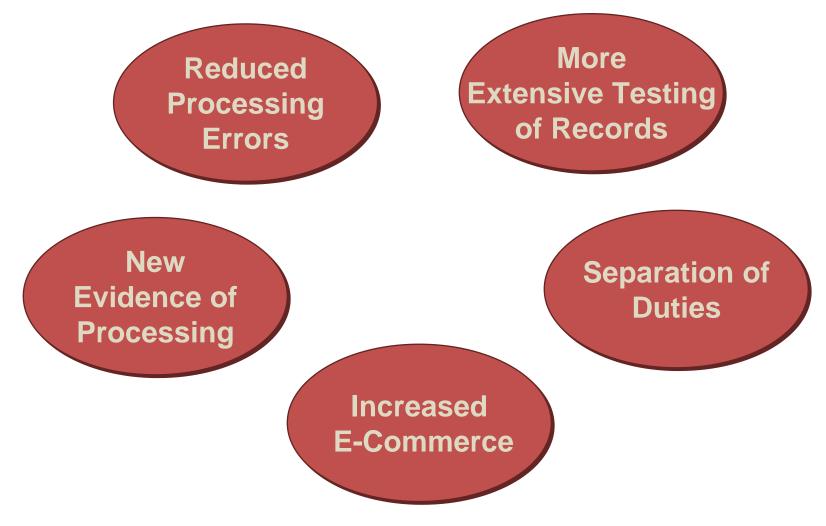
Q: Internal control procedures are important in every business, but at what stage in the development of a business do they become especially critical?

Discussion Question

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Internal control procedures become especially critical when the manager of a business can no longer control the business through personal supervision and direct participation.

Technology, Fraud, and Internal Control



Limitations of Internal Control

Human Error

Carelessness Misjudgment Confusion

Human Fraud

Intentionally defeating internal controls for personal gain

Human fraud triple-threat: Opportunity, Pressure, Rationalization

Cost-benefit principle: costs of internal controls must not exceed their benefits.

Learning Objective C2

Define cash and cash equivalents and explain how to report them.

Control of Cash

An effective system of internal control that protects cash and cash equivalents should meet three basic guidelines:

Handling cash is separated from recordkeeping for cash.

Cash receipts are promptly deposited in a bank.

Cash disbursements are made by check or electronic funds transfer.

Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Liquidity

Cash and similar assets are called liquid assets because they can be readily used to pay current liabilities.

Cash

Currency, coins, and deposits in bank accounts. Also includes items such as customer checks, cashier checks, certified checks, and money orders.

Cash Equivalents

Short-term, highly liquid investments that are:

- 1. Readily convertible to a known cash amount.
- 2. Insignificant risk of changes in value.

Cash Management

The goals of cash management are twofold:

- 1. Plan cash receipts to meet cash payments when due.
- 2. Keep a minimum level of cash necessary to operate.

Effective cash management involves applying the following cash management strategies:

- Encourage collection of receivables.
- Delay payment of liabilities.
- Keep only necessary assets.
- Plan expenditures.
- Invest excess cash.

Discussion Question

Q: Which of the following assets-- inventory, building, accounts receivable, or cash-- is most liquid? Which is less liquid?

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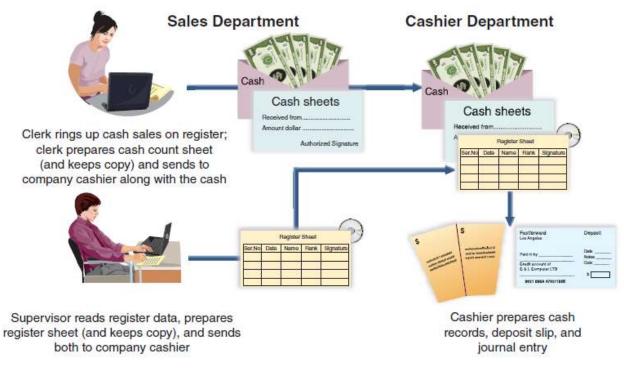
Cash is most liquid; and least liquid is a building. The four assets ordered from most to least liquid are: cash, accounts receivable, inventory, and building.

Learning Objective P1

Apply internal control to cash receipts and payments.

Over-the-Counter Cash Receipts

This graphic illustrates that none of the people involved can make a mistake or divert cash without the difference being revealed.



Cash Over and Short: Overage

Sometimes errors in making change are discovered from differences between the cash in the cash register and the record of the amount of cash receipts.

If a cash register's record shows \$550 but the count of cash in the register is \$555, we would prepare the following journal entry:

Cash	555
Cash Over and Short	5
Sales	550
Record cash sales and a cash overage.	

Cash Over and Short: Shortage

Sometimes errors in making change are discovered from differences between the cash in the cash register and the record of the amount of cash receipts.

On the other hand, if a cash register's record shows \$625 but the count of cash in the register is \$621, the entry to record cash sales and its shortage is:

Cash	621
Cash Over and Short	4
Sales	625
Record cash sales and a cash shortage.	

Cash Receipts by Mail

Two people are assigned the task of opening the mail.

The cashier deposits the cash in a bank.

The recordkeeper records the amounts received in the accounting records.

Control of Cash Payments

Control of cash payments important as most large thefts are from payment of fictitious invoices.

Keys to Controlling Cash Payments:

- Require all payments to be made by check.
- Deny access to accounting records except for those who have the authority to sign checks.

Cash Budget:

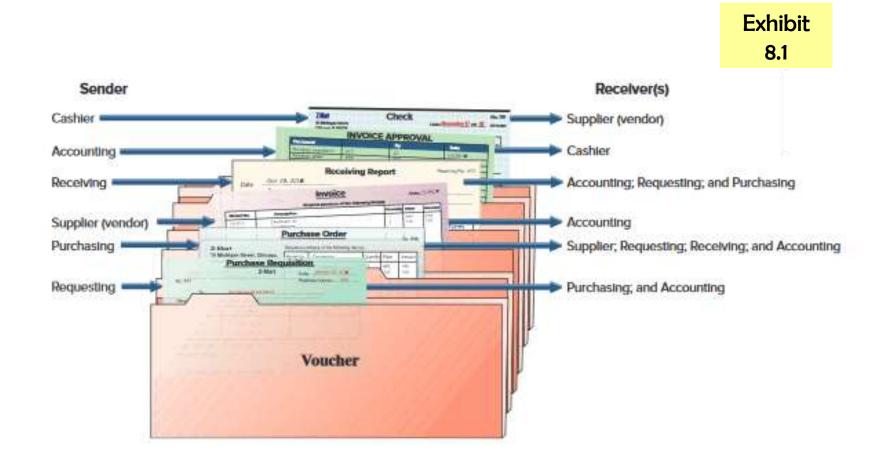
Includes projected cash receipts and cash disbursements.

Voucher System of Control

A voucher system establishes procedures for:

- 1. Verifying, approving, and recording liabilities for eventual cash payments.
- 2. Issuing checks for payment of verified, approved, and recorded liabilities.

Voucher System of Control (continued)



Learning Objective P2

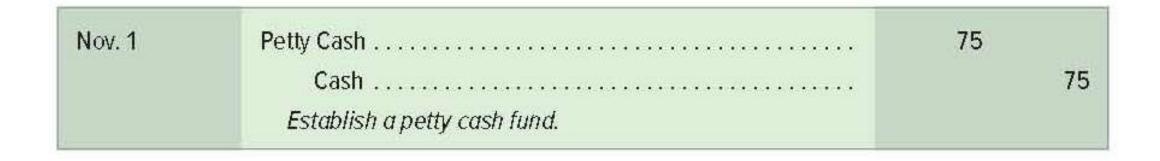
Explain and record petty cash fund transactions.

Petty Cash System of Control

Small payments for items such as:

- Shipping fees
- Minor repairs and
- Low-cost supplies

Operating a Petty Cash Fund



After the petty cash fund is established, the Petty Cash account is not debited or credited again unless the amount of the fund is changed.

Illustrating a Petty Cash Fund

Summary of petty cash receipts:

Petty Cash Payments Report Miscellaneous Expense Nov. 27 \$ 46.50 Merchandise Inventory (transportation-in) Nov. 5 15.05 **Delivery Expense** Customer's package delivered Nov. 18 5.00 Office Supplies Expense Nov. 15 4.75 \$71.30 Total

Exhibit 8.3

Reimbursement of Petty Cash Fund

Cash payments report is used in making the journal entry to reimburse the fund.

Debit each of the expenses and credit Cash.

Nov. 27	Miscellaneous Expenses	46.50	
	Merchandise Inventory	15.05	
	Delivery Expense	5.00	
	Office Supplies Expense	4.75	
	Cash*		71.30
	Reimburse petty cash. *\$75 fund bal. — \$3.70 cash remaining.		

Increasing or Decreasing a Petty Cash Fund

To increase, debit Petty Cash and credit Cash.

Nov. 27	Petty Cash	25	
	Cash		25
	Increase petty cash fund from \$75 to \$100.		

To decrease, debit Cash and credit Petty Cash.

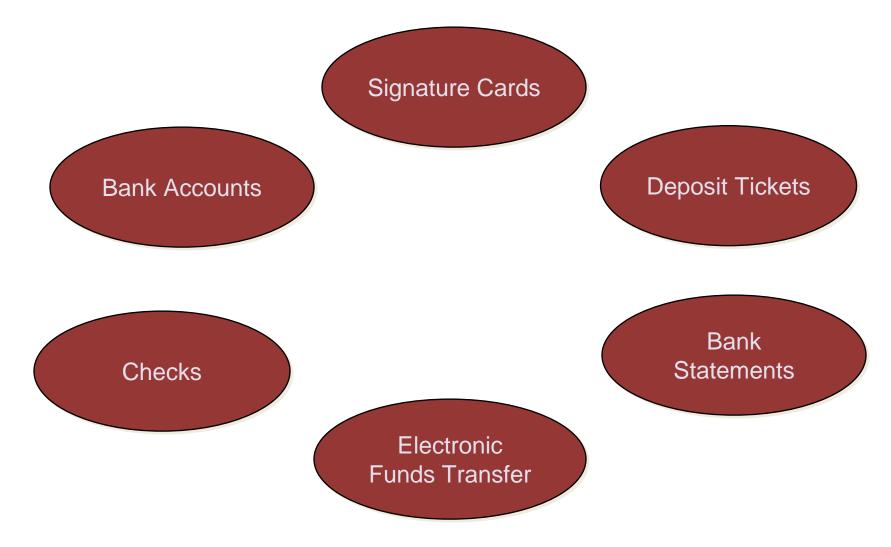
Nov. 27	Cash	20
	Petty Cash	20
	Decrease petty cash fund from \$75 to \$55.	

Cash Over and Short

- If petty cashier fails to obtain a receipt for payment or overpays an amount, cash over or short will result.
- Petty cash payments report plus cash left in account will not equal the fund balance.
- Shortage: difference is debited to Cash Over and Short.
- Overage: difference is credited to Cash Over and Short.



Basic Bank Services



Deposit Ticket

- 1. Used to deposit money in the bank.
- 2. Lists cash and checks along with the amounts.
- 3. Serves as proof of deposit.

Exhibit 8.4 Front Back Date October 2 20 21 **DEPOSIT TICKET** 36 50 CURRENCY CASH COIN **VideoBuster Company** LIST CHECKS SINGLY 901 Main Street Hillcrest, NY 11749 203 TOTAL FROM OTHER SIDE 240 00 TOTAL Deposit checks 240 00 **NET DEPOSIT** (Memo) USE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL LISTINGS. BE SURE EACH ITEM IS 4 0 0 7 8 9 5 1 2 5 4 PROPERLY ENDORSED. 1:01241049711: 457923 • 02 75

Check

- 1. Used to withdraw money from the bank.
- 2. Includes maker, signor of check; payee; and payer (bank).



Exhibit 8.5

Bank Statement

Usually once a month, the bank sends each depositor a bank statement showing the activity in the account.

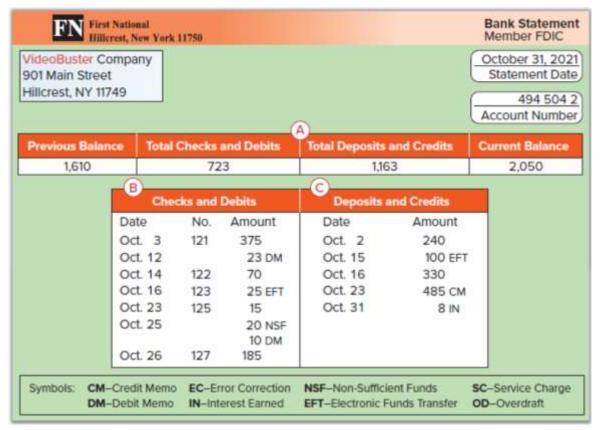


Exhibit 8.6

Learning Objective P3

Prepare a bank reconciliation.

EFT — electronic fund transfer

- Automatic transfers from one bank account to another.
- Pre-arranged fund transfer by the company to make payment on some expenses:
- Example:
 - Monthly rental
 - Utilities bill
 - Advertising expense

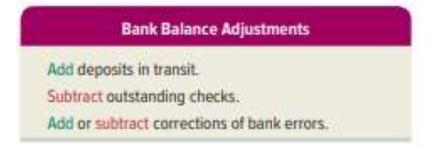
Bank does not usually notify the company until end of the month. The amount shows on bank statements.

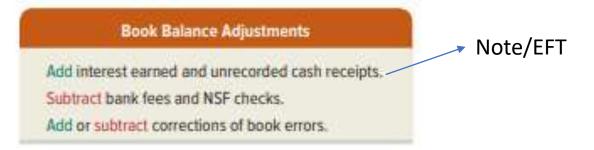
NSF checks – non sufficient fund

- When an NSF check occurs, the company has deposited a customer's check, but the customer did not have enough funds to cover the check. The company must adjust the balance of the cash account downward to reverse the increase in cash it recorded at the time of the deposit.
- Dr Cash
- Cr Accounts receivable
- But in fact the amount is not added to your bank
- Dr Accounts receivable
- Cr Cash

Bank Reconciliation

A bank reconciliation is prepared to explain differences between the checking account balance in the depositor's records and the balance on the bank statement.



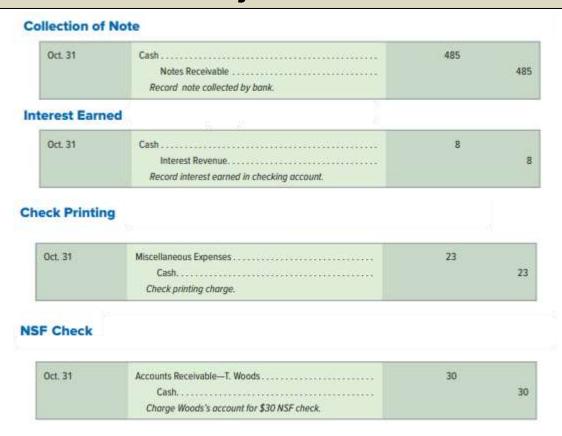


- 1) VideoBuster's bank balance is \$2,050. VideoBuster's cash account book balance is \$1,405
- 2) VideoBuster's \$145 deposit in the bank's night depository on October 31 is not listed on its bank statement.
- 3) VideoBuster's comparison of canceled checks with its books shows two checks outstanding: No. 124 for \$150 and No. 126 for \$200.
- 4) VideoBuster's bank statement shows the bank collected a note receivable and increased VideoBuster's account for \$485. The bank statement also shows \$8 for interest earned that was not yet recorded on the books.
- 5) Deductions on VideoBuster's bank statement that are not yet recorded include (a) a \$23 charge for check printing and (b) an NSF check for \$30.

VIDEOBUSTER Bank Reconciliation October 31, 2021						
①	Bank statement balance	\$ 2,050	(5) (6)	Book balance		\$ 1,405
20	Deposit of Oct. 31 in transit	2,195		Collected note	\$485 8	493
3	Deduct Outstanding checks		Ø	Deduct		1,898
	No. 124\$150			Check printing charge	23	
	No. 126	350		NSF check	30	53
4	Adjusted bank balance	\$1,845	® Ba	Adjusted book balance		\$1,845

Adjusting Entries from a Bank Reconciliation

Only items reconciling the book balance require adjustment.



Discussion Question

Q: What are the limitations of internal control?

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The limitations of internal control arise from two sources: the human element (human error or human fraud) and the costbenefit principle.

P 8-4A: The following information is available to reconcile Branch Company's book balance of cash with its bank statement cash balance as of July 31.

- a. On July 31, the company's Cash account has a \$27,497 debit balance, but its July bank statement shows a \$27,233 cash balance.
- b. Check No. 3031 for \$1,482, Check No. 3065 for \$382, and Check No. 3069 for \$2,281 are outstanding checks as of July 31.
- c. Check No. 3056 for July rent expense was correctly written and drawn for \$1,270 but was erroneously entered in the accounting records as \$1,250.
- d. The July bank statement shows the bank collected \$7,955 cash on a note for Branch. Branch had not recorded this event before receiving the statement.
- e. The bank statement shows an \$805 NSF check. This check had been received from a customer, Evan Shaw. Branch has not yet recorded this check as NSF.
- f. The July statement shows a \$25 bank service charge. It has not yet been recorded in miscellaneous expenses because no previous notification has been received.
- g. Branch's July 31 daily cash receipts of \$11,514 were placed in the bank's night depository on that date but do not appear on the July 31 bank statement.

Required:

- 1. Prepare the bank reconciliation for this company as of July 31.
- 2. Prepare the journal entries necessary to make the company's book balance of cash equal to the reconciled cash balance as of July 31.

a. On July 31, the company's Cash account has a \$27,497 debit balance, but its July bank statement shows a \$27,233 cash balance.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233

Book Balance

\$27,497

b. Check No. 3031 for \$1,482, Check No. 3065 for \$382, and Check No. 3069 for \$2,281 are outstanding checks as of July 31.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233

Book Balance \$27,497

Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482

3065 382

3069 2,281

c. Check No. 3056 for July rent expense was correctly written and drawn for \$1,270 but was erroneously entered in the accounting records as \$1,250.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233

Book Balance

\$27,497

Deduct Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482 Error (Check 3065) \$20

3065 382

3069 2,281

d. The July bank statement shows the bank collected \$7,955 cash on a note for Branch. Branch had not recorded this event before receiving the statement.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233 Book Balance

\$27,497

Add

Proceeds from note 7,955

Deduct

Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482

Error (Check 3065) \$20

382 3065

3069 2,281

e. The bank statement shows an \$805 NSF check. This check had been received from a customer, Evan Shaw. Branch has not yet recorded this check as NSF.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233

Book Balance

\$27,497

Add

Proceeds from note 7,955

Deduct

Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482

Error (Check 3065) \$20

3065 382

NSF

805

3069 2,281

f. The July statement shows a \$25 bank service charge. It has not yet been recorded in miscellaneous expenses because no previous notification has been received.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233 Book Balance \$27,497

Add

Proceeds from note 7,955

Deduct Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482 Error (Check 3065) \$20 3065 382 NSF 805

3069 2,281 Service charge 25

g. Branch's July 31 daily cash receipts of \$11,514 were placed in the bank's night depository on that date but do not appear on the July 31 bank statement.

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233 Book Balance \$27,497

Add

Deposits of July 31 11,514 Proceeds from note 7,955

Deduct Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482 Error (Check 3065) \$20

3065 382 NSF 805

3069 2,281 Service charge 25

Branch Company

Bank Reconciliation

July 31

Bank statement Balance \$27,233	Book Balance	\$27,497
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Add

Deposits of July 31 11,514 Proceeds from note \$7,955

Deduct Deduct

Checks No. 3031 \$1,482 Error (Check 3065) \$20

3065 382 NSF 805

3069 2,281 Service charge 25

Adjusted bank balance \$34,602 Adjusted book balance \$34,602

BRANCH COMPANY Bank Reconciliation July 31				
Bank statement balance	\$27,233	Book balance	\$27,497	
Add		Add		
Deposit of July 31	11,514	Proceeds from note	7,955	
	38,747		35,452	
Deduct		Deduct		
Checks No. 3031\$1,482		NSF check\$ 805		
3065 382		Service charge 25		
3069 <u></u> 2,281	4,145	Error (Check 3056)20	850	
Adjusted bank balance	<u>\$34,602</u>	Adjusted book balance	<u>\$34,602</u>	

Prepare the journal entries necessary to make the company's book balance of cash equal to the reconciled cash balance as of July 31.

BRANCH COMPANY Bank Reconciliation July 31				
Bank statement balance	\$27,233	Book balance	\$27,497	
Add		Add		
Deposit of July 31	11,514	Proceeds from note	7,955	
	38,747		35,452	
Deduct Checks No. 3031\$1,482 3065 382 3069 2,281 Adjusted bank balance	4,145 \$34,602	Deduct NSF check\$805 Service charge 25 Error (Check 3056) 20 Adjusted book balance	<u>850</u> <u>\$34,602</u>	

July 31		
Dr. Cash	7,955	
Cr. Notes Receivable	7,955	
Dr. Accounts Receivable – Cr. Cash	–E. Shaw 805 80	05
Dr. Miscellaneous Expens Cr. Cash	ses 25 25	
Dr. Rent Expense Cr. Cash	20 20	

End of Chapter 8