

CPA Canada handbook – accounting, part I

highlight summary no. I.35

June 2016

(Note: Any changes to previously issued standards are identified in the effective date guidance in each affected standard.)

IFRS 16 Leases

This new standard, issued by the International Accounting Standards Board in January 2016, sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of leases for both the lessee and the lessor. The new standard introduces a single lessee accounting model that requires the recognition of all assets and liabilities arising from a lease.

The main features of the new standard are as follows:

- An entity identifies as a lease a contract that conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.
- A lessee recognizes an asset representing the right to use the leased asset, and a liability for its obligation to make lease payments. Exceptions are permitted for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets.
- A lease asset is initially measured at cost, and is then depreciated similarly to property, plant and equipment. A lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the unpaid lease payments.
- A lessee presents interest expense on a lease liability separately from depreciation of a lease asset in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.
- A lessor continues to classify its leases as operating leases or finance leases, and to account for them accordingly.
- A lessor provides enhanced disclosures about its risk exposure, particularly exposure to residual-value risk.

The new standard supersedes the requirements in IAS 17 *Leases*, IFRIC 4 *Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease*, SIC-15 *Operating Leases – Incentives*, and SIC-27 *Evaluating the Substance of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a Lease*.

The new standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019, with earlier application permitted for entities that also apply IFRS 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

Other editorial changes and corrections introduced in June 2016

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