

**F5 NETWORKS, INC.**  
**AUDIT & RISK OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

*As amended and restated by the Board of Directors of F5 Networks, Inc.  
as of October 22, 2021*

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Audit & Risk Oversight Committee (the “Committee”) is to assist the Board of Directors (the “**Board**”) of F5 Networks, Inc. (the “**Company**”) in fulfilling its responsibilities for generally overseeing:

- The Company’s accounting and financial reporting processes and systems of internal controls as well as the audit and integrity of the Company’s financial statements.
- The qualifications, independence and performance of the Company’s independent auditor.
- The performance of the Company’s internal audit function.
- The Company’s compliance with applicable law (including U.S. federal securities laws and other legal and regulatory requirements).
- The effectiveness of the Company’s enterprise risk management processes.

The Audit & Risk Oversight Committee is also responsible for preparing the report required by Securities and Exchange Commission (“**SEC**”) rules to be included in the Company’s proxy statement for the annual meeting of shareholders, and for performing such other duties and responsibilities as are enumerated in or consistent with this charter.

**COMPOSITION**

1. *Membership and Appointment.* The Committee shall consist of three (3) or more members of the Board. Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of the Nominating and Environmental, Social and Governance Committee and may be removed by the Board in its discretion.

2. *Qualifications.*

- Each member of the Committee shall meet the independence standards established by the SEC and NASDAQ.
- Each member of the Committee must be able to read and understand fundamental financial statements.
- At least one member of the Committee shall be an “audit committee financial expert,” as determined by the Board in accordance with SEC rules.
- No member of the Committee may have participated in the preparation of the financial statements of the Company or any of the Company’s current subsidiaries at any time during the past three (3) years.

- Each member of the Committee shall have such other qualifications as are established by the Board from time to time, or as required by applicable law or the rules and regulations of the SEC or NASDAQ.

3. *Chairperson.* The Board may designate a chairperson of the Committee. In the absence of that designation, the Committee may designate a chairperson by majority vote of the Committee members.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following are the principal recurring responsibilities of the Audit & Risk Oversight Committee. The Committee may perform such other functions as are consistent with its purpose and applicable law, rules and regulations and as the Board or the Committee deem appropriate. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee believes its policies and procedures should remain flexible, in order to best react to changing conditions and circumstances.

1. *Select and Hire the Independent Auditor.* The Committee shall be responsible for appointing, compensating, retaining and, where appropriate, replacing the independent auditor. The independent auditor will report directly to the Committee.

2. *Supervise and Evaluate the Independent Auditor.* The Committee shall:

- Oversee and evaluate the work of any registered public accounting firm engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company, which evaluation shall include a review and evaluation of the lead partner of the independent auditor. The Committee shall review, in consultation with the independent auditor, the annual audit plan and scope of audit activities and monitor such plan's progress.
- Review and resolve any disagreements that may arise between management and the independent auditor regarding internal controls or financial reporting.
- At least annually, obtain and review a report by the independent auditor that describes (i) the independent auditor's internal quality control procedures and (ii) any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality-control review, or peer review, of the independent auditor or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years (or such other period as may be requested by the Committee), regarding any independent audit performed by the independent auditor, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues.

3. *Evaluate the Independence of the Independent Auditor.* The Committee shall:

- Review and discuss with the independent auditor the written independence disclosures required by the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.
- Review and discuss with the independent auditor on a periodic basis any relationships or services (including permissible non-audit services) that may affect its objectivity and independence, including those included in the formal written statement received from the independent auditor delineating relationships between the auditor and the Company.
- Oversee the performance and rotation of the independent auditor's lead audit and concurring partners and the rotation of other audit partners, with applicable time-out periods, in accordance with applicable law.

4. Take, or recommend to the Board that it take, appropriate action to oversee the independence of the Company's independent auditor.

5. *Approve Audit and Non-Audit Services and Fees.* The Committee shall (i) review and approve, in advance, the scope and plans for the audits and the audit fees and (ii) approve in advance (or, where permitted under the rules and regulations of the SEC, subsequently) all non-audit services to be performed by the independent auditor that are not otherwise prohibited by law and any associated fees.

The Committee chairperson may pre-approve audit and permissible non-audit services and any associated fees, as long as this pre-approval is presented to the full Committee at scheduled meetings. The Committee may, in accordance with applicable law, establish pre-approval policies and procedures for the engagement of independent accountants to render services to the Company.

6. *Review Financial Statements.* The Committee shall review and discuss the following with management and the independent auditor, as applicable:

- The Company's annual audited and quarterly financial statements and annual and quarterly reports on Form 10-K and 10-Q (when the Company is required to comply with such reporting obligations), including the disclosures in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations", and recommend to the Board whether the audited financial statements and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" should be included in the Company's Form 10-K.
- *Earnings Announcements and Guidance.* The Committee will discuss generally with the Company's management and the independent auditor, as appropriate, the content, type of information to be disclosed and type of presentation to be made regarding the Company's earnings press releases, including any use of "pro forma," "adjusted" or non-GAAP information and any other financial information and earnings guidance.
- The results of the independent audit and the quarterly reviews, and the independent auditor's opinion on the annual financial statements.
- The reports and certifications regarding internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures.
- Major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentations, including any significant changes in the Company's selection or application of accounting principles.
- Analyses prepared by management and the independent auditor setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements.
- The effect of regulatory and accounting initiatives on the Company's financial statements.
- Any significant changes required or taken in the audit plan as a result of any material control deficiency.
- Any problems or difficulties the independent auditor encountered during its audit work, including any restrictions on the scope of the auditor's activities or on access to requested information, and management's response.
- Any significant disagreements between management and the independent auditor.

7. *Reports and Communications from the Independent Auditor.* The Committee shall review and discuss quarterly reports from the independent auditor concerning the following:

- All critical accounting policies and practices to be used by the Company.
- All alternative treatments of financial information within GAAP that the auditor has discussed with management, ramifications of the use of these alternative disclosures and treatments, and the treatment preferred by the independent auditor if different from that used by management.
- Other material written communications between the independent auditor and management, such as any management letter or schedule of unadjusted differences.
- Other matters required to be communicated to the Committee under generally accepted auditing standards and other legal or regulatory requirements.

8. *Committee Report.* The Committee shall prepare the report of the Committee that SEC rules require to be included in the Company's annual proxy statement.

9. *Internal Controls.* The Committee shall review and discuss with management, the Chief Audit Executive and the independent auditor the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting, including over non-GAAP measures, and to include any changes, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in those controls reported by the independent auditor or management and any special audit steps adopted in light of significant control deficiencies, and any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other Company employees who have a significant role in the Company's internal controls.

10. *Internal Information Systems.* The Committee will receive a presentation, at least annually, from the Company's CIO or designee, and discuss with management the Company's management information systems that relate to or affect the Company's internal control systems, including their overall design and operation, significant plans for system upgrades, enhancements and further automation; and any other plans to enhance the overall quality, accuracy, security and timeliness of critical information.

11. *Disclosure Controls and Procedures.* The Committee shall review and discuss the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures.

12. *Internal Audit Function.* The Committee shall:

- Review and participate in the selection of the Company's Chief Audit Executive
- Review and approve the annual internal audit project plan and any proposed changes and review periodic reports summarizing results of the internal audit projects including any significant findings; and
- Periodically review with the Company's Chief Audit Executive any issues encountered during the internal audit function's work.
- Annually perform an assessment of the performance of the internal audit function and the Chief Audit Executive. In conjunction, therewith, the Chair shall review the formal performance evaluation of the Chief Audit Executive prepared by management (if any), along with any proposed changes to the Chief Audit Executive compensation and any associated annual incentive compensation payments.

13. *Legal and Regulatory Compliance.* The Committee shall review and discuss with management, the Company's General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, and the independent auditor (i) the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Company's legal, regulatory and ethical compliance programs, including the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and compliance with export control regulations and (ii) reports regarding compliance with applicable laws, regulations and internal compliance programs in each case to the extent pertaining to financial, accounting and/or tax matters. The Committee shall discuss with management, the Company's General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer and the independent auditor any correspondence with regulators or governmental agencies and any published reports that raise material issues regarding the Company's financial statements or accounting policies. The Committee shall also discuss with the Company's General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer legal matters that may have a material impact on the financial statements or the Company's compliance procedures that pertain to financial, accounting or tax matters of the Company.

14. *Complaints.* The Committee shall oversee procedures established for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints on accounting, internal accounting controls or audit matters, as well as for confidential and anonymous submissions by the Company's employees concerning questionable accounting or auditing matters.

15. *Cybersecurity.* The Committee will review with management, at least annually, the Company's cybersecurity risk exposures and the steps the Company has taken to monitor or mitigate such exposures.

16. *Risk Management.* The Committee shall review and discuss with management, the Chief Audit Executive and the independent auditor the Company's major risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control those exposures. The Committee activities to oversee risk management shall include efforts to:

- Understand how the organization has implemented Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) processes.
- Periodically review and discuss the risk profile of the company with management and the process for identifying and evaluating such risk profile.
- To include risk management in the strategic planning process.
- Review the company's ERM policy and framework, the risk criteria, and risk tolerances.

The Committee shall work with the Board to ensure appropriate discussion and oversight of those risks with the full Board and/or committees of the board as deemed appropriate by the Board.

17. *Related Party Transactions.* The Committee shall review the Company's related party transaction policy and review and oversee all transactions between the Company and a related person for which review or oversight is required by applicable law or that are required to be disclosed in the Company's financial statements or SEC filings

18. *Hiring of Auditor Personnel.* The Committee shall set hiring policies for the Company with regard to employees and former employees of the Company's independent auditor

The function of the Audit & Risk Oversight Committee is primarily one of oversight. The Company's management is responsible for preparing the Company's financial statements, and the independent auditor is responsible for auditing and reviewing those financial statements. The Committee is responsible for assisting the Board in overseeing the conduct of these activities by management and the independent auditor. The Committee is not responsible for providing any expert or special assurance as to the financial statements or the independent auditor's work. It is recognized that the members of the Committee are not

full-time employees of the Company, that it is not the duty or responsibility of the Committee or its members to conduct “field work” or other types of auditing or accounting reviews or procedures or to set auditor independence standards, and that each member of the Committee shall be entitled to rely on (i) the integrity of those persons and organizations within and outside the Company from which the Committee receives information and (ii) the accuracy of the financial and other information provided to the Committee, in either instance absent actual knowledge to the contrary.

## **MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES**

### *1. Meetings.*

- The Committee will meet at least four (4) times each year (with additional meetings as it deems necessary or appropriate) at such times and places as the Committee determines. The chairperson of the Committee shall preside at each meeting. If a chairperson is not designated or present, an acting chair may be designated by the Committee members present. The Committee may act by written consent (which may include electronic consent), which shall constitute a valid action of the Committee if it has been approved by each Committee member and shows the date of approval. Any written consent will be effective on the date of the last signature and will be filed with the minutes of the meetings of the Board.
- The Committee shall keep written minutes of its proceedings, which minutes will be filed with the minutes of the meeting of the Board.
- The Committee shall meet periodically with members of management as deemed appropriate and the Chief Audit Executive and independent auditor in separate executive sessions.
- The Committee may invite to its meetings any director, officer or employee of the Company and such other persons as it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities. The Committee may also exclude from its meetings any persons it deems appropriate in order to carry out its responsibilities, including non-management directors who are not members of the Committee

*2. Reporting to the Board of Directors.* The Committee shall report regularly to the Board with respect to the Committee’s activities, including any significant issues that arise with respect to the quality or integrity of the Company’s financial statements, the Company’s compliance with legal or regulatory requirements or the performance and independence of the Company’s independent auditor, as applicable.

*3. Authority to Retain Advisors.* The Committee shall have the authority to engage independent counsel or other advisors as it deems necessary or appropriate to carry out its duties. The Company will provide appropriate funding, as determined by the Committee, to pay the independent auditor, any outside advisors hired by the Committee and any administrative expenses of the Committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its activities.

*4. Subcommittees.* The Committee may form subcommittees for any purpose that the Committee deems appropriate and may delegate to such subcommittees such power and authority as the Committee deems appropriate. If designated, each such subcommittee will establish its own schedule and maintain written minutes of its meetings, which minutes will be filed with the minutes of the meetings of the Board. The Committee shall not delegate to a subcommittee any power or authority required by law, regulation or listing standard to be exercised by the Committee.

*5. Committee Charter Review.* The Committee shall review and reassess the adequacy of this charter annually and shall submit any recommended changes to the charter to the Board for approval.

6. *Performance Review.* The Committee shall review and assess the performance of the Committee on an annual basis.

7. *Authority to Investigate.* In the course of its duties, the Committee shall have authority, at the Company's expense, to investigate any matter brought to its attention.

8. *Attorneys' Reports.* The Committee shall receive and, if appropriate, respond to attorneys' reports of evidence of material violations of securities laws and breaches of fiduciary duty and similar violations of foreign, U.S., state or local law. The Committee shall establish procedures for the confidential receipt, retention and consideration of any attorney report.

9. *Access.* The Committee shall be given full access to the chairperson of the Board, management and the independent auditor, as well as the Company's books, records, facilities and other personnel.