



ABANS HOLDINGS LIMITED

RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

Abans Holdings Limited

(Formerly Known as Abans Holdings Pvt. Ltd.)

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RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

I. INTRODUCTION

Section 134(3) of the Companies Act, 2013 requires a statement to be included in the report of the board of directors (“Board”) of Abans Holdings Limited (Formerly known as Abans Holdings Private Limited) (“AHL” or the “Company”), indicating development and implementation of a risk management policy for the Company, including identification therein of elements of risk, if any, which, in the opinion of the Board, may threaten the existence of the Company.

Furthermore, Regulation 17 and 21 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended (“Listing Regulations”), requires that the Company set out procedures to inform the Board of risk assessment and minimization procedures and makes the Board responsible for framing, implementing and monitoring the risk management plan of the Company.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE POLICY

The main objective of this policy is to ensure sustainable business growth with stability and to promote a pro-active approach in reporting, evaluating and resolving risks associated with the business. In order to achieve the key objective, the policy establishes a structured and disciplined approach to Risk Management, including the development of the Risk Matrix, in order to guide decisions on risk related issues. The specific objectives of the Risk Management Policy are:

- a. To ensure that all the current and future material risk exposures of the company are identified, assessed, quantified, appropriately mitigated and managed.
- b. To establish a framework for the company’s risk management process and to ensure companywide implementation.
- c. To enable compliance with appropriate regulations, wherever applicable, through the adoption of best practices.
- d. To assure business growth with financial stability.
- e. To monitor and review the cyber security and related risks.

III. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The policy statement is as given below:

- a. To ensure protection of shareholder value through the establishment of an integrated Risk Management Framework for identifying, assessing, mitigating, monitoring, evaluating and reporting of all risks.
- b. To provide clear and strong basis for informed decision making at all levels of the Organization.
- c. To continually strive towards strengthening the risk management system through continuous learning and improvement.

IV. DEFINITIONS

“Risk” means events or conditions that may occur, and whose occurrence, if it does take place, has a harmful or negative impact on the achievement of the organization’s business objectives. The exposure to the consequences of uncertainty constitutes a risk.

“Risk Management” means the process of systematically identifying, quantifying, mitigating and managing all risks and opportunities that can affect achievement of a corporation’s strategic and financial goals.

“Risk Event / Trigger Point” means such event or point as a discreet occurrence that negatively affects strategy, decision and process and results in a pecuniary loss.

“Process” means series of actions or steps taken to achieve an end. All processes individually and severally shall cover all business activities for each of the risk assessment function

“Risk Strategy” means a strategy that defines the company’s standpoint towards dealing with various risks associated with the business. It includes the company’s decision on the risk tolerance levels, and acceptance, avoidance or transfer of risks faced by the company.

“Risk Assessment” means the overall process of risk identification, assessment, risk prioritization and execution of appropriate response strategy to ensure that effective and efficient controls or risk mitigation activities are in place to address potentially high-impact operational risks and take necessary steps to ensure that they are sustainable over a period of time.

“Risk Estimation” means the process of quantification of risks.

“Control” is defined as the power to influence or direct people’s behavior or the course of risk events.

“Response Strategy” are those Strategy that are a set of activities that will determine the follow-up measures that will be undertaken by the Risk assessment committee to mitigate the risk.

“Likelihood” means the probability or frequency of risk event occurring at any given period of time.

V. POLICY

In order to fulfill the objectives of this policy and lay a strong foundation for the development of an integrated risk management framework, the policy outlines the following guiding principles of Risk Management:

1. Principles of Risk Management

- a. All business decisions will be made with the prior information and acceptance of risk involved.
- b. The Risk Management Policy shall provide for the enhancement and protection of business value from uncertainties and consequent losses.
- c. All employees of the company shall be made aware of risks in their respective domains and their mitigation measures.
- d. The risk mitigation measures adopted by the company shall be effective in the long- term and to the extent possible be embedded in the business processes of the Company.
- e. Risk tolerance levels will be regularly reviewed and decided upon depending on the change in company’s strategy.
- f. The occurrence, progress and status of all risks will be promptly reported and appropriate actions be taken thereof.

2. Types of Risk affecting the Company

Recognizing the kind of risks that Company is/may be exposed to, risks will be classified broadly into the following categories:

- a. **Strategic Risk:** include the range of external events and trends (like Government policy, competition, political and economical instability, Market Dynamism, International economy, Foreign Currency risk) that can adversely impact the Company's strategic growth trajectory and destroy shareholder value.
- b. **Business Risk:** include the risks associated specifically with the Company and having an adverse impact on the company's capability to execute activities critical for business growth, thereby affecting its near-term performance. Business Risk includes;

- i. **Concentration risk**

- It is defined as probability of loss arising from heavily lopsided exposure to a particular group of counterparties.

- ii. **Competition risk**

- It is defined as probability of loss from decline in a firm's competitiveness on account of rivalry.

- c. **Operational Risk:** are those risks which are associated with operational uncertainties, like
 - a. Risks arising for failures to comply with operational policies and procedures on a daily basis, e.g. maintenance, supplier selection, quality, etc.
 - b. Risks arising from variations in the quality and availability of the Company's personnel, e.g. recruitment, training, remuneration, development, etc.
 - c. Risks associated with computer and communications hardware, software and data, e.g. obsolescence, security, availability, access, back-up, etc.
- d. **Force Majeure** events like floods affecting operations, theft of key equipment and other acts of God.

- e. **Commodity risk**

- Factors that can affect commodity prices include political and regulatory changes, seasonal variations, weather, technology and market conditions. Commodity price risk is often hedged by major consumers. Unexpected changes in commodity prices can reduce a producer's profit margin, and make budgeting difficult. Futures and options are two financial instruments commonly used to hedge against commodity price risk.

- f. **Compliance risk**

- Compliance risks are those associated with the need to comply with laws and regulations. They also apply to the need to act in a manner which investors and customers expect, for example, by ensuring proper corporate governance. Risks arising from non-compliance with existing laws and regulations or the potential adverse impact of a change in rules and regulations, This Risk mainly includes risks related to:

- a) **Direct Taxes:** It includes wrong exemptions taken, additions to income done during assessment proceedings, penalties, late filing of returns, poor response to department queries etc.
 - b) **Indirect Taxes:** It includes wrong credit taken, penalties, late filing of monthly / annual returns, issues arising during excise / vat audit etc. resulting in financial implications and penal proceedings.
- g. Financial risk,** for example non-payment by a customer or increased interest charges on a business loan, risks arising from failure to manage financial aspects, e.g. credit (customers), liquidity (availability of cash) and market risk exposures (foreign and commodity price fluctuations) and to provide complete, accurate and meaningful financial reports for internal and external users. Financial Risk includes:
- a) **Credit risk**
- It is defined as probability of loss arising from a Debtor's default on account of non- payment of financial consideration.
- b) **Treasury/foreign exchange risk**
- It is defined as probability of loss occurring from an adverse movement in foreign exchange rate.
- h. **Environmental risks,** including pollution control measures of the Government. The potential for adverse effects and damage on living organisms/human life associated with pollution of the environment by effluents, emissions, wastes, or accidental chemical releases; energy use; or the depletion of natural resources.
 - i. **Health and safety risks** include risk of food adulteration, accident/Incident that results in injury, illness, disease, damage or loss at workplace.
 - j. **Business development risk** includes failure of business strategies, product diversification, marketing strategies, competition, etc.
 - k. **Market risk** includes changes in share price of the Company, BVPS, PE Ratio and other financial ratios.
 - l. **Product Liability Risk** includes liability on Company on account of supply of low / bad quality products.
 - m. **Risks related to Financial Reporting / Ineffective Controls** includes non-compliance of Accounting Standard issued by the ICAI, Accruals not reversed in the beginning of the next period, Reconciliation of balance sheet not prepared etc. resulting in misstatement in financial statements, Ineffective Controls resulting in frauds, errors, non-compliance of laws / Company policies.
 - n. **Other generic risks** includes as follows:
 - a. Broad market trends and other factors beyond the Company's control significantly reducing demand for its services and harming its business, financial condition and results of operations
 - b. Failure in implementing its current and future strategic plans
 - c. Significant and rapid technological change
 - d. Damage to its reputation

- e. Its products losing market appeal and the Company not being able to expand into new product lines or attracting new types of investors
- f. Its risk management methods and insurance policies not being effective or adequate
- g. Fluctuations in trading activities
- h. Changes in interest rates
- i. Changes in government policies
- j. Security risks and cyber-attacks
- k. Insufficient systems capacity and system failures

3. Risk Mitigation/ Risk Management Process

The risk mitigation can be planned using the following key strategies:

- a) **Risk Avoidance:** By not performing an activity that could carry risk. Avoidance may seem the answer to all risks, but avoiding risks also means losing out on the potential gain that accepting (retaining) the risk may have allowed.
- b) **Risk Transfer:** Mitigation by having another party to accept the risk, either partial or total, typically by contract or by hedging.
- c) **Risk Reduction:** Employing methods/solutions that reduce the severity of the loss
- d) **Risk Retention:** Accepting the loss when it occurs. Risk retention is a viable strategy for small risks where the cost of insuring against the risk would be greater over time than the total losses sustained. All risks that are not avoided or transferred are retained by default.

4. Risk Management Process:

The process of managing the Risk includes the following:

- i. **Identify the Risks:** Risks in the company are identified through 1) inquires to management and other senior personnel 2) Observation/inspection and 3) By performing analytical procedures.
 - a) Inquiries are done regarding their operating style, incentive plans, budgets etc.
 - b) Inspection is done for business plans / strategies, internal controls, reports available in Accounting software, minutes etc.
 - c) Analytical procedures include comparing trends, growth and other quantitative data related to key risks.
- ii. **Evaluating and assessing the Risks:** Risks are evaluated keeping in consideration their significance and likelihood of occurrence. Significance is assessed by the impact of it on profit / compliance / governance. Likelihood is judged by viewing the historic events of the occurrence of such risks and probability of its occurrence taking into consideration the weakness of internal controls leading to its frequency of occurrence.

Accordingly, the risks identified are categorized in Low / Medium / High.

iii. Handling/Controlling the Risks by--

- Risk Prevention,
- Risk Avoidance,
- Risk Transfer,

- Risk Retention and
- Risk Control.

iv. Monitoring/Reporting

v. Risk Management Policy and implementation.

Objectives shall be set at the strategic level, establishing a basis for operations, reporting and compliance objectives. Identifying the most relevant risks based on situation; evaluate the level of risks based on probability and the significance of their potential impact. Decide appropriate management action to respond to assessed risk. Monitor the implementation and success of risk mitigation action plan. Report to the appropriate level to meet reporting requirements.

5. Risk Adjustment, Management and Minimization Procedure:

Actions to reduce the likelihood or impact by transfer the full or portion of the risk, e.g. hedging, insurance for fires, insurance for Directors and Officers liability cover, etc.

a. Commodity risk

We operate in a market in which commodity/raw materials/finished goods prices are fluctuating. We shall try to mitigate the risk by covering our position through hedging at commodities exchanges like NCDEX, and MCX and such other commodity exchange.

b. Concentration risk

In order to mitigate risk of putting all eggs in one basket, we derive our revenues from multiple products, various customers across geographic regions and industry domains. Thus we shall endeavor to remain diversified.

c. Competition risk

We operate in a highly competitive market and expect competition to increase further in the future. We always strive meet the challenges by satisfying our customers by offering wide range of products with the right quality at right time and with better services and after sales services.

d. Insurance

In order to reduce and mitigate identifiable risks, we shall have various insurance covers from reputed insurance companies and shall keep the company's properties and insurable interests insured. Besides wherever it is cost-effective we shall also hedge against the loss of profit by taking appropriate Insurance cover. We shall also cover risk of our Human resources including the key managerial personnel by taking Insurance Policies.

e. Credit risk

We shall have laid down extensive norms related to credit period and payment terms and device a credit approval process. In addition to continuously appraising our existing and new customers, we shall have an internal rating mechanism, which seeks to rate/classify existing and new customers. The mechanism shall assign respective grading on the basis of which credit period, payment and other terms shall be decided.

6. System of risk management and internal control

In addition to the above referred measures, the Company has set up a policy, which includes a review and assessment of the risk management system and risk profile for both financial and non-financial risks.

We have set up an effective internal audit function, independent of the external auditors, to review the effectiveness of the risk management system.

Audit Committee of the Board oversees the risk management and internal control systems. This system is designed to identify, assess, monitor and manage risks and inform investors of any material changes to the Company's risk profile from time to time.

7. Risk Management Roles & Responsibilities of Risk Manager:

The Chief Financial Officer shall be Risk Manager from time to time. Roles & Responsibilities of Risk Manager shall include:

- 1) To ensure adequacy of control frameworks to manage risks across the Organization.
- 2) To ensure the implementation and compliance with the risk management policy and process.
- 3) To define the risk management policy framework and process.
- 4) Promote and implement monitoring of risk management strategies and policies.
- 5) Ensure the implementation of risk management framework and process and ongoing risk assessment of risks.
- 6) Promote risk culture and ensures the risk management process is sustained Organisation wide.

8. Residual Risk:

Inherent Risk includes the risk to an entity in the absence of any actions that management might take to alter the risk's likelihood or impact. Residual risk is the risk remaining after management's response to the risk.

Controls are implemented to mitigate that risk as and when the significance of such risk is considered material.

The entity's risk score shall be presented to the board in the following format. The format also includes the trigger points for risk identified:

Sr. No.	Risk Criteria	Impact Definition			Actual Trigger Point	Period	
		High	Medium	Low		Risk %	Impact Category
I.	Gross Margin Variation (Average cost and Sale Value)	Cost / Income Ratio			Medium		
	Sale of Goods	[100]%	[95]%	[90]%			
	Sale of Service	[100]%	[75]%	[50]%			
II.	Market Volatility						
	1) Risks related to the reduction in volumes and change in market mix						

Sr. No.	Risk Criteria	Impact Definition			Actual Trigger Point	Period	
		High	Medium	Low		Risk %	Impact Category
XI.	Safety	Incidences leading to Death	Incidences leading to Major Accidents	Incidences leading to Minor Injuries			
XII.	Financial Reporting, Compliances of Accounting Standards and Control Effectiveness to mitigate fraud.	Impact on profitability, regulatory issues resulting in penal proceedings, mis-statement and mis-representation of facts inviting Audit qualifications, frauds, adverse reports on internal controls etc.	No impact on profitability, no penal proceedings, Audit observation on Non-compliances, less effective controls and correction of process No frauds, etc.	No impact on profitability, no penal proceedings, No Audit qualification, No frauds, Highly effective internal controls and evidences etc.			
XIII.	Competition Risk	Market Share adversely affected	Market Share affected minimally	Market share not affected			
XV.	Product Liability Risk	Sales Return / Rebate on sales greater than 1% of sales	Sales Return / Rebate on sales greater than 0.5% of sales	Sales Return / Rebate on sales less than 0.5% of sales			

1. Working Capital Management Risk:

- Significant Increase in the working capital cycle can affect the liquidity position of the company, resulting in blockage of funds & higher interest cost.
- Risk Significance is decided taking into consideration movement of receivables, inventory rotations, collection efficiency, free cash flows etc.

2. Risk related to Taxes, Duties & Compliances:

- Risk relating to Income Tax, Excise Duty, Service Tax, Customs Duty, VAT, CST, Professional Tax, PF, ESIC, Secretarial Compliances and Filing, SEBI Compliances and Investors related obligations etc.

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Instances
5	Frequent	Once in a year
4	Likely	Once in 2 years
3	Possible	Once in 5 years
2	Unlikely	Once in 10 years
1	Rare	Never Happened

3. Failure of Information Technology Set up / Software license compliance:

- Natural disaster-destroying server room/Fire/Hazard/Access control, Failure of ERP Servers, Hacking, Virus attack & Failure VPN Connectivity apart for one risk of failure of systems due

to relocation

- Software licenses compliance Usage not matching in quantity or as per licensing policy, resulting in unexpected financial liability.
- The below mentioned likelihood analysis is applicable for all sub-categories of IT Risks:

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Instances
5	Frequent	Once in a year
4	Likely	Once in 2 years
3	Possible	Once in 5 years
2	Unlikely	Once in 10 years
1	Rare	Never Happened

4. Loss of Managerial Personnel / Technical Employees:

- High Replacement cost as it includes recruitment cost, salary rise and training and development cost.
- If Critical positions remain vacant this may result into loss of business.

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Instances
5	Frequent	Once in a year
4	Likely	Once in 2 years
3	Possible	Once in 5 years
2	Unlikely	Once in 10 years
1	Rare	Never Happened

5. Risks related to Financial Reporting:

- Its significance depends on adverse remarks made by auditors (both at plant and HO Level) about operational inefficiency, Revenue losses, lack of internal control leading to material frauds / mistakes etc.

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Frequency of Material Audit Observation reported
5	Frequent	Every Quarter
4	Likely	Once in six months
3	Possible	Once in a year
2	Unlikely	Once in 3 years
1	Rare	Rarely reported

6. Competition Risk:

- Significance depends on company's low performance as compared to industry's performance, loss of market share in important operating segments, loss in % exports of core products as a part of industry exports, loss of important customer etc.
- Likelihood will be decided on the basis of frequency of loss of company's market share as compared from quarter to quarter basis.

7. Product Liability Risk:

- Significance depends on high number of sales returns in a period, loss of important customer, product seized by statutory authorities which were not produced as per regulatory standards etc.

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Frequency of Material Audit Observation reported
5	Frequent	Every Quarter
4	Likely	Once in six months

3	Possible	Once in a year
2	Unlikely	Once in 3 years
1	Rare	Rarely reported

8. Risk of Unutilized Capacity:

- Significance depends on amount of losses due to non-absorption of fixed costs leading to operating losses.

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Period uptill which there are no operations in a particular unit
5	Frequent	6 Months
4	Likely	4 Months
3	Possible	3 Months
2	Unlikely	1 Month
1	Rare	Continuous operation

9. Deterioration in Economic Value Addition:

- Significance depends on any normal factors, which led to decrease in Shareholders wealth and difference between Shareholder's expectations towards increase in wealth vis-a-vis actual increase.

Likelihood Analysis:

Rating	Frequency	Period of reduction in EVA
5	Frequent	Reduction trend for continuous 3 years
4	Likely	Reduction trend for continuous 2 years
3	Possible	Reduction trend for continuous 6 months
2	Unlikely	Reduction trend a period only
1	Rare	No Reduction at all