

VALIDUS HOLDINGS, LTD.
DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE STANDARDS

The Board of Directors of Validus Holdings, Ltd. (the “Company”) has adopted the following standards to assist it in making determinations of independence in accordance with the NYSE Corporate Governance rules.

Employment Relationships

A director will be deemed to be independent unless, within the preceding three years:

- such director
 - is or was an employee of the Company or any of the Company’s subsidiaries, other than an interim Chairman or Chief Executive Officer or other executive officer;
 - is a current partner of the Company’s internal or external auditor;
 - is a current employee of the Company’s internal or external auditor; or
 - was (but is no longer) a partner or employee of the Company’s internal or external auditor who personally worked on the Company’s audit within that time.
- any immediate family member of such director
 - is or was an executive officer of the Company or any of the Company’s subsidiaries;
 - is a current partner of the Company’s internal or external auditor;
 - is a current employee of the Company’s internal or external auditor who personally works on the Company’s audit; or
 - was (but is no longer) a partner or employee of the Company’s internal or external auditor who personally worked on the Company’s audit within that time.

Compensation Relationships

A director will be deemed to be independent unless, within the preceding three years:

- such director has received during any twelve-month period more than \$120,000 in direct compensation from the Company or any of its subsidiaries other than: (i) director and committee fees; (ii) pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service; *provided, however*, that such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service; and (iii) compensation received for former service as an interim Chairman or Chief Executive Officer or other executive officer; or
- an immediate family member of such director has received during any twelve-month period more than \$120,000 in direct compensation from the Company or any of its subsidiaries as a director or executive officer other than: (i) director and committee fees and (ii) pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service; *provided, however*, that such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service.

Commercial Relationships

A director will be deemed to be independent unless:

- such director is a current employee of another company that has made payments to, or received payments from, the Company or any of its subsidiaries for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million or 2% of such other company’s consolidated gross revenues; or

- an immediate family member of such director is a current executive officer of another company that has made payments to, or received payments from, the Company or any of its subsidiaries for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million or 2% of such other company's consolidated gross revenues.

Charitable Relationships

A director will be deemed to be independent unless, within the preceding three years such director was an executive officer of a tax-exempt organization that received contributions from the Company or any of its subsidiaries in an amount which, in any single fiscal year, exceeded the greater of \$1 million or 2% of such tax-exempt organization's consolidated gross revenues; unless the Board determines such relationships not to be material or otherwise consistent with a Director's independence.

Interlocking Directorates

A director will be deemed to be independent unless, within the preceding three years:

- such director is or was employed as an executive officer of another company where any of the Company's or its subsidiaries' present executive officers at the same time serves or served on that company's compensation committee; or
- an immediate family member of such director is or was employed as an executive officer of another company where any of the Company's or its subsidiaries' present executives at the same time serves or served on that company's compensation committee.

Other Relationships

For relationships not specifically mentioned above, the determination of whether a director has a material relationship with the Company (either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company), and therefore would not be independent, will be made by the Board of Directors after taking into account all relevant facts and circumstances. For purposes of these standards, a director who is solely a director and/or a non-controlling shareholder of another company that has a relationship with the Company and/or is, directly or indirectly, a security holder of the Company will not be considered to have a material relationship based solely on such relationship that would impair such director's independence.

For purposes of the standards set forth above, "immediate family member" means any of such director's spouse, parents, children, siblings, mothers and fathers-in-law, sons and daughters-in-law and brothers and sisters-in-law (other than those who are no longer family members as a result of legal separation or divorce, or those who have died or become incapacitated) and anyone (other than a domestic employee) who shares such director's home. For purposes of the standards set forth above, "executive officer" means the Company's president, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer (or, if there is no such accounting officer, the controller), any vice-president of the Company in charge of a principal business unit division or function (such as sales, administration or finance), any other officer who performs a policy-making function, or any other person who performs similar policy-making functions for the Company. Officers of the Company's subsidiaries shall be deemed officers of the Company if they perform such policy-making functions for the Company.

These standards shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the New York Stock Exchange Corporate Governance Rules.