SUTTON TOWNSHIP MEIGS COUNTY Regular Audit December 31, 2009 and 2008

Perry & Associates
Certified Public Accountants, A.C



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

Board of Trustees Sutton Township 31865 Pleasant View Road Racine, Ohio 45771

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report* of Sutton Township, Meigs County, prepared by Perry & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, A.C., for the audit period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009. Based upon this review, we have accepted these reports in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code. The Auditor of State did not audit the accompanying financial statements and, accordingly, we are unable to express, and do not express an opinion on them.

The financial statements in the attached report are presented in accordance with a regulatory basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State. Due to a February 2, 2005 interpretation from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), modifications were required to the *Independent Accountants' Report* on your financial statements. While the Auditor of State does not legally require your government to prepare financial statements pursuant to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), the AICPA interpretation requires auditors to formally acknowledge that you did not prepare your financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The attached report includes an opinion relating to GAAP presentation and measurement requirements, but does not imply the statements are misstated under the non-GAAP regulatory basis. The *Independent Accountants' Report* also includes an opinion on the financial statements using the regulatory format the Auditor of State permits.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Sutton Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

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August 19, 2010



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Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

PARKERSBURG 1035 Murdoch Avenue Parkersburg, WV 26101 (304) 422-2203 MARIETTA 428 Second Street Marietta, OH 45750 (740) 373-0056

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

June 30, 2010

Sutton Township Meigs County 31865 Pleasant View Road Racine, OH 45771

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Sutton Township**, **Meigs County**, **Ohio**, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' Government Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described more fully in Note 1B, the Township has prepared these financial statements using accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes or permits. These practices differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Although we cannot reasonably determine the effects on the financial statements of the variances between these regulatory accounting practices and GAAP, we presume they are material.

Instead of the combined funds the accompanying financial statements present, GAAP require presenting entity wide statements and also presenting the Township's larger (i.e. major) funds separately. While the Township does not follow GAAP, generally accepted auditing standards requires us to include the following paragraph if the statements do not substantially conform to GAAP presentation requirements. The Auditor of the State permits, but does not require Townships to reformat their statements. The Township has elected not to follow GAAP statement formatting requirements. The following paragraph does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Auditor of State permits. Our opinion on the fair presentation of the amounts reported pursuant to its non-GAAP basis is in the second following paragraph.

Sutton Township Meigs County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matter discussed in the preceding two paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the Township as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 or its changes in financial position for the years then ended.

Also, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances of Sutton Township, Meigs County, as of December 31, 2009 and 2008, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the accounting basis Note 1B describes.

The Township has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated June 30, 2010, on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. While we did not opine on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance, that report describes the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. You should read it in conjunction with this report in assessing the results of our audit.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry and Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

	Governmental Fund Types							
	Ge	eneral		Special Revenue	Pern	nanent	(Me	Totals morandum Only)
Cash Receipts:								
Local Taxes	\$	25,608	\$	60,362	\$	-	\$	85,970
Intergovernmental		19,083		112,743		-		131,826
Earnings on Investments		839		193		106		1,138
Other Revenue		2,208		1,200				3,408
Total Cash Receipts		47,738		174,498		106		222,342
Cash Disbursements:								
Current:								
General Government		50,096		-		-		50,096
Public Safety		-		29,060		-		29,060
Public Works		-		53,988		-		53,988
Health		-		21,386		-		21,386
Debt Service:								
Redemption of Principal		-		15,718		-		15,718
Interest and Fiscal Charges		-		2,043		-		2,043
Capital Outlay				13,773				13,773
Total Cash Disbursements		50,096		135,968				186,064
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements		(2,358)		38,530	-	106		36,278
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		13,328		46,606		4,277		64,211
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	10,970	\$	85,136	\$	4,383	\$	100,489

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Governmental Fund Types				_			
	Ge	neral		Special Revenue	Pern	nanent	(Me	Totals morandum Only)
Cash Receipts:								
Local Taxes		19,910	\$	59,187	\$	-	\$	79,097
Intergovernmental		17,973		113,048		-		131,021
Earnings on Investments		781		311		105		1,197
Other Revenue		969		1,861				2,830
Total Cash Receipts		39,633		174,407		105		214,145
Cash Disbursements:								
Current:								
General Government		42,417		_		-		42,417
Public Safety		-		29,754		-		29,754
Public Works		-		62,637		-		62,637
Health		-		28,200		-		28,200
Debt Service:								
Redemption of Principal		-		15,918		-		15,918
Interest and Fiscal Charges		-		1,861		-		1,861
Capital Outlay				39,585				39,585
Total Cash Disbursements		42,417		177,955				220,372
Total Cash Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements		(2,784)		(3,548)		105		(6,227)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		16,112		50,154		4,172		70,438
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	13,328	\$	46,606	\$	4,277	\$	64,211

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Sutton Township, Meigs County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides road and bridge maintenance, cemetery maintenance and fire protection. The Township is involved with the Syracuse-Racine Regional Sewer District, which is defined as a jointly governed organization. Additional information concerning the jointly governed organization is presented in Note 7.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Deposits and Investments

The Township Fiscal Officer invests all available funds of the Township in an interest-bearing checking account and certificates of deposit that are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash and investments that are restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008 (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township has the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Fund Accounting (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds (Continued)

<u>Gasoline Tax Fund</u> - This fund receives gasoline tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

Cemetery – This fund receives property tax money for maintaining Township cemeteries.

<u>Fire District Fund</u> – This fund receives property tax money for Township fire protection.

3. Permanent Funds (Trust Funds)

These funds account for assets held under a trust agreement that are legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, not principal, are available to support the Township's programs. The Township had the following significant Permanent Fund:

<u>Cemetery Bequest Fund</u> – This fund receives monies from the estate of deceased citizens for the general upkeep of the cemeteries maintained by the Township.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each fund be budgeted annually.

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function, and object level of control and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Appropriations lapse at year-end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008 (Continued)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

E. Budgetary Process (Continued)

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are canceled, and reappropriated in the subsequent year.

A summary of 2009 and 2008 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

G. Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. Unpaid leave is not reflected as a liability under the Township's basis of accounting.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED DEPOSITS

The Township maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2009	2008
Demand deposits	\$ 92,429	\$ 56,151
Certificates of Deposit	8,060	8,060
Total deposits	\$ 100,489	\$ 64,211

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008 (Continued)

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 follows:

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	F	Receipts	F	Receipts	V	ariance
General	\$	33,420	\$	47,738	\$	14,318
Special Revenue		195,858		174,498		(21,360)
Permanent		75		106		31
Total	\$	229,353	\$	222,342	\$	(7,011)

2009 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	A	Appropriation		Budgetary		_
Fund Type		Authority		penditures	Variance	
General	\$	46,747	\$	50,096	\$	(3,349)
Special Revenue		242,464		135,968		106,496
Total	\$	289,211	\$	186,064	\$	103,147

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	F	Receipts	R	Receipts	V	ariance
General	\$	33,705	\$	39,633	\$	5,928
Special Revenue		162,906		174,407		11,501
Permanent		60		105		45
Total	\$	196,671	\$	214,145	\$	17,474

2008 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

-	Ap	Appropriation		Budgetary		
Fund Type		Authority	Exp	penditures	V	ariance
General	\$	49,817	\$	42,417	\$	7,400
Special Revenue		220,059		177,955		42,104
Total	\$	269,876	\$	220,372	\$	49,504

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2007 AND 2006 (Continued)

4. DEBT

Debt outstanding at December 31, 2009 was as follows:

	Principal	Interest Rate
2003 Chevy Dump Truck	\$ 21,925	4.500 %

The promissory note for the backhoe/loader was issued in 2004, in the amount of \$44,000. The Township makes an annual payment on the note of \$9,802. The note is backed by the full faith and credit of the Township. This loan was paid off in 2009.

The 2003 Chevy Dump Truck Note was issued in 2007, in the amount of \$35,000. The Township makes an annual payment on the note of \$7,978. The note is backed by the full faith and credit of the Township.

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year ending	2003				
December 31:	Dump Truck				
2010	7,978				
2011	7,978				
2012	7,978				
Total	\$ 23,934				

5. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payment, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008 (Continued)

6. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's elected officials and employees belong to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) of Ohio. PERS is a cost-sharing, multi-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including post retirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2009 and 2008, members of PERS contributed 10% of their gross salaries. The Township contributed an amount equal to 14% of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2009.

7. JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

The Syracuse-Racine Regional Sewer District is a regional sewer district organized under Chapter 6119 of he Ohio Revised Code. The District operates under the direction of a three member Board of Trustees whose membership is composed of one appointment from each of the participating political subdivisions. Sutton Township, Village of Syracuse, and Village of Racine. The membership elects a President, Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer, who are responsible for fiscal control of the financial resources of the District.

To obtain financial information, write to the Syracuse-Racine Regional Sewer District, Dennie Hill, Secretary-Treasurer, at P.O. Box 201, Racine, Ohio 45771.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township is exposed to various risks of property and casualty losses, and injuries to employees.

The Township insures against injuries to employees through the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. American Risk Pooling Consultants, Inc. (APRCO), a division of York Insurance Services Group, Inc. (York), functions as the administrator of OTARMA and provides underwriting, claims, loss control, risk management, and reinsurance services for OTARMA. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP), which is also administered by ARPCO. Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008 (Continued)

8. RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Casualty and Property Coverage

APEEP provides OTARMA with an excess risk-sharing program. Under this arrangement, OTARMA retains insured risks up to an amount specified in the contracts. At December 31, 2008, OTARMA retained \$350,000 for casualty claims and \$100,000 for property claims.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreement does not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Property and casualty settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2008 and 2007 (the latest information available):

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Assets	\$40,737,740	\$43,210,703
Liabilities	(12,981,818)	(13,357,837)
Net Assets	<u>\$27,755,922</u>	<u>\$29,852,866</u>

At December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, liabilities above include approximately \$12.1 and \$12.5 million of estimated incurred claims payable. The assets and retained earnings above also include approximately \$10.9 and \$11.6 million of unpaid claims to be billed to approximately 950 member governments in the future, as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. These amounts will be included in future contributions from members when the related claims are due for payment. The Township's share of these unpaid claims collectible in future years is approximately \$2,643.

Based on discussions with OTARMA, the expected rates OTARMA charges to compute member contributions, which are used to pay claims as they become due, are not expected to change significantly from those used to determine the historical contributions detailed below. By contract, the annual liability of each member is limited to the amount of financial contributions required to be made to OTARMA for each year of membership.

Perry & Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

PARKERSBURG 1035 Murdoch Avenue Parkersburg, WV 26101 (304) 422-2203 MARIETTA 428 Second Street Marietta, OH 45750 (740) 373-0056

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

June 30, 2010

Sutton Township Meigs County 31865 Pleasant View Road Racine, OH 45771

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the financial statements of **Sutton Township**, **Meigs County**, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated June 30, 2010, wherein we noted the Township followed accounting practices the Auditor of State prescribes rather than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our audit procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of opining on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we have not opined on the effectiveness of the Township's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. Therefore, we cannot assure that we have identified all deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, that we consider a material weakness.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and timely corrected. We consider finding 2009-001 described in the accompanying schedule of findings to be a material weakness.

Sutton Township
Meigs County
Independent Accountants' Report on Internal Control Over
Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We also noted certain matters not requiring inclusion in this report that we reported to the Township's management in a separate letter dated June 30, 2010.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of Township management and Board of Trustees and is not intended to be, and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully Submitted,

Perry and Associates

Certified Public Accountants, A.C.

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SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008

FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GAGAS

FINDING NUMBER 2009-001

Material Weakness

Posting Expenditures

Expenditures should be posted to the fund and line item accounts as established by Ohio Administrative Code.

Expenditures were not always posted correctly. For example;

• Debt payments were posted as public works and principal only rather than principal and interest in the Gasoline Tax Fund in 2009 and 2008.

This resulted in several reclassification being made to the Township's financial statements. The financial statements reflect all reclassifications.

To help ensure accuracy and reliability in the financial reporting process, we recommend that management perform a detailed review of its draft financial statements. Such review should include procedures to ensure that all sources of revenues and expenditures are properly identified and classified on the financial statements. We also recommend the Fiscal Officer refer to Ohio Administrative Code Section 117-7-01 and/or the Ohio Township Handbook for guidance to determine the proper establishment of receipt and expenditure accounts and posting of receipts and expenditures.

Management's Response – We did not receive a response from officials to this finding.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2009 AND 2008

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Fully Corrected?	Not Corrected, Partially Corrected; Significantly Different Corrective Action Taken; or Finding No Longer Valid; <i>Explain</i>
2007-001	ORC Section 5705.41(D) – Properly appropriating expenditures.	Yes	N/A
2007-002	Posting of Receipts and Expenditures	Partially	Repeated as Finding 2009-001



Mary Taylor, CPA Auditor of State

SUTTON TOWNSHIP

ATHENS COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED AUGUST 31, 2010