Volume II of the EDGAR Filer Manual

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5.1.2 Statutory Signatures

In many cases, the securities laws require filed documents to be signed. You must type your signature for an electronic filing to meet this requirement. See Rule 302 of Regulation S-T. Rule 302 of Regulation S-T requires you to retain for five years a manually or electronically signed signature page or other document that authenticates, acknowledges, or otherwise adopts the signature that appears in typed form within an electronic filing, in accordance with the instructions below. You must retain this signature page for five years.

An example of a signature as it would appear in an electronic filing is:

HERBERT JONES
HERBERT JONES

OR

HERBERT JONES
HERBERT JONES
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

OR (For Investment Management Filers)

HERBERT JONES

If you are submitting signatures for powers of attorney, consents of experts, or any other required signature, you must submit them in the typed form specified above.

Rule 302(b) authentication document

Rule 302(b) of Regulation S-T requires you to retain a manually or electronically signed signature page or other document that authenticates, acknowledges, or otherwise adopts the signature that appears in typed form within an electronic filing for five years.

If a signatory signs this authentication document using an electronic signature, the signing process must, at a minimum:
(1) require the signatory to present a physical, logical, or digital credential that authenticates the signatory’s individual identity;

(2) reasonably provide for non-repudiation of the signature;

(3) provide that the signature be attached, affixed, or otherwise logically associated with the signature page or document being signed; and

(4) include a timestamp to record the date and time of the signature.

For purposes of this authentication document, the term electronic signature means an electronic sound, symbol, or process, attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record. The term credential means an object or data structure exclusively possessed and controlled by an individual to assert identity and provide for authentication. The term non-repudiation means assurance that an individual cannot falsely deny having performed a particular action.

In addition, Rule 302(b)(2) of Regulation S-T requires that, before a signatory may electronically sign an authentication document, the signatory must manually sign an initial electronic signature authentication document attesting that, when using electronic signatures for purposes of a Rule 302(b) authentication document, the signatory agrees that the use of an electronic signature constitutes the legal equivalent of such signatory’s manual signature for purposes of authenticating the signature to any filing for which it is provided. You must retain this document for as long as the signatory may make use of an electronic signature when signing an authentication document and for a minimum period of seven years after the date of the most recent electronically signed authentication document. You must furnish a copy of this manually signed document upon request to the Commission or its staff.