

Marks Paneth & Shron LLP (MP&S) has a long history of serving the financial services industry and offers a full range of tax, accounting, auditing and advisory services. In addition to the alternative investment community, our clients include factors, finance companies, broker-dealers and asset-based lenders. Our experienced professionals provide assistance with a wide range of client-critical issues and are committed to maintaining the highest quality standards.

MP&S has more than 20 years of experience serving domestic and offshore hedge funds, fund of funds, private equity funds and commodity pools. We have a diverse client base and serve both start-ups and established funds. Our financial services professionals are knowledgeable about the latest strategies and financial instruments. Our ability to serve clients with established offshore hedge funds and capital market entities has been further enhanced by the establishment of Marks Paneth & Shron (Cayman), which enables us to provide local auditor sign-off for funds registered in the Cayman Islands.

Areas of Focus:

- **Broker-Dealers** - We serve as independent auditors to broker-dealers, which include a mix of retail trading and private placement broker-dealers and related entities. In that regard, our firm is registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB).

We audit the financial statements as required pursuant to Rule 17a-5(d)(4) as well as the computation of net capital pursuant to Rule 15c3-1. Further, we also prepare the Auditor's Supplemental Report on Internal Control pursuant to Rule 17a-5(g)(1) and if required, the Schedule of Securities Investors Protection Corporation Assessments and payments present to Rule 17-5(e)(4). We also assist in the review and preparation of the Fiscal and Operational Combined Uniform Single (FOCUS) Report.

Our professionals understand the challenges of broker-dealers and work consultatively to create tailored solutions to support their accounting, reporting, business planning and tax needs. We assist clients in navigating complex net capital computations and the reporting requirements mandated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

- **Hedge Funds and Funds of Funds**- We provide advice related to complex tax regulations, fund structuring and fee-based compensation to both domestic and offshore hedge funds and funds of funds. We also aid hedge funds in establishing legal and administrator relationships.
- **Venture Capital Funds** - We provide guidance beyond assurance and tax services to numerous venture capital funds. Our professionals can advise on fund structure, fee agreements and complex tax allocation issues. We can also perform due diligence for companies seeking to make investments.

Services Offered:

- **Board Governance** - We advise on issues such as committee structure, investment policies, conflict of interest policies, industry best practices, board compensation and term limits.
- **Advisory Services** - We advise on fund structuring and have assisted with many fund launches. We offer a comprehensive business advisory approach that focuses on maximizing growth.
- **Assurance Services** - Our clients benefit from the active, hands-on involvement of our industry-knowledgeable partners. Our audit approach utilizes a systematic planning methodology. When preparing an audit plan for our clients, we work closely with their personnel to develop expectations, minimize risk and provide a cost-effective, tailored audit.
- **Tax Services** - We help our clients find the right approach to complex tax questions and assist them with other tax matters. We understand the important tax planning issues associated with the launching of a new fund. Our services include tax return and schedule K-1 preparation as well as providing advice on international tax issues and personal tax matters including estate, trust, gift, and foundation planning. Our MP&S tax team is enhanced by the inclusion of respected partners who specialize in international taxation as well as generalists.
- **Fund Investment Reporting** - Many of our clients seek access to leading-edge partnership accounting and reporting systems. Selecting MP&S for fund investing reporting services allows fund managers to remain focused on their investment activities. Additionally, for those clients who do not wish to outsource the entire back office function, MP&S can provide fund accounting or tax reporting services on a standalone basis. Customized reporting is delivered to our clients in whatever format they wish through a secure online portal. We also offer secure online storage for clients' important documents.