

Dell settlement has tougher accounting oversight

September 28 2009

(AP) -- Dell Inc. says it will beef up accounting and corporate governance rules as part of a settlement tied to an investigation into past financial practices.

The PC maker will also pay \$1.75 million in legal fees.

After a Securities and Exchange Commission investigation into Dell's [accounting](#) was made public in 2006, several shareholder groups filed lawsuits saying [Dell](#) misrepresented its financial health while officers and board members sold [stock](#) at inflated prices.

Dell restated results for 2003 through 2007 after an internal audit found it overstated sales by \$359 million and profit by \$92 million during those years. The SEC probe is ongoing.

Under the settlement filed Monday with the SEC, Dell will increase the board's independence and more tightly control its finances.

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Citation: Dell settlement has tougher accounting oversight (2009, September 28) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2009-09-dell-settlement-tougher-accounting-oversight.html>

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