



## THE DAILY

Friday, March 11, 2011 03:03 PM

### Analysis urges changes in financial reporting standards

By Laura Mortkowitz

A variety of changes need to be made to financial reporting in order to improve their usefulness, according to a March report by the International Federation of Accountants.



Jim Ruitenber

The report, "Integrating the Business Reporting Supply Chain," makes many recommendations, including improving governance and less complexity in reports. **Jim Ruitenber**, a certified public accountant with West Orange-based **Bederson & Co.**, agrees that financial reporting is overly complex, but it has been that way for years.

"Financial statements need to contain certain things regardless of how complex or overly burdensome they are to the user," he said. "I don't see it getting less complex."

Another of the more important issues was improved governance in organizations. **Carol Donatiello Iocca**, a partner at **Wilkin & Guttenplan**, based in East Brunswick, believes it's crucial for the controller to sign off on things and to get the stakeholders more involved. Doing so would help minimize risk even more.

In fact, Donatiello Iocca found most of the suggestions and issues of concerns were spot on with what she had seen.

"This has all been discussed in some way, shape or form with the U.S.," Donatiello Iocca said. "The concerns (in the report) are very much concerns in the U.S."

E-mail Laura Mortkowitz at [lmortkowitz@njbiz.com](mailto:lmortkowitz@njbiz.com)