

Bad Debt (呆帳;壞帳)

Debt from a credit sale that the creditor is unable to collect. Debt becomes bad debt when the creditor has made all reasonable efforts to collect the debt but has been unable to do so. Often, this occurs when the debtor(債務人) declares bankruptcy or when pursuing collection attempts further will cost more than the debt itself.

A company writes off bad debt as an expense, which reduces its taxable income. However, it also deprives(剝奪) the company of cash flow that is ultimately necessary to keep it in business.

在信用交易所產生的一種債務，債權人是無法從該債務中回收。債務之所以成為壞帳，是指當債權人已作出一切合理的努力要去追回債務，但卻一直未能如願。通常在此一情況下，當發生呆帳這種情況時，債務人將宣告破產，或是債權人進一步要盡力收回該債務時，其所耗資之成本將會超過債務本身。

一個公司將會核銷該壞帳為其費用，進從降低其應納稅之金額。然而，它也會剝奪公司的現金流量，而該筆現金原本是必須放在商業行為中作為現金流量之部位。