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Finance Directors' Toolkit

There are areas of work where the Big 4 and other international accounting firms may be unwilling or unable to provide advice. HLB UK member firms can provide you with the necessary proactive tax and commercial advice to fit with your changing business needs.

As a member of HLB International we have access to a network of overseas independent professional accounting firms in 130 countries, able to offer an integrated and seamless service for inbound and outbound businesses alike.

To highlight just some of the areas of expertise of the HLB UK independent member firms, we have devised an 'FD toolkit' aimed at Finance Directors (FD) of large and multinational companies.

Our services are not just limited to these areas but hopefully it will give an idea of how we might be able to help your company, by relieving some compliance pressures as well as identifying opportunities for potential savings.

CT compliance / tagging for IXBRL

Completion of corporate tax returns and electronic tagging is a necessary but administrative burden. Ensuring that the correct tax is paid and any tax reliefs available are maximised can, however, be a complex process.

HLB UK member firms offer a 'tax health check' for the business. This involves reviewing the previous years' tax returns with management and is aimed at reducing your risk and identifying areas for potential tax savings.

From a compliance perspective HLB UK member firms can help as much or as little as required, from a fully outsourced tax service to technical advice on a specific area, or an independent review of the tax return.

Payroll / PAYE compliance

There can be significant benefits from outsourcing your payroll. Experts from within the HLB UK firms combine years of experience and specialist knowledge with the latest technology and a flexible approach. From online communications with HMRC to the latest 'green' e-payslips, we will work with you to deliver the services you need in a way that complements your business.

We can also carry out a 'PAYE health check' to ensure your systems are compliant and to mitigate your risk of HMRC visits.

R&D / Patent Box

Government-backed innovation reliefs and incentives such as Research and Development (R&D) and Patent Box can provide UK businesses of all sizes with significant cash savings and incentives to fund further innovative activities.

Experts from within UK member firms have prepared claims across a wide range of sectors for companies big and small. Our dedicated innovation specialists would be happy to carry out an initial review of the potential tax savings that could be achieved from an R&D and / or Patent Box claim.

Valuations

Valuations for tax purposes may be required for a wide range of transactions including; acquisitions, investments, business reorganisations, or to place a value on your business goodwill, brand or management incentives.

We have a number of valuation experts within HLB UK member firms who can work with you to provide robust valuations and impairment reviews, providing expert opinions or obtaining clearance from HMRC as appropriate.

VAT

VAT is a notoriously complex area to understand. VAT specialists from HLB UK member firms can help to manage and mitigate your VAT liabilities as well as identifying opportunities for cash savings.

We can carry out a 'VAT health check' to make sure your systems are compliant and can offer more bespoke advice such as partial exemption or special methods.

Senior Accounting Officer

The Senior Accounting Officer (SAO) of a large company (turnover of greater than £200m and/or balance sheet total of more than £2bn) has responsibility for ensuring that the company or group establishes and maintains appropriate tax accounting arrangements. HLB UK member firms can work with the SAO and your company to ease this process by providing an independent review of the tax accounting arrangements across all tax bases, providing a written report with practical recommendations and suggestions for improvement.

Transfer Pricing

Transfer Pricing (TP) is not only a compliance requirement, but proper multi-national planning can save worldwide taxes. Most major trading nations have complex documentation requirements and penalties for non-compliance.

Tax experts from within the HLB International member firms will work with you to develop a transfer pricing strategy suitable to your multi-national company. They can then assist with the preparation of TP documentation and dispute resolution (either pre-empting by way of an Advance Pricing Agreement (APA) or through competent authority).

Grants

Specialists within HLB UK member firms can help you to identify what grant funding may be available to your business, whether established or a 'start-up'. We will then work with you to help secure the funding. This process can often be complex but our experts can manage this process for you from start to finish.

Internationally mobile employees

HLB UK member firms also offer services to employers with employees working around the world. The tax position for internationally mobile employees can be complex with the need to deal with different countries' tax systems which are often structured in very different ways. We can help to take the stress of this compliance burden away from employers and their employees leveraging off the HLB International network of member firms.

Some of the areas in which we can offer help include; advising on the employer's payroll and social security obligations, preparing tax equalisation calculations, registering and running a payroll, UK and overseas tax advice for the employee and assistance with registering and completing tax returns.

We can also offer advice in other typical problem areas for mobile employees such as share schemes, pensions, tax investigations and tax efficient investments.

Why HLB UK?

- HLB UK is a network of independent accounting firms and business advisers with over 1,100 staff and 30 offices located throughout the UK.
- HLB UK member firms will provide dedicated assistance to you and your business, working together to meet your needs with customised solutions.
- We will co-ordinate your cross-border business in a seamless manner, with close communication and partner-level service regardless of your size or location.
- We have extensive experience of working with companies across a wide range of sectors enabling us to tailor our advice directly to your business needs.
- We will work with you to ensure that your tax costs are kept under control whilst identifying any areas where the company may be able to qualify for additional tax reliefs.

HLB International

HLB UK is a member of HLB International, a leading global network of independent professional accounting firms and business advisers with member firms in 130 countries worldwide providing international links and support for multi-national businesses.

What next?

We would welcome the opportunity to work with you and your business and are more than happy to come out and speak to you to identify where we might be able to help.

If you would like further details on any of the above, please get in touch via the contact details overleaf.

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