

# Company Brochure



**EMIRATES GROUP SERVICES** 

A global firm providing a wide range of legal and fiscal services.



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#### Emirates Group Services provides company formation services for firms looking to expand into new geographies.

Headquartered in Dubai International Financial Centre district, with associate offices in all major jurisdictions, we provide professional corporate set-up solutions in over 60 low tax and tax-free jurisdictions including the UAE, Hong Kong, Turkey, Georgia, Belize, British Virgin Islands (BVI) and the Seychelles.

We offer company incorporation services, supported by legal and financial consultancy services and cross border transactional advice to individuals and companies looking to establish a business presence in the UAE or other key overseas markets.

In a world full of complicated and rapidly changing regulation, we clear a path through the bureaucracy; providing friendly, competitively priced expert advice across an unparalleled suite of services, regardless of the size of your business.

## Our international network of qualified business professionals includes:

- Financial specialists
- Accountants
- Bankers
- Chartered secretaries
- Lawyer
- International tax and trade experts
- International expansion specialists

Emirates Group Services provides expert advice and tailor-made solutions for all types of business owners considering international expansion and investment. Our highly qualified team members possess both

the necessary linguistic and cultural skills required to facilitate business links across borders.

This is supported by requisite technical know-how to successfully navigate the numerous steps that precede UAE, European or international company formation.

We advise clients on the often-complex issues surrounding international corporate structure, and facilitate the development of appropriate financial services to meet the varied needs of large-scale businesses, SMEs and sole entrepreneurs.

In addition, we are specialists in international tax planning, investment holding and trading.





#### **Business Approach**

## In today's globalised world, international expansion is on every corporate horizon.

Emirates Group Services provides expert advice for business owners who are seeking the next step in global expansion and investment.

We advise clients on the often-complex issues surrounding international corporate structure, and facilitate the development of appropriate financial services to meet the varied needs of large-scale businesses, SMEs and individual entrepreneurs.

#### Our services cover:

- International corporate structures
- Appropriate financial services
- International tax planning
- Investment holding
- International trading

Emirates Group Services combines in-depth knowledge of Dubai's domestic business and regulatory policies with international company formation insight to support your organisation's vision at a global level.

Our highly qualified team possesses both the linguistic and cultural skills required to facilitate business links across borders. This is supported by requisite technical know-how to successfully navigate the numerous steps that precede UAE, European or international company formation, and the utmost attention to detail and due diligence in effecting a successful transition.

At Emirates Group Services, we work alongside you to evaluate and consult on your future plans. We believe in building strong lasting business relationships through a personal, one-to-one approach, so that even from the first call or meeting, you know we have your best interests at heart.

We aim to be the global springboard for your business. Together, we will construct a sustainable, manageable, accessible and affordable framework for implementation in a rapidly changing marketplace.





#### **Message from CEO**

Since its inception, Emirates Group Services has steadily expanded its service offerings to meet the growing requirements of our international clientele.

This has been enriched by the highest standards of professionalism, innovation, local expertise and ethics, which, when combined with our unique customer-centric focus, continues to drive our future success.

There are three key elements that underpin our commitment to delivering excellence in our business.

#### Local knowledge:

Each team member has a deep, working understanding of the legislative, financial and cultural practices and standards relevant to their specific regional sphere of operation.

#### **Quality:**

Our reputation for customer service excellence anchors our years of experience and specialist knowledge.

#### **Ethics:**

In the world of international incorporation, with its natural overspill into tax optimisation and asset management, having a solid ethical framework is vital. We pride ourselves on implementing strict ethical codes of conduct and internal policies that ensure we operate at the highest international standards, not only from a compliance and legal perspective, but also by taking the additional step of ensuring that we work with companies that we know share our values.

Our industry is challenging, and change is inevitable. By continuing to invest in the best people and by offering truly innovative services, it is my sincere belief that Emirates Group Services will continue to be a market leader.



Ms. Raniah Haddad, CEO Emirates Group Services Private Client & Commercial



#### Why Dubai

Known as the 'gateway to the world', Dubai is one of the globe's most connected cities.

The emirate has thrived on its East-West links for many centuries and lies at the heart of the Asia, Africa and India triangle. Historically, its geographic location has facilitated easy connections, business networking and access to trade.

In the modern age, Dubai has evolved to be one of the world's top destinations for company formation. The city offers many corporate advantages:

- Highly diversified economy
- Hyper-modern infrastructure
- Superior transportation links and an extensive airline network
- A world-class financial centre
- A zero-tax regime
- Access to 300,000 people in the MENA region alone and many more in Asia/Europe
- Stable and secure governance
- A transparent regulatory environment

The emirate is also home to an exceptional and cosmopolitan talent pool, lured from across the globe by dynamic careers, a secure family-friendly environment, tax-free salaries and year-round sunshine.

For overseas companies looking to set up in Dubai, the emirate's 22 specially designed free zones allow for out-of-the-box company formation, as well as full foreign ownership, zero import duties and 100 per cent repatriation of company profits.

For decades, Europe Emirates Group has helped foreign companies to set up in Dubai and leverage the city's many business advantages. Our insider knowledge allows us to provide an expert bureaucracy-free solution for company formation - whether it's offshore or local.

#### **Incorporation Expertise**

We offer the full spectrum of incorporation services:

- Incorporation and company management
- Residency applications
- Corporate bank account set-up
- Credit card approval facilitation
- Virtual office services
- Beneficial ownership shielding

In a world wrought with complicated and rapidly changing regulation, we cut a path through bureaucracy; providing friendly, competitively priced advice to help your business flourish.



## We work with you at every stage of the formation process:

- Pre-launch evaluation
- Post-launch evaluation
- Regular updates on regulatory changes

#### **Exclusive Rewards Program**

## Join our exclusive rewards programme and receive rewards for new client referrals.

All you need to do is provide the contacts and introduction for any friends who you believe can benefit from our services, and let us do the rest. Once they sign up as a Emirates Group Services client, your rewards will kick in.

Please quote your Unique Client ID Number when making an introduction.

#### **Business Introducer Reward:**

\$500 per introduction once they sign up with us as a client.

We look forward to hearing from you.



#### **Agents Network Division**

#### The Agents Network Division is a one-stopshop for all existing and new partners.

Join us as a Registered Agent to feature Dubai on your jurisdiction lists.

As the only Worldwide Registered Agent with DMCC free zone endorsement, and an Official Registry Appointed Agency, our pricing structure enables Registered Agents to generate attractive returns on their activities.

You also have access to an experienced dedicated single point of contact that can assist with turnkey solutions. This also comes with the added benefit that your clients will not be required to visit the UAE for company formation.

# Emirates Group Services offers a range of Company and Trust services including:

- Management
- Administration
- Corporate directors
- Shareholders
- Secretaries
- · Marine registration
- Associated services

To become a Registered Agent, contact us at info@emiratesgroupservices.com.

Emirates Group Services is a market leader in company formation services, providing tailor-made solutions in Europe, the US and Canada, and offshore jurisdictions, along with a comprehensive suite of supporting services.

In a world wrought with complicated and rapidly changing regulation, we cut a path through bureaucracy; providing friendly, competitively priced advice to help your business flourish.

## We offer the full spectrum of incorporation services, including:

- Incorporation and company management
- Residency applications
- Corporate bank account set-up
- · Credit card approval facilitation
- Virtual office services
- · Beneficial ownership shielding

We work with you at every stage of the formation process from pre-launch to post-launch evaluation and provide regular updates on regulatory changes where relevant.

Emirates Group Services has access to on-the-ground professionals representing every facet of the financial and banking discipline and has negotiated preferential rates for a wide selection of vital services.

#### Our financial and banking services include:

- Core banking advisory and administrative handling
- Prospective auditing
- Accounting
- Reporting
- Collections outsourcing
- IPS systems
- Corporate and private account applications
- Preparation of statutory financial statements.

To meet the demands of international businesses we are able to provide professional third party officers to facilitate offshore tax residency establishment, assist with the creation of confidential shareholder structures, source a company secretary, and provide professional directors to act on client instruction and to monitor and control the day-to-day activities of your business.

Europe Emirates Group is also on hand to act as your personal family 'chief financial officer', saving you time, money and the stresses of dealing with the complexities of financial management.





#### We offer family financial services covering:

- Bespoke lifestyle service and administration
- One-touch portfolio reporting
- Wealth preservation and succession planning consultancy and planning

### Other supporting advisory and administrative services include:

- Real estate investment strategy and portfolio performance consultancy
- Business plan structuring and review
- Specialist marketing plan development and review
- Wills and probate advice
- Yacht registration

#### **Banking & Financial Services**

The challenge of navigating the intricacies of the banking and financial services world in the UAE and other international markets often presents another hurdle on the way to setting up a business.

Emirates Group Services has access to on-the-ground professionals representing every facet of the financial and banking discipline and has negotiated preferential rates for a wide selection of vital services.

These services include core banking advisory and administrative handling, prospective auditing, accounting, reporting, collections outsourcing, IPS systems, corporate and private account applications and the preparation of statutory financial statements.

Core banking services cover a full realm of advice on choosing the right banking services provider for your business and assistance navigating individual local and international institution requirements, along with assistance in successfully navigating the account set-up procedure.

#### Auditors or Liquidators Report

Joint stock companies, limited liability companies and partnerships limited by shares registered in the UAE are required to prepare annual financial statements and file these with Ministry of Economy and Commerce and other relevant authorities.

Emirates Group Services works with a team of highly qualified auditors able to assist with a wide variety of requirements. While there are no ethical standards specifically issued for the UAE, local firms usually follow IFAC standards.

We also provide liquidation services for all entities - limited liability, free zone and offshore - across the UAE, including the supervision of asset disposal, creditor negotiation/settlement, liaison with liquidation accountants and filing of relevant deregistration and other formal notifications.

Our auditing fee structure consists of a no frills standard package suitable for all types and sizes and businesses, with zero hidden costs.



#### Core Banking

# It is important to choose the right banking services provider for your business and there is a broad range of local and international banks located in the UAE.

Each institution has its own requirements when it comes to minimum deposits, bank charges and scope of services, and the application process can be stringent.

Requirements for opening an account usually include identity documents, signatories list, company structure overview and proof of address. A certificate of incorporation/trade licence is usually also requested as well as details of company directors. Most banks will also want to see a projection of company transactions, future profits and information clarifying the nature of the business.

# For non-resident accounts, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will need to certify documents.

When establishing banking arrangements in the UAE you will be required to physically sign for verification of your company bank account in the presence of the Banking Officer. Emirates Group Services also advises on which bank will best serve your company requirements and will assist you with all administration processes.

#### Private Account Application

Emirates Group Services has a strategic alliance with Breder Suasso, an Auckland, New Zealand-registered financial services provider that offers private bank account facilities as well as MasterCard issuing services.

Private clients can make the most of the benefits of having an offshore current account that deliver a wealth of financial services beyond traditional borders.

Through Breder Suasso, clients can access fast, secure and user-friendly Internet banking facilities with complete 24/7 functionality.

We accept applications for new accounts from all jurisdictions with the exception of New Zealand and the US.

It takes approximately 10 working days to open an account and there is also an express account opening service that takes just 72 hours once the compliance team has received all the necessary documentation.

Each card comes with an individual account number linked to the main account IBAN. This requires that a client pre-loads their card prior to use, and is an added layer of fund protection.



## Card can be issued with a name or can also be anonymous for added confidentiality.

Up to three MasterCards can be issued per private account and this is designed to simplify discretionary financial transactions such as shopping at retail outlets, paying bills online, or transferring money to and from different accounts, all in multiple currencies and locations across the globe.

An additional card is also available for family use such as ATM cash withdrawal, daily shopping requirements, online purchases etc. All cards have a chip and pin code.

#### Statutory Financial Statements

Joint stock companies, limited liability companies and partnerships limited by shares registered in the UAE are required to prepare annual financial statements and have them audited within three months of the end of the financial year, and file them with the Ministry of Economy and Commerce and other relevant authorities.

All UAE entities follow International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for the preparation of financial statements.

All companies including those located at free zones, and partnerships, are also required to prepare full financial statements including a balance sheet, profit and loss account and other explanatory notes as required by UAE law.

Outside of free zones, all other companies/ partnerships limited by shares in the UAE have the option to prepare their financial statements in accordance with any generally accepted framework.

Subsidiary companies of listed companies that are registered in other jurisdictions have the option to prepare their financial statements in accordance with the framework followed by their parent company.

Emirates Group Services works with a team of highly qualified auditors able to assist with a wide variety of requirements. While there are no ethical standards specifically issued for the UAE, local firms usually follow IFAC standards. Free zones in UAE have a rigorous process for the monitoring and streamlining of auditing practices. They monitor the practice of audit firms and review their work on an annual basis.

Auditors in the UAE are appointed for a fixed period of one year and can continue as the auditor of the company after the first year subject to shareholder general assembly meeting approval.

Our appointed auditors cover a wide range of requirements including monthly profit & loss reports, balance sheets, regulatory compliance, advice on controls and processing system weaknesses, monitoring of prospective accounting and regulatory changes, and yearly audited accounts.





#### **Citizenship**

Emirates Group Services is an acknowledged leader in the provision of citizenship planning and processing programs in the Caribbean and West Indies.

Whether it's a case of personal freedom, business opportunity or long-term security, a second citizenship requires careful forethought and expert advice but is a sound investment in your future.

As a client of Emirates Group Services we work closely together with you to offer sound legal advice and support every step of the way, and have selected a quartet of locations that we believe offer the best solution for international investors.

Clients have the option of the following locations, all of which come with zero income, wealth or inheritance taxes:



#### Antigua & Barbuda

An independent Commonwealth state in the Eastern Caribbean, Antigua and Barbuda is home to 365 white sand beaches set against a lush tropical backdrop with an economy dominated by tourism. Holders of the Antigua and Barbuda passport can take advantage of visa-free travel to approximately 130 countries, including Canada, the UK and Schengen nations.

Three citizenship-by-investment program options are available, either a cash donation to the National Development Fund (NDF) sent directly to the escrow account managed by the Citizenship Investment Unit (CIU), investment in real estate through one of the government-approved real estate asset classes, or investment into an approved business,

For real estate, this covers freehold property with title deed, hotel shares, fractional ownership or land. Investment starts at US\$250,000 for the NDF donation and US\$400,000 for the real estate option. A minimum of US\$1.5 million is the entry point for the approved business investment route.

#### Citizenship benefits include:

- Visa-free travel to around 130 countries
- Full citizenship and British Commonwealth passport (renewable every five years)
- Permanent lifetime citizenship
- Includes children under 25 and dependents over
  65 years old
- No personal income tax on worldwide income
- No estate, death, inheritance or capital gains tax
- Zero restrictions on the repatriation of profits and imported capital
- Economically, legally and socially stable country part of the Commonwealth
- Security from potential taxation reform in Europe and North America
- Possibility of dual citizenship





#### **Dominica**

A volcanically active island located in the Lesser Antilles, Dominica is known as the nature isle of the Caribbean, and is covered with lush dense rainforest and dotted with hot sulphur springs.

The island's economy is underpinned by agricultural activity but it is also becoming increasingly popular as a getaway tourism destination with a choice of active adventure and beachfront relaxation.

Dominica's citizenship-by-investment program has been running since 1993 and offers one of the most affordable options in the Caribbean with visa-free travel to more than 135 countries and tax-free benefits.

To be eligible for citizenship, the government requires either a contribution to the Government Fund of US\$100,000 (subject to number of dependents listed in the application) or a real estate investment valued at least US\$200,0000.

#### Citizenship benefits include:

- Visa-free travel to more than 135 countries including the UK, Singapore, Hong Kong and British Commonwealth nations
- Zero residency requirements
- Zero income, wealth, capital gains or inheritance taxes
- Full residence status, with the right to live and work in Dominica
- Dual citizenship is permitted
- No requirement to reside in Dominica before or after citizenship is granted



#### Grenada

Known as the Spice Isle, Grenada is a jewel in the West Indies with its stunning natural landscape that includes dramatic waterfalls, mountainous terrain and golden beaches surrounded by tropical rainforest.

In 2013, Grenada relaunched its citizenship by investment program, which has two routes to citizenship. Applicants can contribute to the National Transformation Fund, which finances various projects in Grenada for the benefit of various industries with a minimum contribution of US\$200,000.

Alternatively, applicants can invest in a government-approved real estate project such as hotels, villas and resorts for a minimum value of US\$350,000. Successful investors must not sell their real estate for at least three years following the grant of citizenship.

#### Citizenship benefits include:

- Visa-free travel to more than 135 countries.
- Zero income, wealth or inheritance taxes.
- No requirement to visit Grenada in order to qualify for citizenship through real estate investment
- Speedy 60-day application process
- Family-friendly program
- USA E2 Visa opportunity



#### St Kitts

The smallest sovereign state in the West Indies, St. Kitts & Nevis is part of the famed Leeward Islands and is a popular tourism destination with a growing community of hotels and resorts.

The naturally beautiful islands have two airports and an inter-island ferry network to support its thriving tourism economy, and English is the common language for business. With the longest-standing citizenship-by-investment program in the West Indies (established in 1984), successful applicants have visa-free access to more than 100 countries.

To qualify, applicants can choose from two investment options. A non-refundable charity donation with a minimum value of US\$250,000 to the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation, or investment into a designated recoverable real estate investment with a minimum value of US\$400,000.

#### Citizenship benefits include:

- Visa-free travel to more than 150 countries including all EU nations and Ireland.
- Citizens can apply for long-term US travel visas
- No residency requirements
- Zero income, wealth or inheritance taxes
- No requirement to visit St. Kitts & Nevis in order to qualify for citizenship
- Lifetime citizenship (includes family members)
- Dual citizenship benefits



#### **Company Management Services**

Emirates Group Services offers sophisticated company management and banking services to meet the demands of international businesses.

To establish offshore tax residency, we provide professional third party officers, which is a prerequisite when it comes to understanding taxation legislation in overseas jurisdictions and making the most of tax savings.

It is rarely advisable for onshore resident clients to act as directors of an offshore company. We specialise in creating structures where shareholders do not need to disclose their ownership of other companies for commercial reasons, and to ensure complete client confidentiality.

We are able to provide professional directors to act on client instruction and to monitor and control the day-to-day activities of your business. In many countries directors must be 'real people', however, corporate directors are permitted in some offshore centres.



For clients who seek corporate confidentiality, we provide a shareholders' service where we form third party companies in international jurisdictions with the sole purpose of holding shares on behalf of a client.

To protect client interests, these third party companies enter into 'declaration of trust' contracts with company owners that effectively prevent the third party company from acting without owner instructions.

In most common law jurisdictions, a company secretary is required and Emirates Group Services can assist in sourcing the right person.

Our full company management remit also includes providing a third party director as bank account signatory.

#### **Family Office Services**

There are many challenges that high-networth individuals face when considering how to manage and preserve their wealth for future generations.

Our dedicated family office team will help you to identify your goals, offer expert advice and craft bespoke solutions.

In essence, Emirates Group Services is able to act as your personal family 'chief financial officer', saving you time, money and the stresses of dealing with the complexities of financial management.



We offer bespoke lifestyle service and administration, one-touch portfolio reporting, and wealth preservation and succession planning; and will tailor-make an integrated plan and consolidated financial picture for your family's worldwide assets.

Your personalised Emirates Group Servicesplan covers investments, wealth transfer strategies and performance reporting supported by a comprehensive risk management approach coupled with highly optimised tax mitigation.

We can also maintain a central library of your family documents - accessible at the touch of a button - including wills, trust deeds, real estate titles, investment notes, insurance policies and all financial documents.

#### **Real Estate Investment Funds**

# Emirates Group Services offers a range of independent real estate investment management services.

We have more than 25 years consolidated experience across multiple markets. Our team focuses on identifying and analysing all aspects of a proposed business plan.

Europe Emirates Group also advises on rental and capital appreciation and is able to tailor our strategies to suit your risk appetite across multi-jurisdiction portfolios.

We believe it is important to acquire assets where value can be enhanced under our management and sold in response to demand for well-located, high quality core real estate assets with a strong income profile.

Emirates Group Services also provides advice on tax and structuring, and can manage the transaction process and financing arrangements where relevant. With our regional knowledge of property ownership laws and regulations, along with tax planning expertise, we can help reduce any potential exposure.

#### **Specialist Business Plans**

## A business plan is the bedrock of your company.

Your plan should include a focused strategy and managed milestones and metrics. It should also assign and track responsibilities and performance, and feature projections for sales, costs, expenses, and cash.

Developing a detailed plan will help you to determine whether your business idea is feasible. A well-written, strategically focused plan also contains the financials you will need to convince investors your business is a great investment opportunity.

To be effective, your business plan should be both a fluid document and detailed roadmap for success. The plan should also be updated on a regular basis.





Emirates Group Services will work with you to create a winning document. The best business plans are:

- Visually appealing
- Powerfully and appropriately worded
- Able to present your business idea in the best possible light

#### **Specialist Marketing Plans**

A solid yet creative marketing plan forms an integral part of your business plan. A marketing strategy demonstrates your understanding of the market, your target customers and the competitive environment.

An effective marketing plan begins with thorough market research through direct mail surveys and focus groups and should be supplemented by secondary data sourced from government agency, trade associations and other studies.

A well-written, comprehensive marketing plan is fundamental for all businesses and will set you on the path to success by creating a practical checklist that covers all the bases. How do you plan to attract and retain customers? What are the resources you will need to achieve your short to long-term business goals?

The Emirates Group Services team will help you to formulate a focused marketing plan that lists effective goal and objectives, as well as budget allocation for advertising and promotional activity.

#### Virtual Offices & Business Services

The Emirates Group Services is able to provide a professional extension of our clients' businesses. This includes being able to provide virtual offices and associated business services.

There are three bespoke packages to choose from:

- Standard Dubai Address package
- A Fairmont Hotel serviced office address and allocated PO Box number
- Daily collection of client PO Box mail
- Signed receipt of parcels and client notification
- Private courier request service



## Standard Plus Dubai Communications package

- Dedicated telephone and fax line/number allocation
- Incoming client phone calls answered by onsite reception team (Sunday to Thursday from 0830-1730 hours with voicemail service on weekends)
- Incoming client calls during business hours answered with company name and greeting
- Option for client to have phone calls transferred to a landline or mobile number, or for messages to be emailed to preferred client address
- Scanning of incoming faxes to be emailed to client with original placed on file

## Premium Dubai Full Business package includes:

- Dedicated telephone and fax line/number allocation
- Incoming client phone calls answered by onsite reception team (Sunday to Thursday from 0830-1730 hrs with voicemail service on weekends)
- Incoming client calls during business hours answered with company name and greeting
- Option for client to have phone calls transferred to a landline or mobile number, or for messages to be emailed to preferred client address
- Scanning of incoming faxes to be emailed to client with original placed on file
- Four hours boardroom usage and five days hot desk usage per month

#### Wills & Probate

As an expatriate living or working in the UAE it is vital to have a will document. A secure will ensures that all your assets are accounted for and distributed in accordance with your wishes.

Emirates Group Services provides specialist legal advice and is able to explain the nuances of UAE law. The statutory intestacy laws in the country, which follow Sharia law, are markedly different from conventional legal systems.

An officially registered will document is essential for ensuring that your family avoids prolonged complex legal challenges in resolving matters pertaining to your assets and estate.

## A dedicated team member will work with vou to:

- Create and notarise the will
- Set up the asset and liability list
- Complete all the necessary beneficiary forms
- Ensure all legal documents are properly registered and compliant

#### **Yacht Registration**

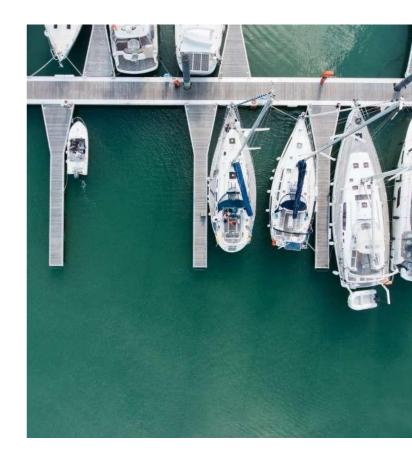
Emirates Group Services is located in key maritime destinations around the world and offers yacht registration expertise.

We provide a highly personalised service designed to fast track registration, based on the following information checklist:

- Your nationality and country of residence
- Vessel length and tonnage
- Existing registration information
- Historical ownership documentation
- Private or charter usage definition
- Vessel tax status
- Home port/primary country of use and crewing requirements

Emirates Group Services offers yacht registration services in Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Gibraltar, Delaware (US), Dubai (UAE), Seychelles, Jersey and Guernsey (Channel Islands), Hong Kong, Isle of Man, Malta, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the UK.

As an authorised registration agent, Europe Emirates Group is able to take responsibility for final registration and ensure that all documentation and legal matters are completed in compliance with local and internal laws.





Dubai is recognised around the world for its soaring skyscrapers, top class business credentials and the sheer chutzpah of its global ambition to be the best city in the world.

Now the fourth most-visited city in the world, Dubai has gained a well-deserved reputation for luxury and quality. Residents enjoy a high standard of living complemented by year-round sunshine, a seasonally dry climate, beautifully maintained public spaces and a beachfront lifestyle.

Increasingly, the city's rich cultural heritage is showcased through its yearround calendar of events at a growing number of museums, art galleries, theatres, cinemas and outdoor venues.

Dubai is also a shopper's dream, offering a panoply of luxurious shopping malls. The city is home to The Dubai Mall, one of the globe's largest retail destinations and purveyor of virtually every luxury brand in the world.

Visitors and residents can also enjoy a more traditional shopping experience at the city's various souks and markets.

Home to residents from over 200 countries, Dubai has evolved into an exotic culinary melting pot. From street-side vendors selling traditional snacks to high-end restaurants and international celebrity chefs, the city's foodie credentials are increasingly on the radar for global restaurant critics.

Dubai has excellent transport links and features an efficient and affordable taxi service, private limousine companies, an automated metro system, bus network, and even the option of water taxis. A modern system of flyovers, bridges and interchanges is designed to accelerate business movement and support the existing network of UAE highways.

It's no exaggeration to say that Dubai has something for everyone. The city's cosmopolitan vibe, open-armed approach to business and sheer range of options set it apart from many international cities.



#### **UAE Residency Services**

The UAE residency options span a number of visa types, such as Employment, Investor, Governmental and Sponsor.

The obtainment of a residence visa is dependent on several criteria and is overseen by the Department of Naturalisation and Residency of Dubai (DNRD) and similar entities in other emirates.

Eligibility is assessed through several factors, such as contractual employment with a UAE based company, property ownership and shareholdings in UAE-based companies.

A residence visa is essential for all expatriates looking to launch a business in the UAE, and for their employees. The process includes a mandatory medical exam.

Visas are valid for two to three years (and extendable) and a labour card is also issued.

Residents must also apply for an Emirates ID card, which has the same validity period as the visa and is a mandated form of identification for various UAE government and immigration activities.

A residence visa is also required for day-to-day red tape, such as opening a bank account, getting a driving licence, registering a vehicle, applying for a PO Box, liquor licence applications and e-gate access. Business owners are also issued with an Establishment Card.

Property owners can apply for a two-year residence permit, which is applicable on properties valued at Dhs1 million or above, but is not a visa with a right to work.

If exiting the country for six months or longer, the residence visa is rendered invalid and your passport must be valid for at least three full months if traveling in/out the country.

New legislation introduced in 2017 has further streamlined the process for residents who are no longer required to visit the General Directorate of Residency and Foreign Affairs in order to renew or apply for visas. All transactions can now be carried out at the approved Amer typing centers.



# Start your business in the UAE

#### Starting a business in the UAE can take several different forms. The process of company formation differs according to which emirate you choose to set up in.

The advantages of setting up in the UAE are numerous. Most businesses do not pay direct taxes on corporate profits or personal income and customs duties stand at four per cent, with many exemptions.

What's more, there are no foreign exchange controls, trade quotas and the dollar is pegged to the UAE dirham.

Costs in other key areas such as import duties, labour, energy, and financing are also highly competitive.

The UAE is privy to an extensive foreign trade network, giving investors access to global marketing outlets for their goods and services. Dubai is also a major re-export hub for the region.



#### **UAE** company advantages

- 100 per cent foreign ownership
- Banking confidentiality guaranteed by law
- No public registry
- 100 per cent exemption from corporate and income taxes
- Zero foreign currency restrictions
- Full repatriation of company profits and capital
- Low set-up costs compared to onshore companies
- No physical office requirements, so no employee or labour-related costs
- No share capital requirement
- Ability for offshore company to act as a holding company

The UAE federal government oversees the entire country, but each of the seven individual emirates also has its own laws and regulations in place related to company incorporation and financial oversight.

## There are also three company set up options:

- In a free zone, where no local partner is required
- As an offshore business.
- As a wholly local business outside of a free zone, which requires a local sponsor agreement

All business owners looking to secure a trade licence are also required to declare their core services and the nature of their business. This is an extremely important decision, as once formally established, the company is not allowed to perform any other service outside of the agreed scope of services.

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in UAE Free Zones**

The UAE is home to more than 40 free zones, many of which are industry specific and contribute to the economy in different ways.

UAE free zones are a magnet for foreign direct investment, provide thousands of jobs, drive economic diversification outside of traditional hydrocarbons and support the transfer of knowledge, technology and expertise to the Emirates.

#### List of UAE Freezones

- Ajman
- Fujairah Creative City
- DIFC
- DMCC
- Dubai Airport
- Dubai Healthcare City
- Dubai Mainland
- Dubai Maritime City
- Dubai World Central
- Hamriyah
- Jebel Ali
- Media City
- Rakia & RAK
- Sharjah Airport
- Silicon Oasis
- UAQ

Free zones are an attractive option for market entry businesses. Each free zone is governed by an independent authority which issues operating trade licences for Free Zone Establishments (FZEs) and assists businesses with the UAE company formation process.

There is also the option of setting up a branch or representative office of an existing or parent company based in the UAE or overseas. Different types of licence are applicable in the different free zones, with specific restrictions regarding operational remit.

Unlike onshore (LLC) companies, where a UAE National majority partner (51 percent) is required in order to set up a business, a free zone trade licence comes with 100 percent ownership.



#### **Ajman**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Ajman Free Zone

Strategically positioned close to both Dubai (12 kilometres) and Sharjah (two kilometres), Ajman Free Zone offers convenient accessibility to two international airports and four seaports, including Ajman Port, which is directly opposite the free zone.

Ajman Free Zone Authority is the free zone's regulatory authority. This freezone lends a strong focus to industrial activity with a choice of warehousing space, land for industrial investment, smart offices and executive office facilities.

#### **Activities and licences**

Four types of RAK licence are available: trading, industrial, professional/services and national industrial.

#### Types of legal entities

- An individual or a corporate entity can set up and do business in Ajman Free Zone under any of the following legal entities:
- Free Zone Establishment (FZE) entity with one shareholder
- Free Zone Company (FZC) two to five shareholders
- Branch of a foreign company
- Branch of a local company

#### **Benefits**

- 100 per cent exemption from import and export duties
- · Zero service charges and hidden fees
- Exceptionally low handling charges
- 20-year land contract with guaranteed option for further 20 year renewal
- 40-year tax and customs-free operation
- Low leasing prices
- World-class infrastructure
- Lowest tariffs in the region
- 100 per cent repatriation of capital and profits
- No personal income tax
- Zero corporate tax
- Customs duty exemption in GCC countries
- Excellent transportation links and accessibility
- Affordable utilities

#### **Business-friendly environment**

- Simplified incorporation process
- Hassle-free and business-friendly company laws and legal framework
- Fast-track immigration process
- One-stop-shop service offering a variety of government services, including
- Licensing, visa, traffic and postal services

#### **Fujairah Creative City**

# **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Fujairah Creative City**

Fujairah Creative City (FCC) free zone is headquartered on the east coast of the UAE but also provides administrative support and office space in the Downtown Dubai district.

The free zone was set up to offer a modern hub to attract businesses operating in the design, media communications and technology industries. FCC can offer a virtual office without requiring a physical office location.

#### **Activities and Licences**

- Publishing
- Broadcasting management
- Marketing and media services
- Music and entertainment
- Consultancy
- Broadcasting
- Production, post-production and filming
- Information technology services

- A cost-effective alternative compared to other media hubs in the region
- 100 per cent foreign ownership
- Low operating costs
- Business-friendly regulations
- Art production equipment and support
- High-tech communication facilities
- 100 per cent income and corporate tax exemption
- 100 per cent capital and profits repatriation

#### **DIFC**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in DIFC**

Launched in 2004, DIFC continues to attract high calibre firms from across the globe.

Its sector focus includes banking services, capital markets, asset management and fund registration, insurance and reinsurance, Islamic finance, and professional services provision.

#### **Activities and Licences**

- Non-regulated licences: Covers anything not related to banking and finance. Nonfinancial activities also extend to specialized establishments such as hotels and academic institutions.
- Regulated licences: Banking and finance-related business activities supported by an enabling and evolving financial regulatory ecosystem.

#### **Benefits**

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Zero tax on income and profits
- Access to an extensive tax treaty network for UAE-incorporated entities
- Freedom to repatriate capital and profits without restriction
- Internationally-accepted laws and regulatory processes
- A world-class, independent, regulatory agency working alongside other financial regulatory agencies located in major global jurisdictions

- A wholly transparent operating environment, compliant with global best practices
- A dollar-denominated environment
- An international stock exchange with primary and secondary listings of debt and equity instruments
- Access to a variety of legal vehicles that may be established with capital structuring flexibility
- A responsive one-stop-shop service for visas, work permits and other related requirements
- The DIFC Free Zone is located next to the popular Downtown Dubai district with Dubai International Airport just 15 minutes away



#### **DMCC**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in DMCC

The DMCC free zone is Dubai's dedicated commodities marketplace. Bequeathed with a Standard & Poor's 'A' rating, the zone offers an industry-specific market infrastructure for gems, energy and other commodities industries.

The DMCC authority offers a number of valuable business incentives and services housed within a collection of purpose-built towers in addition to plots of land allocated for specialised manufacturing operations.

#### **Activities and licences**

- DMCC Licence: For company activities related to commodities and other associated trades and services
- JLT Licence: For all other business activities
- Companies can operate as a new company, a branch, subsidiary or representative office

- 100 per cent foreign ownership
- Guaranteed 50-year tax holiday on personal and income taxes
- Purpose-built infrastructure available on freehold or leasehold basis
- One-stop-shop facility for documentation processing
- Import duty exemption
- 100 per cent capital and profits repatriation
- Access to low energy tariffs
- Access to a highly skilled pool of workers



#### **Dubai Airport**

#### Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai Airport Free Zone

Established in the mid-1990s, Dubai Airport Free Zone (DAFZA) is situated within the boundary of Dubai International Airport and its major terminals. The free zone also has an onsite Dubai Customs office to expedite cargo clearance, state-of-the-art office accommodation, a dedicated logistics centre, team of specialised business consultants, conference rooms, business lounge, lecture hall and catering facilities.

#### **Activities and licences**

Both trade and service licences are available.

- Free Zone Company (FZCO): Formed with a minimum of one shareholder and a maximum of 50, either individual (a person) or non-individual (a company). A minimum share capital of AED 1,000/- is required.
- Branch office of an existing company: No share capital is required.

DAFZA trade licence activity covers manufacturing, processing, assembling packaging, import of raw materials, export of finished products, import-export distribution, trade licence item storage and all types of services industries.

#### **Benefits**

- Premium location within the boundaries of Dubai International Airport
- Access to Dubai Cargo Village and FLC Air cargo terminal facilities
- Investor-oriented management
- On-site customs inspection
- 24/7 operation and security
- Access to inexpensive utilities services
- 100 percent corporate tax exemption
- 100 percent personal income tax and importexport tax exemption
- 100 percent foreign company ownership
- 100 percent capital and profits repatriation



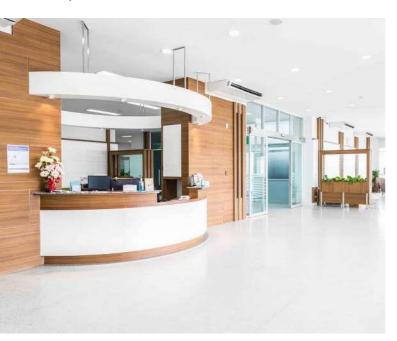
#### **Dubai Healthcare City**

# Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai Healthcare City

DHCC is a free zone with a focus on high-quality healthcare facilities. The zone is home to a collection of big-ticket hospitals, medical centres and laboratories and is fast establishing itself as a provider of quality professional health and wellbeing services for the region.

#### Audience

DHCC attracts healthcare providers, medical researchers and wellness professionals to its location next to Rashid Hospital in Dubai.



#### **Activities and licences**

- Foreign company branch
- UAE company/establishment branch
- Free Zone Limited Liability Company (FZ-LLC)

Valid business categories for commercial licence applications include clinical (in-patient/out-patient), healthcare consultancy, support and education, publishing, education and training services (non-healthcare), service provider, consultancy, regional headquarters, hotels and leisure services and property management services.

#### **Benefits**

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Exemption for all import duties
- 100 percent capital and profits repatriation
- Corporate tax exemption for 50 years
- Access to low energy tariffs
- Access to a highly skilled pool of healthcare workers



#### **Dubai Mainland**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai Mainland**

A Limited Liability Company (LLC) offers an alternative to the free zone model, and is ideal for companies that intend to serve a client base in the UAE itself, or that plan to tender for government contracts.

As an onshore entity, 51 percent or more of the company's equity must be owned by a UAE National.

In some cases, certain industries are able to operate with 100 percent foreign ownership and UAE clients. However, a UAE National must be a business partner and available to liaise with relevant local government authorities.

Another option is to operate via an industry-specific free zone that permits local trading. For example, the Dubai Knowledge Village free zone allows human resources companies to work with clients outside of the free zone jurisdiction while retaining full tax exemption.





#### **Dubai Maritime City**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai Maritime City

Located north of Dubai Creek between Port Rashid and Dubai Dry Docks, and situated on a manmade peninsula, the free zone is just 10 kilometres from Dubai International Airport.

A multi-use development, Dubai Maritime City serves most sectors of the maritime industry in one location and is also home to ship repair and maintenance facilities.

#### **Activities and licences**

The zone is focused on maritime business opportunities and provides licences for maritime services, maritime industrial operations, marine management, maritime research, and yacht manufacturing/repair.

#### Types of legal entities

- Free Zone establishment
- Free Zone Company
- Branch office

- 100 per cent foreign ownership
- Exemption for import duties
- 100 per cent repatriation of capital and profits
- Corporate tax exemption for 50 years
- Access to low energy tariffs
- Access to a well-trained and highly skilled pool of workers



#### **Dubai South**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai South

Dubai South free zone is part of a master-planned city centered around the new Al Maktoum International Airport, which will be the world's largest airport once completed.

Covering 140 square kilometres, the free zone serves as a strategic platform for the growth of logistics, aviation, light industry and ancillary service businesses spread across eight integrated districts and the business park.

#### **Activities and licences**

- Commercial licence: allows the holder to carry out specified commercial services including general trading and logistics services
- Service licence: for services specified in the licence within the Dubai South free zone and elsewhere in the UAE
- Industrial licence: for specified light manufacturing activities
- Education licence: for educational and social services, educational aid training and educational consultancy services

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- 100 percent tax-free operations
- 100 percent repatriation of capital and profits
- Zero tax or duty for import and export
- Flexible commercial lease terms

- Minimum documentation required to setup a company
- No proof of share capital required
- No currency restrictions
- Competitive rates
- Modern facilities
- Easy access to Jebel Ali Sea Port and Al Maktoum International Airport
- Flexi-desk or flexi-office facilities



#### Hamriyah

# Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Hamriyah Free Zone

Located in Sharjah, Hamriyah Free Zone is linked to the adjacent port and offers unique opportunities for companies trading in imports, exports and logistics. The free zone's facilities include a large contingent of storage units, factories and office space. The zone is managed by Hamriyah Free Zone Authority and covers 10 million square metres of prime industrial and commercial land plus a deep-water harbour.

#### Activities and licences

- Industrial Licence: allows the holder to import raw materials for the purpose of manufacturing, processing and/or assembly of specified products with export potential.
- Commercial Licence: allows the holder to import, export, sell, distribute and store items specified on the licence.
- Service Licence: allows the holder to carry out services as specified on the trade licence within the Hamriyah Free Zone only

- Access to 14-metre deep-water port and sevenmeter-deep inner harbour
- Access to three nearby seaports
- Access to Sharjah International Airport
- Rents fixed for five years
- Quick and simple procedure for licence application approval
- Support with recruitment and sponsorship of personnel and procurement of visas
- Access to full suite of administrative support services
- Access to affordable utilities and energy



#### Jebel Ali

## **Emirates Group Services can help you** start your business in Jebel Ali Free Zone

Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA) was a forerunner of the free zone model and is home to over 7,000 companies from its position as one of the largest and most active ports in the Middle East.

Just 60 minutes' drive from Dubai International Airport and within easy reach of the new Al Maktoum International Airport, JAFZA is an award-winning ISO-certified free zone attracting more than 32 per cent of the UAE's foreign direct investment. The thriving zone sustains over 144,000 jobs.

JAFZA facilities include high quality flexible office space, light industrial units, warehouse space and various sizes of land plots for long-term leasing.

#### **Activities and licences**

- General trading licence: allows the holder to import, distribute and store items as per JAFZA rules and regulations
- Trading licence: allows the holder to import, export, distribute and store specific items as listed on the licence
- Industrial licence: allows importation of raw materials, manufacturing of specified products and export
- Service licence: allows the holder to carry out specified services within the free zone. Services must confirm to parent company's licence issued either by the Economic Department, Municipality of the relevant emirate

 National industrial licence: for manufacturing companies majority-owned (51 percent+) by a GCC National. The value added to the product in the free zone must amount to a minimum of 40 percent. This licence affords the holder the same status as a GCC National inside the UAE.

- 100 per cent foreign ownership
- Import duty exemption
- 100 per cent capital and profits repatriation
- Corporate tax exemption for 50 years
- Access to low energy tariffs
- Access to a well-trained and highly skilled labor pool



#### **Dubai Media City**

#### Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai Media City

DMC is home to prestigious media organisations, such as The Financial Times, The Economist Group and The Times (UAE edition). The freezone is a thriving, creative hub for the region's creative industry.

DMC is strategically located along Sheikh Zayed Road, close to Palm Jumeirah and on the periphery of New Dubai, with easy access to both Jebel Ali and Al Maktoum International Airport as well as to Dubai's central business district.

#### **Activities and licences**

- Free Zone Limited Liability Company (FZ-LLC)
- Foreign company branch (where the applicant is a foreign registered corporate)
- UAE company branch where the applicant is a UAE-registered corporate
- Freelance permit

Applicable licence activities include advertising and communication, media and marketing services, media support services, event management, event support services, media consultancy, new media, business information, freelancers and not-for-profit associations.

#### **Benefits**

- Modern infrastructure with high quality office space, good public transport links and competitively priced utilities
- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Full repatriation of profits and capital
- Guaranteed 50-year exemption from personal, income and corporate taxes
- Exemption from customs duty for goods and services
- Metro Ethernet environment
- Digital voice and high-speed data services at competitive rates



#### **RAK & RAKIA**

#### Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in RAK Free Trade Zone & RAKIA

Located in the northernmost corner of the UAE, 60 minutes' drive from Dubai International Airport, RAK FTZ and RAKIA are a dynamic combined force on the UAE free zone scene spread across four parks: industrial, academic, business and technology.

A multi-disciplinary free zone environment, RAK FTZ and RAKIA were established in 2000 and are the investment destination of choice for more than 8,600 companies from over 100 countries, representing in excess of 50 industry sectors.

#### **Activities and Licences**

Available legal entities:

- Free Zone Establishment (FZE): a new business entity with a sole owner
- Free Zone Company (FZC): a new business entity owned by 2-5 shareholders
- Local company branch: branch of a domestic, UAE located company where the parent company has been established for 12+ months
- Foreign company branch: branch of an overseas company where the parent company has been established for 12+ months

#### Licence types

Commercial: allows a company to import, export, distribute, or warehouse goods with a choice of specific or general trading licence

Consultancy services: allows a company to conduct services or consultancies across any industry

Industrial: for the importation of raw materials as well as to manufacture, process, package, and export finished products

Educational: to open any type of learning or training institution as well as education-related consultancy

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Import duty exemption
- 100 percent capital and profits repatriation
- Corporate tax exemption for 50 years
- Access to low energy tariffs
- Access to a highly skilled pool of workers
- Choice of flexi facilities, standard offices, executive offices, shell and core schemes, warehousing and industrial land



### Sharjah Airport International

Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Sharjah Airport International Free Zone (SAIF-ZONE)

Established in 1995, SAIF-ZONE is located within the airport zone and offers a 24-hour licensing service that reflects its position at the heart of the emirate's bustling passenger aviation and cargo hub.

Sharjah accounts for over one-third of the country's industrial activity. Its free zone community tallies more than 6,500 companies that have access to an industrial park, land for lease, prebuilt and temporary warehousing and labour accommodation.

### **Activities and Licences**

Available licence types include service, industrial and trading (commercial and general).

### **Benefits**

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- 100 percent repatriation of capital and profits
- 100 percent exemption from income and corporate tax
- Licence issued within 24 hours
- · Onsite labour accommodation
- Sponsorship and visa processing
- Strategic location
- 24-hour equipment and labor provision hotline
- Simplified procedures

- Support services from Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Sharjah Expo
- Competitive fee, property and management structure
- 24/7 operation
- No restrictions on expatriate worker hire



### **Dubai Silicon Oasis**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Dubai Silicon Oasis (DSO)

This free zone hub is aimed at modern tech-centric industries, including precision electronics and communications technology. DSO offers a world-class telecommunications infrastructure, fibre optic networks and affordable utility provisions.

Located off the Dubai-Al Ain Road (E66) and E311, the free zone is a convenient 30-minute drive away from Jebel Ali Port and Port Rashid, and offers a wide range of facilities including office space, multi-use warehousing, land for development and conference facilities.

### **Activities and licences**

- Service Licence: allows the registered entity to carry out specified services
- Trade Licence: allows the registered entity to practice activities related to import, export, and distribution of items and goods as specified in the licence.
- Industrial Licence: allows the registered entity to import raw material, manufacture, and process, assemble, package and export the finished product.

### Company types

- Company branch
- Free Zone Establishment (FZE)
- Free Zone Company (FZCO)

### **Special licences**

- Business Operation Permit: a special permit for companies operating in the DSO administrative zone using a licence issued by Dubai Economic Department (DED). No share capital required
- Entrepreneurial Business Licence: Designed to accelerate the development of young entrepreneurs and their businesses with support resources and services. Applicable to DSO incubator programme participants only.

### **Benefits**

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Exempt from all import duties
- 100 percent capital and profits repatriation
- Corporate tax exemption for 50 years
- Access to low energy tariffs
- Access to a highly skilled pool of workers



### **UAQ**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in UAQ Free Zone**

Umm Al Quwain (UAQ) Free Zone is conveniently located 45 minutes drive from Dubai International Airport and within easy reach of Sharjah International Airports.

The free zone operates within a transparent legal framework and offers an open investment climate with low costs for living and labour.

### **Activities and licences**

- Commercial licence
- Service licence
- Consultancy licence
- Special consultancy licence
- Freelance permit
- Industrial licence
- Micro-business licence

### **Benefits**

- Remote set-up
- Zero corporate and personal income tax
- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Full range of business activities permitted
- 100 percent repatriation of capital and profits
- 100 percent import and export tax exemption within the free zone

- Simple and fast registration process with excellent customer support
- Hi-tech facilities including office, warehouse and land availability
- Strategic location with access to over two billion consumers
- Ideal location for SMEs and micro-businesses
- Special concessions at UAQ's sea port
- No restrictions on hiring foreign employees
- Modern and investor-friendly rules and regulations



### Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in UAE Offshore

Setting up an offshore company from the UAE is a popular choice for businesses looking to secure presence in the region.

### **UAE Offshore**

- Incorporation & Administration
- RAK Offshore
- Shelf & Vintage Companies
- UAE Company Advantages

### Benefits of setting up an offshore company

- Operational freedom
- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Double taxation avoidance agreement
- Option to purchase real estate in approved areas
- Low set-up costs/minimal capital requirement
- Complete confidentiality

An offshore entity can be structured in several ways: as an international business corporation; offshore limited liability company; trust or offshore foundation. Each entity comes with its own legal framework.

By law, the incorporation process must be executed through a registered UAE-based agent. Europe Emirates Group is an expert in offshore company formation and can guide you through the multi-step process and provide post set-up support.

### UAE offshore company advantages

UAE offshore companies can serve many business purposes, including:

- Traditional commercial entities
- Ownership of overseas financial and real estate assets
- Inheritance planning
- Holding company formation
- Special purpose vehicles
- Ship registration
- Tax optimisation

The advantages of setting up companies in the UAE are numerous. Most businesses do not pay direct taxes on corporate profits or personal income and customs duties stand at four per cent, with many exemptions. What's more, there are no foreign exchange controls, trade quotas and the dollar is pegged to the UAE dirham.

Costs in other key areas such as import duties, labour, energy, and financing are also highly competitive. The UAE is privy to an extensive foreign trade network, giving investors access to global marketing outlets for their goods and services. Dubai is also a major re-export hub for the region.



### **Incorporation & Administration**

## Emirates Group Services is a market leader in company formation services.

We work with a diverse client base, including accountants, lawyers, trust companies, banks, fiduciaries, independent financial advisors, stockbrokers and tax advisors.

## Our incorporation and administration services include:

 Company formation and trusts and a wide range of corporate disciplines covering company structuring and restructuring, banking solutions, payroll, residency processing and visa/ employment regulations.

### **RAK Offshore**

### **RAK International Corporate Centre**

Ras Al Khaimah (RAK) is the UAE's northernmost emirate, located 60 minutes' drive from Dubai International Airport. RAK also has its own dedicated airport and thriving Saqr Port.

One of two offshore jurisdictions in the UAE, RAK International Corporate Centre (formerly RAK Offshore) offers a well-regulated and transparent financial services environment that provides outsourcing solutions and offshore banking services to non-resident companies.

However, prospective clients should note that, as with other UAE free zones, incorporated companies with RAK Offshore offices are not permitted to conduct business or provide business services within the UAE itself.

### **Benefits of RAK Offshore incorporation**

- Zero currency restrictions
- No minimum shareholder number restrictions
- Zero capital deposit requirements
- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Zero tax
- Zero import duty
- Registered office in Dubai through Europe Emirates Group





### **Shelf & Vintage Companies**

### Shelf and vintage companies

The purchase of an existing 'shelf' or 'vintage' company comes with various benefits as the business name and incorporation process have already been completed. This offers a turnkey solution and enables quick business start-up, however, due diligence is required to ensure any liability is mitigated.

Emirates Group Services expertise includes a throughout business audit evaluation to ascertain potential financial or other liabilities, which can be an issue as offshore companies are not required to maintain a local accounting system.

We navigate the pre-acquisition maze to present an accurate and honest business case. All shelf company acquisition applications must receive prior approval from our team of due diligence specialists.



### **UAE Company Advantages**

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- Banking confidentiality guaranteed by law
- No public registry
- 100 per cent exemption from corporate and income taxes
- Zero foreign currency restrictions
- Full repatriation of company profits and capital
- Low set-up costs compared to onshore companies
- No physical office requirements, so no employee or labour-related costs
- No share capital requirement
- Ability for offshore company to act as a holding company

The UAE federal government oversees the entire country, but each of the seven individual emirates also has its own laws and regulations in place related to company incorporation and financial oversight.

## There are also three company set up options:

- In a free zone, where no local partner is required
- As an offshore business
- As a wholly local business outside of a free zone, which requires a local sponsor agreement

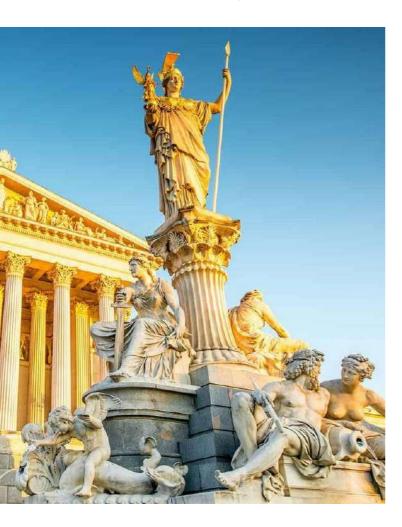
All business owners looking to secure a trade licence are also required to declare their core services and the nature of their business. This is an extremely important decision, as once formally established, the company is not allowed to perform any other service outside of the agreed scope of services.

### Austria

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Austria

Citizens from any country can form a company in Austria under the GmbH limited format with the process taking around 14 working days.

The person(s) forming the company are required to provide photographic ID proof of residency along with company information such as the name of the director, address, birthdate and nationality.



The names and addresses of shareholders for the company must also be provided. Company residential address proof must also be submitted in the form of a three-month-old (or less) utility bill or bank statement.

A history of the company prior to establishment in Austria and description of company activities is also required. The company will then have to prepare a NEUFO and a notary public must be engaged to prepare the Articles of Association.

Documents at formation must include the notarised declaration that the company has been established, declarations from bankers that minimum cash deposits have been made, the Articles of Association and signatures from the managing directors that document the formation tax has been paid, along with confirmation from the tax authorities.

This precedes trade licence issuance, with the information then sent to the tax authority.

### The tax authority requires:

- An opening balance sheet
- An ID for the managing director
- Signatures of company representatives
- The Articles of Association
- An excerpt from the companies register

Once completed, the information is given to the relevant municipality.

Shareholders do not have to be Austrian residents. There must be one shareholder, but the director of the company may also perform this role. Corporate shareholders are permitted for GmbH organisations. The company must also have a registered office.

### **Bahamas**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Bahamas

The incorporation of an International Business Company (IBC) in the Bahamas takes approximately three days to complete. The country offers numerous tax benefits including a 20-year exemption on capital gains, transaction tax, inheritance and income tax.

Bahamian law requires that there be only one company director - either a corporation or individual from any country. Company meetings need not take place in the Bahamas and the country also allows unrestricted foreign currency transactions.

### To form an IBC, applicants should provide:

- The name of the director
- Their birthdate
- Nationality
- Current address
- Designated company name with liability status suffix
- Full names/addresses of any shareholders.

Existing company names or those that could be misrepresented as a government entity are not permitted. This should be supported by official photographic ID plus utility bills or bank statements as proof of residential address.

A local office is not a prerequisite for Bahamas company formation and legal requirements can be serviced through the Europe Emirates Group associate office.

### **Benefits**

- Fast track company formation
- Non-taxable transactions may be conducted outside Bahamian jurisdiction
- Full corporate ownership
- Zero death, inheritance or capital gains taxes
- Zero capital requirement for share issuance
- No filing of annual returns or accounts required for company formation
- All nationalities may form a company in the Bahamas



### **Belize**

Company formation for an International Business Company (IBC) takes just 48 hours and is tax-free. The country is also known for its corporate confidentiality commitment. There is no requirement for directors or shareholders to publicly announce any relevant information or corporate reporting, apart from publication of the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Only share holders are allowed to inspect share registers.

### IBCs do not need to have:

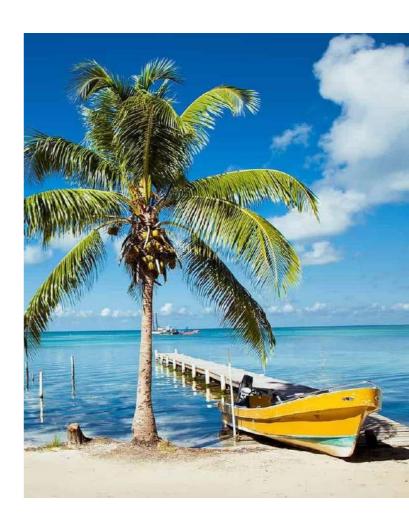
- Paid-up capital
- Be audited
- Pay local/national taxes
- Maintain a secretary or hold company meetings

Belize company registration should be renewed annually on 2 January. Incorporation fees are applicable and the company should keep its registration current in order to be able to obtain relevant documents and services from the registrar.

To form an IBC, companies are required to provide a name, director and shareholder details along with their address. Director and shareholder can be one and the same, and only one shareholder is required (and may also be a corporation). Directors can be overseas residents. Once the company provides the corporate Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the process is completed, the registrar will issue a Certificate of Incorporation.

### **Benefits**

- Tax-free business environment
- Zero currency restrictions
- Zero paid-up capital requirement
- No auditing
- No corporate secretary requirement nor registered office requirement
- Director can be non-resident



### **Belgium**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Belgium**

Belgium company formation is mandated through the Besloten Vennootschap met Beperkte Aansprakelijkheid (BVBA) with limited liability. This vehicle also ties the liability of shareholders to the amount of capital invested in the business, with limitations of the transfer of shares.

The company name requires prior approval and a director and names of each shareholder in the company must be submitted along with addresses, proof of nationality, address, birthdate and establishing documents in the form of photographic ID. The provision of bank statements or utility bills (under three months old) is also required as proof of address, in addition to high school diploma and the business plan.



Directors can be non-resident and from anywhere in the world. There is no requirement for a locally appointed representative. Company formation in Belgium allows the director to be a corporation.

For individual directors, the qualifications of the person registered as the director will be scrutinised. The director of the company can also be the sole shareholder.

The business must submit a detailed financial plan, including disclosure on how accounting will be handled and providing relevant forms as well as financial information for the two years prior to filing, including information on how the company will sustain itself, information on capital investment in the firm and shareholder information.

A registered address is mandatory and shares need to be registered. There are limitations on how stock can be sold in the company. The company must deposit capital at the outset of formation, the amount of which will vary. The plan has to be given to a notary and an official notice must be published in the Belgium Official Gazette.

The deed of incorporation is brought to the Register Office where the final stages involve filing with the Local Commercial Court and registering with the Register of Legal Persons. Registering for VAT and with social security completes the process and an identification number is provided. After the company receives its VAT number, it has three months to register with the Office of Social Security.

### **Bermuda**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Bermuda

Bermuda company formation takes approximately one working week, and allows for completely foreign-owned companies known as Bermuda Exempt Companies. All business types are permitted except for banking, insurance, reinsurance, assurance, investment advice and fund management.

The name of the proposed company should be registered with the Registrar of Companies and there is no requirement that the director be resident in Bermuda. However, it is required that a single company representative - director, secretary or representative - live in Bermuda. Corporate ownership is also permitted.

Bermuda requires that the company maintains a local office with a resident secretary, and that the share register, minute book and register of directors are kept onland. A Bermuda Exempt Company cannot do business in Bermuda. It may not employ anyone in Bermuda and may not own an office or any property.

The Bermuda Monetary Authority is responsible for application processing, and requires the name, office location, business declaration and proposed corporation ownership details along with a personal shareholder declaration.

The Registrar will require the Memorandum of Association for the company, with registrants required to disclose financial information including the par value of the shares and share capital. Bearer shares are not acceptable and Bermuda does not allow corporations with shares that have zero par value to register.

Company ownership information remains confidential but must be submitted to the Minister of Finance. There is a requirement to declare share capital, which is used to determine the re-registration fee, which should be done every January. The requirements for keeping audited financial statements can be removed upon unanimous company/director agreement.

### **Benefits**

- 100 percent foreign ownership
- 100 percent exemption from capital gains and estate taxes
- 100 percent exemption from income taxes and taxes on dividends



### **British Virgin Islands**

### Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in British Virgin Islands

The British Virgin Islands (BVI) offers an International Business Company (IBC) option for company formation and charges reasonable fees with a fast-track approval process that takes two to three days on average.

Corporations can be formed with only one director and one shareholder, who can be one and the same and companies can also fall under corporate ownership and shareholders.

To start the process, the proposed company name must be submitted along with the name of the director(s) and their birthdate, address and nationality. For shareholders, the full name and address is required. Nominee shareholders may also be appointed. There are no nationality requirements nor do names appear on public record. A director does not need to be resident.

Identity and nationality can be established with photographic ID along with utility bill or bank statement copies (three months old or less) as proof of address. The Registry of Corporate Affairs keeps all business-related documents only information (registered office address, name of registered agent and company name).

Businesses operating in the British Virgin Islands are required to have a physical address and this can be serviced through the Emirates Europe Group associate office.

There are no requirements for the filing of financial statements and all income generated outside of BVI borders is tax exempt. The BVI government also offers foreign language services.

### **Benefits**

- Zero minimum share capital requirement
- Zero requirement for annual report filing
- Zero restrictions on foreign capital
- Tax-free rent, dividends, royalties, interests or other forms of compensation
- Zero currency restrictions
- Affordable incorporation fees



### Bulgaria

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Bulgaria**

Bulgaria offers its own version of a private limited liability company (EOOD), which is limited to the amount of available capital. Foreign nationals or corporations can form companies and fees vary accordingly. Formation is usually completed in five days.

To complete the process of company formation, minimal documentation is required. The Memorandum of Association and the managing board of director - or details of a single director - must be provided with the information placed in the State Gazette and commercial register.

Share capital has to meet minimum requirements with required proof that the required percentage at the time of capital has been paid, and managers should be appointed at the same time.

Registration is obtained at the district court nearest the commercial registrar and the court decides upon the registration, following which notification is listed in the State Gazette.

Shareholders can be individuals or companies, as can the director. There are minimum requirements for share capital at time of the filing as well as meeting requirements (one shareholder meeting per annum).

Different types of company structures can be implemented with OOD companies that have one director and one shareholder minimum, which may be individual or companies; or EAD companies, which also have a single shareholder with a requirement that balance sheets are filed with tax authorities on an annual basis.

Minimal starting capital requirements are very low and it takes approximately 10 days to get an International VAT number. There are a variety of agencies that need to be involved from the IS and Ministry of Justice to the Court Register and State Official Gazette, plus local tax authorities.

Statutory records are required, as is a shareholder register and a director register. The company has to maintain a local registered office with annual maintenance fees and record-keeping requirements.



### Canada

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Canada

Company formation in Canada is available through two different options:

- Under provincial law, where a company is only permitted to conduct business in the province in which it is established.
- Federal formation, which permits a company to operate across Canada. The process takes around 14 working days to complete.

### Step one

The first step is to submit the corporate name for approval in English or French, or a combination of the two. Once approved, a Memorandum must be submitted for the company along with the addresses of the registered office and records office. The firm must also submit rules and regulations that apply to the directors of the corporation and its shareholders.

Canada requires that businesses keep a register of directors, shareholders and securities at the registered office. They are also required to keep all of the bylaws that apply to the corporation, the minutes from any company meetings and their own copies of any filings they make with the government.

### Step two

Corporations are also required to have their own bank account and are issued with a Business Number, which is used for taxation, import and export and payroll purposes. Permits and licences are also handled under the Business Number. The Business Number can also be used as the name of the business.

Canada requires a registered office for a business, which should be the same place where the business conducts most of its operations.

Records of shareholders, the amounts and shares that they own and their address information also have to be maintained.

### **Step three**

Companies must register with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) to file corporate business taxes. The CRA also handles payroll deductions, GST and harmonised sales tax as per the fiscal year (any 12-month period you choose).

Officers within the company are allowed to hold more than one position and non-resident shareholders and directors may serve as corporate officers, but a President and Secretary must be appointed.



### Costa Rica

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Costa Rica**

Costa Rica allows the formation of a Sociedad Anonima (SA), which requires that the structure of the company be disclosed along with information about the share capital and other information. The process takes approximately two weeks.

The proposed name and SA suffix (foreign names are permissible providing a Spanish language translation is also provided) should be submitted to the Public Registry. Costa Rica company formation requires three directors of any nationality along with shareholders. Once formed, one person may hold all the shares and businesses with corporate ownership are also permitted.

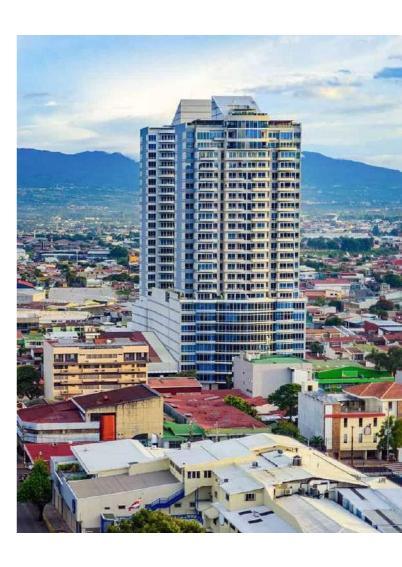
There is also zero requirement for minimum share capital at the time of incorporation, although 25 percent of it must be paid and the transfer of shares and ownership of shares is regulated. The Articles of Incorporation must be notarised by a Costa Rican notary public, in order for a registration card number to be issued.

The company is required to maintain a minutes book for the directors and general assembly with a registry of shareholders and three accounting books. Tax authority registration is mandated.

To register a company in Costa Rica, a country-based fiscal and resident agent are required, and the company must maintain a locally registered address with directors listed as Secretary Treasurer and President.

### **Benefits**

- Corporate and income tax-free business environment
- Zero requirement for financial statement filing
- High level of corporate confidentiality
- Zero requirement for corporate meetings provided business isn't conducted in Costa Rica
- Low business registration and maintenance fees



### **Cyprus**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Cyprus

Cyprus company formation is a popular option and overseen by a Cyprus Law Office. The first step is name approval, followed by an application which is made to the Central Bank for Exchange Control.

Corporate structure is similar to an LLC and the director or other representatives are not required to be present during formation. However, a secretary must be appointed and a registered local office must be opened.

### Relevant information required includes:

- Submission of the company name, director and shareholder names
- A statement of the company's business activities and amount of capital within the business
- The number of shares owned by each shareholder must also be disclosed
- Photographic ID and a three-month-old or less utility bill or bank statement

Once agency approval is received, the Memorandum and Articles of Association have to be prepared in Greek and English, and the Registrar of Companies will then issue the Certificate of Registration with two copies (Greek and English) provided.

The office will also supply survey copies of the list of shareholders, the registered office, the directors, the secretary and other necessary information.

Cyprus company formation requires only one director and shareholder and there are no nationality restrictions. Shareholders may be persons or corporations. Nominee shareholders are allowed in Cyprus. Names of shareholders and any changes in shareholders have to be noted in the first company statutes. Ready-made companies are also available.

Any assets or capital gains outside of Cyprus are not taxed. Where taxes do apply, Cyprus has the lowest tax rate in the European Union with a corporate tax rate set at 10 percent. There are no withholding taxes assessed against dividends and Cyprus also has more than 40 different double taxation treaties with other countries.



### **Czech Republic**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Czech Republic**

Company formation in the Czech Republic follows the SRO corporate structure with the first step being the submission of a company name. Once approved, registration forms, along with the Articles of Association and company statutes that apply to the company, should be filed with the local registrar. The formation process usually takes approximately seven days.

Directors must be appointed and the associated minutes of the meeting submitted with notarised Articles of Association. A physical office is a further requirement and share capital requirements have to be met and proof that they are available in the bank account for the company must be submitted. The company also needs to obtain a relevant trade licence(s) before registering with the Commercial Register. Applicants need not be present in the company during formation.

A statutory representative should be appointed and requirements vary depending on whether they are a Czech, EU or other nation citizen. Proof that they are not on the criminal register is also required from country of origin. Once registered, a European VAT number is quickly obtained.

While anyone of any nationality may serve as director, they must meet Czech Republic visa requirements. The name of the director is not made public, nor does the company require that a resident director be located within the Czech Republic or any shareholder.

A directory register, shareholder register and statutory records must be maintained by the company and annual renewal fees apply.



### **Delaware**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Delaware**

Delaware is one of the most favourable and popular jurisdictions for company formation in the US. The state has no citizenship or residency requirements governing corporation establishment and company formation takes approximately four days.



One person is required to incorporate a company and this can be done remotely simply by providing photographic ID and a utility bill/bank statement not older than three months for proof of address. Approval of the proposed company name is done by the state authority.

Some industries such as insurance and reinsurance, banking and trusts require special licensing prior to name approval. The only restricted type of company is the 'S' corporation, which should be owned by a US citizen or resident.

Delaware allows the filing of Articles of Organization with the state government. For an LLC, the company should submit the operating agreement, provide membership certificates, establish a bank account and apply for an employer identification number and tax ID number.

The company has 30 days after formation to file the list of managers and members of the corporation. There is no requirement for a locally resident director, who may be of any nationality. This also applies to shareholders, and corporate entities may also be shareholders.

A registered office and agent is advised. If the company doesn't conduct any business within Delaware itself, the firm will not be liable for state business taxes.

### **Benefits**

- Zero requirement to trade in-state
- No office requirement
- Zero state business taxes
- High level of corporate anonymity
- Attractive fee structure

### **Denmark**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Denmark**

Denmark company formation takes the form of Private Limited Companies known as ApS companies and the process takes between one to two weeks. Companies are registered with the Danish Commerce and Companies Agency and provided with a CVR identifier number after the company name is approved and all the required information about the director shareholder, business type and activity and capital submitted.

The company has to submit the name of a director, along with their address, nationality and other information. Only one director is required to form a company, and directors and shareholders do not need to be residents of Denmark. There are minimal requirements for capital before formation.

The shares in the company have to come with voting rights to meet Danish standards. Shareholders sign a formation agreement, which declares the address and the name of the company and its business. The company must also disclose the name of the board of directors, the period of the first general meeting and share capital.

The company can have a managing board and board of directors. Both boards have to be registered with the Danish Commerce and Companies Agency. The government holds an official listing of all the major shareholders in the company.

The corporate structure only requires that there be one shareholder. There are no residency requirements for shareholders. The company can decide upon its own financial year, which can be extended to 18 months.

Once formed, an annual shareholders meeting is required and there are restrictions on how many foreigners can be on the Board of Directors and the Management. The company also has to declare its policies for signatories.

Further restrictions include that the first accountant be registered with the state. The name and address of the company's accountant should be provided along with the same information on the director, shareholders and other people involved with forming and running the company. Companies also need to maintain a registered office within Denmark.



### **Florida**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Florida**

Florida company formation follows the LLC corporate structure and takes approximately three days. The first step for company formation is name approval following which the Article of Incorporation are sent to the Secretary of State.

Shareholders can be from any country, except in cases where an 'S' corporation is being formed, in which case they have to be US citizens or residents. Shareholders are legally considered to be owners of the corporation. Corporate ownership of shares is also permitted. Company appointed officers are the President and CEO, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice Presidents.

Florida will issue an employer identification number once the company is incorporated, also known as a federal ID number. This is required in order to open a bank account. A registered local agent and a registered office is mandatory, and PO boxes may be used as a corporate address.

### **Benefits**

- Complete anonymity for officers and shareholders
- Tax exemption for 'S' companies
- Streamlined and predominantly online company formation process
- Zero personal income tax
- No minimum capital requirement
- Availability of ready-made corporations for purchase



### **France**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in France**

France company formation offers the société à responsabilité limitée (SARL) structure, with applicants required to register for VAT (a four-week process) and appoint a French chartered accountant to handle company business. The total formation process takes one month.

Forming an SARL requires individuals or companies outside the EU to obtain approval from the French government, which involves a criminal background check and translation of the record into French by a government-certified translator.

To register as an SARL, the company name must initially be submitted for approval along with a declaration of company business intent. One director and two shareholders should be appointed with photographic ID required for approval. The names of director spouses are also required.

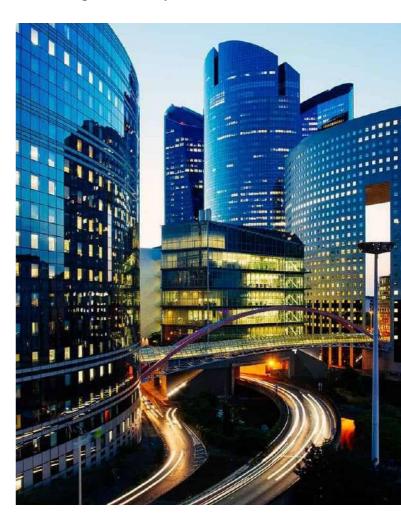
Physical office presence is mandated and the French registrar will require a copy of the agreement between the landlord and company that authorises the address to be used as the official business address.

The director can be from any country and hold any citizenship. Only one director is mandated and there are no shareholder restrictions. There are also no requirements for annual meetings, provided that there are fewer than 25 shareholders in the corporation. The director, however, has to be a person.

In France, the company director is considered to be a self-employed individual, which means they have to pay social security at the rate that a French self-employed citizen would pay.

Minimum available share capital is required and each shareholder has to have the percentage of total shares they hold declared, and the company has to provide proof of the capital requirement in the company bank account. The company must also declare when financial statements will be closed.

The registration requires that documents are filed with the Centre de Formalités des Entreprises. Once this is completed, the company is published in the Official Journal and pays the registration fee and the stamp duty. The company will also have to register with the tax authority, appoint its director and provide the minutes of the meeting and issue any shares.



### **Germany**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Germany

Germany company formation is structured as a GmbH and first requires that the company name be submitted to the Chamber of Commerce for approval, which should in some way relate to a shareholder or indicate the business type. Formation takes one to two weeks to complete and ready-made companies are also available.

Only one director is required for company formation and their name(s), addresses and proof of identity must be submitted in the form of accepted photographic ID. Establishing residency can be done with a utility bill or bank statement that is less than three months old.



The Articles of Association and Foundation Agreement have to be filed with the Trade Register. A bank account must be opened to provide the minimum agreed share capital. The minutes from the directors appointment meeting must also be provided and a fee paid at time of incorporation.

Directors can be from anywhere and have any citizenship. Germany does not require that companies have a local resident director. Shareholders may also be citizens of and reside in any nation. The director and the shareholder can be the same person and there are unlimited numbers of shareholders permitted under this structure. Germany also allows for the use of nominee shareholders.

A registered company office must be established in Germany and the company must include this information, along with the amount of share capital, the business type and purpose of the company and the amount each shareholder paid to the share capital, on a notarised document. If the company's shareholder is a foreign company, the names of the board members of that company and its official address should be noted.

Registration is performed at the local trade office where the business is situated. The minutes of the first board meeting must also be supplied with the registration. The company may have to use an approved translator. Every company has to be registered in the Trade Register.

The Trade Register, in addition to containing the company name and owner's name, contains information about granting power of attorney.

### Gibraltar

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Gibraltar**

Gibraltar company formation takes approximately five days to process once the proposed company name has been approved, after which applicants must submit a full suite of documents to establish the identities, nationalities and positions of the director(s) and shareholder(s).

### To be registered as a limited company:

- Non-residents should own the company
- Only one director is required to establish a company
- There is no requirement for a local resident director or shareholder
- Directors and shareholders can be from any country with corporations allowed to be shareholders
- A company secretary should be based in Gibraltar, and can be an individual or corporation, along with a registered office and agent.

To complete the registration process, the company must file the Memorandum and Articles of Association with the Companies Registry, and also include names and addresses of each director/shareholder. There are minimal capital requirements and, once registered, the company must have a local bank account and keep statutory books available at its registered address. An annual return must be filed and nominee shareholders may be used.

Companies may also not remit any income into Gibraltar and not trade locally to be deemed non-taxable.



### Greece

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Greece

Company formation in Greece follows the EPE/Sarl structure with the benefits of a limited liability company and takes approximately two weeks.

The process begins with name registration with the Chamber of Commerce & Industry, after which the company needs to register an office, get government approval for company statutes and register for tax purposes. Tax officials will also inspect the address, so the cost of maintaining the space needs to be calculated into the cost of registering the business.

If a single individual owns the entirety of a company, the company name must denote that. A notary public has to be engaged to see the signature of any resolutions signed for such companies.

In addition to this, if it is a single owner company, any contracts that are signed by the company owner - apart from operational transactions - have to be registered in the company Minutes and in writing.

- The articles of incorporation have to be signed in front of a notary public and the company capital will have to be put into a bank account
- Capital tax has to be paid immediately to the local Tax Authority in return for a stamp issued by the Lawyer's Pension Fund and the Lawyer's Welfare Fund provides certification
- The articles of incorporation are registered with the Court of First Instance and the company then receives a register number

- The Printing Office provides publication of the Articles of Incorporation in its official journal then registration is completed at the Chamber of Commerce & Industry and social security authorities
- The Tax Authority will stamp the invoice and company account books after receiving the Tax Registration Number.

There are minimal capital requirements and, once registered, the company must have a local bank account and keep statutory books available at its registered address. An annual return must be filed and nominee shareholders may be used.

Companies may also not remit any income into Gibraltar and not trade locally to be deemed non-taxable.

There are no restrictions on director nationality but stringent regulatory requirements mean that it is preferable to have a Greek resident on board.



### **Hong Kong**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Hong Kong**

A private limited company is the most common Hong Kong company set-up and formation is governed by regulations largely based on UK company law with undemanding compliance requirements. The set-up process takes approximately seven days.

Hong Kong company formation requires only one director, of any nationality and resident overseas. Corporate directorship is also permitted. Similarly, just one shareholder is required and there is no requirement that shareholder meetings be held in Hong Kong. Nominee shareholders are also permitted.

The company must have a registered secretary and this can be a limited company. If the secretary is an individual, they must be a Hong Kong resident. If the secretary is another corporation, they must have a Hong Kong-registered office.

Once the company name is submitted for registration (in English or Chinese), along with shareholder and director passport companies and current addresses, and subsequently approved, then the Memorandum and Articles of Association should be submitted along with information regarding appointment of the first director and the establishment of the registered office.

Once established, Business Registration is required and involves a fee. At this point, the company needs to have an official Hong Kong address, which can be serviced by the Europe Emirates Group associate office.

There is also a requirement for filing of an annual return, which must include the name and address of every shareholder, and of every person who was a shareholder within the last year but is no longer active. Share capital disclosure must also be made, however the annual return does not necessitate the inclusion of financial statements.

Minimum requirements for share capital for Hong Kong exist and fees for licences and registration are applicable.

### **Benefits**

- Fast-track registration
- Zero restrictions on foreign shareholders or directors
- Low cost of incorporation and maintenance
- No minimum requirements for share capital
- Only one director and shareholder required for company formation
- Income and capital gains tax-free environment

### **Ireland**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Ireland**

Company formation in Ireland is usually completed in two to three days but the country has specific procedural requirements.

Limited liability companies require two directors, one of which must be an EEA resident and will need to provide personal details and photographic ID to process the application. The company must also have a presence in Ireland (office) and not just be a shell company. A residential address may also be used for this purpose.

Ireland uses the NACE system to classify business activities. Shares must be priced in Euros and while the nation requires a locally based secretary, they can be a corporation rather than an individual.

Company formation in Ireland requires a local secretary who is in charge of all documentation and company accounts. An annual return also needs to be filed and services provided for stockholders and subscribers of the company. They are similarly charged with carrying out the specifics of the Memorandum and Articles of Association on behalf of the company. Companies are required to hold annual meetings.

Shares are issued after the Certificate of Incorporation is provided. Statutory records have to be maintained and an annual renewal fee applies.

Some tax immunity may be enjoyed post-formation and if profits remain under the amount that applies at the time the corporation is formed, the company can avoid paying corporate tax for a period of three years.



### **Italy**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Italy**

Company formation in Italy allows for Srl type organisations. The process takes approximately two weeks.

Formation requirements are related to share capital and the percentage needed to be deposited in an Italian bank. If there is a sole shareholder, then share capital must be paid in full.

The applying company should provide a comprehensive description of business intent along with a business plan. This includes specifying the amount of sales they expect to make in the first years of business, the value of share capital divided between shareholders and the jurisdictions in which the company will operate.

The company also has to specify whether or not it will hire employees within Italy itself. Only one director, of any nationality but with an EU passport, is required for formation and they must obtain a fiscal number. Directors should provide their full names, address, date of birth and nationality upon presentation of photographic ID.

Only one shareholder is required to form the Srl but two are preferred as companies with a single shareholder have unlimited liability. The shareholder can be a corporation.

Any company that wants to form in Italy has to open a bank account, and some banks will not permit deposits that are not made in person. If the company is small enough, as defined by EU directives, it may be able to avoid auditing. Otherwise, annual filings are required for any audited accounts.

Registration must be filed with the Register of Enterprises within 30 days of official incorporation. The fiscal code provides the number used for taxes and for other identification purposes. Once the company receives confirmation that it has been registered, it may begin doing business in Italy.

Fees include a separate fee for obtaining the VAT number and for maintaining statutory records. A shareholder register, directory register and other records, as required by law, must be maintained by the company. Annual fee and filing requirements are also mandated.



### Liberia

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Liberia

Company formation in Liberia can take as little as 24 hours and begins with the company name registration at the Liberian Registry. Under Liberian law it is permittable to register any business activity accepted under the Business Corporation Act, except for real estate ownership and trading. In special cases, some businesses are not required to purchase licensing from the Liberian government.

Only one director and one shareholder are required, but if there are more than three shareholders then the company must have three directors, who can be of any nationality and reside overseas. Shareholders can also be corporate entities.

All businesses need to have an in-country registered address but company records can be maintained in any location. Shareholders are permitted to hold meetings and pass resolutions with a two-thirds majority should the company be dissolved or sold.

Non-resident businesses are not required to file accounts with the government. Once the Memorandum and Articles of Association are prepared and documents filed with the Liberian International Ship and Corporate Registry, directors appointed, government filing fees are paid and share certificates issued, the registration process is completed.

### **Benefits**

- Tax-free business environment
- No auditing



### Liechtenstein

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Liechtenstein

Company formation in Liechtenstein covers several different formats including limited liability companies, termed as an AG or GmbH, which does not have shareholders. Set-up normally takes one working week.

A simple limited liability company requires two or more members and has a minimum capital requirement, plus one director (can also be a corporation) and a registered local agent. Each member's liability is determined by the amount of shares that they hold and annual accounts must be submitted.

For an AG company, following reservation of the company name, the local registrar and other authorities that apply are contacted, the company is structured and the Articles of Association and company statutes are registered with the Chamber of Commerce.

Anstalt is another option and is a foundation that may hold shares of international companies without a requirement for shareholders but needs starting capital and a sole director. This is particularly useful for those who want a company to maintain hold over an interest. These can include patents, copyrights, real estate and royalties.

The third type of corporation option is a trust, also known as a foundation. This is not a commercial corporation and it has no shareholders. Its structure consists of the deeds and operating assets. Foundations only need give a copy of their deed to the authorities, but it doesn't have to be specific as to what the foundation actually does.

Foundations do not have the right to conduct commercial business unless the business is in line with the purpose of the foundation, and a Board of Trustees handles administrative issues.



### Luxembourg

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Luxembourg**

Luxembourg company formation takes the SARL format and can be facilitated without visiting the country. The process requires seven working days.

A unique business name is required. Following verification, the business should open a bank account and deposit a minimum amount for share capital.



The actual incorporation process must be done in the presence of a notary. If the shareholders are not able to attend the incorporation meeting, power of attorney can be given. The notary participates in the preparation of the Articles of Association and handles all relevant authority requirements.

Following incorporation, the money-blocking certificate placed on the initial share capital is released so the company can access its funds. There are also taxes that have to be paid to the authorities.

The director may be of any nationality and reside in any country and only one director is required. It is advisable to have a director who is an EU resident for business licence processing. The names of directors do not appear on public record.

Companies with fewer than 25 shareholders do not have to hold annual general meetings and only one shareholder is required, who may also be from any nationality. Corporations can also serve as shareholders and nominee shareholders are accepted. A maximum of 40 shareholders is permitted.

A Financial Accounts Manager has to present accounts at company meetings, but there is no requirement that a company secretary be engaged.

Luxembourg levies taxes against foreign corporations, but its VAT is among the lowest in the EU. The tax rate for commercial activities on profits is generally set at 16 percent. Exemption from income taxes and capital gains taxes can be obtained if certain conditions are met, for example, if the company qualifies under double tax treaties or if the company meets EU requirements regarding parent and subsidiary companies.

### Malta

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Malta**

Company formation in Malta falls under an International Holding Company format and requires a sole director, of any nationality, who can also be a corporation. The same rules apply to shareholders. In Malta, shareholder information is publicly available. Incorporation generally takes one working week.

Proof of director identity must be submitted, with appropriate photographic ID as well as utility bill or bank statements no older than three months.

The company must establish its purpose and business activity and this will become part of the Memorandum of Association. If the company only has one member, it can only be a private limited liability company.

The next step is to contact the local registrar and other authorities, and the company structured. The Memorandum and Articles are submitted to the Malta Financial Services Authority. Publication in the official Journal is required and a tax registration number must be obtained by the company.

Shareholders who are not Malta residents can obtain a full refund on any taxes on profits or gains that they pay at the time that the company's profits are distributed.

An approved qualified secretary should be appointed to keep the company's statutory books and there must be a registered local office.

Incorporation documentation is sent to the Maltese Registrar of Companies and there is no requirement that records be locally maintained, but a Register of Directors and Register of Shareholders is required.

In Malta, there is no withholding tax for distributed dividends and there is a low tax rate on royalties and interest. International Holding Companies can also keep shares and receive royalties from other companies. The Inland Revenue Department requires annual audited accounts to be submitted.



### **Netherlands**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Netherlands**

Netherlands company formation is under the BV format, which is similar to an LLC or Ltd. Company, and single shareholder companies are also permitted.

Formation requires mandatory membership of the Chamber of Commerce, which grants the company a number in the commercial register. The directors and shareholders are not required to actually visit the Netherlands to complete the process.

A company can form with only one director and one shareholder. Once the proposed company name is approved, shareholder and director information must be submitted with appropriate photographic ID. They must also pass a background check and proof of residency is required. A local office is also required. A notary has to formally register the company before it is officially incorporated.

If the shareholder is a corporation, the documents have to be notarized before being submitted to the Dutch Ministry of Justice after which it should be registered with the Trade Registry. The Ministry of Justice also issues what is called a No Objection Declaration for company formation. The tax registry may take a further six weeks to provide a tax number and registration is at the authority local to the company's registered address.

Privacy varies depending upon how the company is organized. In cases where the company has more than one shareholder, the shareholder information is kept private. If there is only one shareholder, the information is made public.

Statutory records, a shareholder register, director register and other documentation must be maintained by the company. Renewal fees apply as well as fees for the initial registration number and other requirements.



### Nevada

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Nevada

Company formation in Nevada commonly follows the limited liability company structure, although there are other options such as the 'C' corporation as well as the 'S' corporation format.

The 'S' corporation format requires that all shareholders and directors be US residents or citizens. Formation can take as little as three days.

Company directors can also incorporate remotely but must register the names of all directors to the state authorities. A registered office and registered agent is a prerequisite.

Corporations are not charged taxes in Nevada, but are required to submit a tax return. Federal taxes do apply and so companies formed in the state are tax liable. An employer identification number should be obtained from the tax authorities and both LLC and 'S' corporation structures are required to file tax returns.

The LLC structure is streamlined and easy to manage and operate. The C corporation has more requirements, including keeping minutes of board meetings, making quarterly filings and other statutory requirements, although it does incur less taxes.

In Nevada, it is not necessary for the director to be a shareholder in the corporation and nominee shareholders are also permitted. Nevada corporations are allowed to issue stock and sell stock in their companies. If the structure is an LLC, one person is entitled to hold all corporate officer positions.

Fees include an initial filing fee, a charge for obtaining a federal tax identification number and annual renewal fees.

### **Benefits**

- Zero corporate income tax
- High level of corporate confidentiality
- Zero minimum capital requirements
- No requirement for accounts filing



### **United States**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in United States**

Europe Emirates Group has an international team with years of experience in incorporating US companies for non-residents. We handle the entire process from A to Z, allowing you to focus on your business affairs and take advantage of market opportunities.

All European Emirates Group clients are assigned a dedicated contact who acts as your personal account manager. They will work with you to ascertain the incorporation purpose, decide where best to register and how to proceed.

### Your account manager will assist with:

- Licensing and industry or state-specific regulations
- Visas, immigration control
- Tax optimisation
- Incorporation location, premises location
- Legalities of trademarks and copyright
- Supply chain and other support services

## From there, we will oversee the main planning stages, which involve:

- Deciding between registering a corporation or limited liability company
- Deciding on the share structure, share value and individual shareholder contributions

 The structure as it relates to shareholders, officers and directors; who to assign to these positions, and their roles and responsibilities

To conclude the process, we work independently from you to finalise any remaining paperwork and formal stages of incorporation, including:

- Providing required paperwork to the relevant authorities
- Forming the company
- Completing registration as required as per the selected jurisdiction
- Completing the formal steps relating to appointing officers and directors, and share issuance
- Opening the company bank account, and overseeing final legal and taxation issues

For more information about how we can assist you incorporate in the US, email us at info@uae-eu.com



### **Panama**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Panama

Panama company formation comes with very few regulations. Once the proposed name has been approved and the Memorandum and Articles of Association provided, the company is established in five to seven working days. A variety of suffixes are available, depending upon company structure and Panama has zero language restrictions.

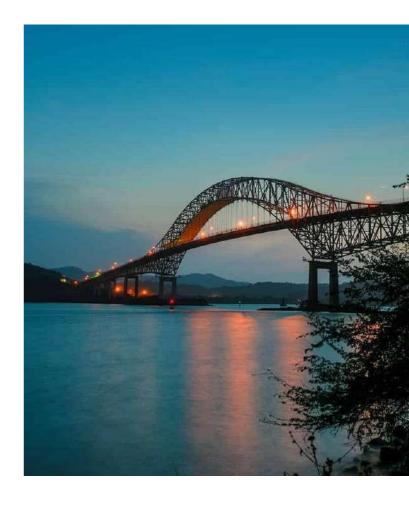
Three directors are required to form the corporation, and corporate directors are allowed with no residency requirements, plus one shareholder.

The shareholder has no requirement to disclose personal information and this does not have to be recorded. Finally, a notary is required to complete the paperwork and the company needs a Panama registered office.

There is no fee for the Articles of Incorporation translation but an annual fee for business renewal is applicable. Panama also offers a ready-made company option.

### **Benefits**

- Corporate and income tax-free business environment
- Zero requirement for financial statement filing
- High level of corporate confidentiality
- Zero requirement for corporate meetings
- Zero share restrictions
- Zero exchange controls
- Low business registration and maintenance fees



### **Poland**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Poland**

Company formation in Poland is administered through the Sp. z.o.o structure, which is a form of limited liability company and ideal for smaller or medium-sized enterprises. The process takes approximately four weeks to complete.

Only one shareholder and director is required and can be an individual or corporation from any country or place of residence. Nominee shareholders may also be appointed.

A local registered office must be established and there is a minimum share capital requirement. There are also documentation requirements with companies required to submit monthly tax reports, annual filings for the tax office and courts as well as the maintenance of a Register of Shareholders and Register of Directors.

The company name has to be searched and approved with various suffixes available but the management board may not include corporations. A unique REGON number is issued prior to company registration.

The Tax Office supplies a VAT number and registration for that number must be completed within 20 days of incorporation with registration and renewal fees applicable. Ready-made companies are also available for purchase.

Shareholder information is published initially, but anonymity is declared thereafter. The company must register with the social security institute in Poland within seven days of becoming operational and also register with the local tax office.



#### **Portugal**

### **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Portugal**

Portugal company formation is structured as an LDA company, which is a form of limited liability company. The process takes two weeks to complete.

The company requires one director and one shareholder of any nationality and residing in any country. A corporation may serve as a shareholder and there is no minimal share capital requirement. Director names are a matter of public record and a local office is mandated along with a VAT number.

The Articles of Association and documentation relating to the sale of shares have to be notarized with founding members appearing before the notary to establish their identities. A local bank account is also required and power of attorney can serve as a substitute for a personal visit (except for bank account opening).

Once the company name is approved by the National Registry of Companies (and two additional names should be submitted as secondary choices), the company must state its main activity. A tax registration card is issued once the name is approved.

The registry deed has to be filed with the Public Registry at the Notary Office and must contain identification card numbers for the provisional collective person, identity papers for the signing entities, the certification of the company and a report from an official auditor on asset participation.

Company registration and renewal fees are applicable. There are also various taxes to be paid including a franchise tax and government fees.



#### Romania

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Romania**

Romania company formation comes as a limited liability option and is available to individuals from any nation and resident in any jurisdiction. Two working weeks is the usual timeframe to complete the incorporation process.

A registered address and agent are prerequisites and Romanian law requires that the owners of the company travel to the country to incorporate. This involves a notary visit, delivery of documentation to the Company Register, collection of the approved documents and bank account opening (for which owners must be present).

Directors must provide acceptable photographic ID and proof of residency via utility bills or recent bank statements. The company also has to provide its proposed name and major activity to the Trade Register Office.

Only one director and shareholder are required to open a company, and they can be one and the same. For a limited liability company, a maximum of 50 shareholders is permitted and they can be corporations.

A physical office address is required but a locally appointed secretary is not mandated. A VAT number also needs to be obtained, share certificates issued and annual licence fees, renewal fees also apply.



### **Singapore**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Singapore**

A hugely popular destination for international company formation under the PTE limited liability company format, Singapore has a number of exacting rules in place regarding business registration.

The first requirement is that one director is a Singaporean citizen or a resident with a work permit. If a foreigner wishes to serve as the local director of the company, they will have to apply for and Employment Pass/Approval-In-Principle letter. This is obtained from the Employment Pass Department of the Ministry of Manpower. Only one director and shareholder are required and the company needs to have a local address and qualified secretary.

Shareholders can be corporations and from any nation. The company name needs to initially be approved by the Registry of Companies & Businesses after which documents are sent for incorporation.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association have to be stamped and signed and, following approval of the name, these constitute the major steps in getting a company formed. Fees for registration depend upon a company's share capital.

#### **Benefits**

 Low corporate tax rate with three-year moratorium on taxable profit



#### **Seychelles**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Seychelles**

Seychelles company formation includes the International Business Company (IBC) option. A proposed name plus appropriate suffix must be submitted and translated, and approval can take as little as 30 minutes with the entire registration process completed in as little as two days.

IBC company restrictions extend to non-ownership of property, no engagement in banking or trust activities unless a specific licence permitting those activities is obtained. There is also a separate licensing requirement for any business that operates in the insurance or reinsurance sectors.

There is no requirement on minimum share capital and the names of the directors and shareholders are entirely private. The Memorandum and Articles of Association are the only documents that go to the public register.

A Register of Directors and Register of Shareholders may be maintained at any local address with the only requirement that the Registrar is informed of the location. The company is also required to keep basic accounting records.

Seychelles IBCs are not required to submit tax returns, file account information or provide accounting records. However, a registered office and agent are required and the company is not allowed to own local property, but can lease office space.

Directors may be of any nationality and reside overseas with only one director and one shareholder required to form the company.

#### **Benefits**

- 100 percent tax exemption on transactions conducted outside the Seychelles
- No minimum share value requirements
- High level of corporate confidentiality



#### Slovakia

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Slovakia**

Slovakia company formation takes the form of an SRO limited liability structure and two working weeks is the usual period allocated for registration.

Only one person is required to initiate the process and shareholders can be corporate bodies or individuals. The liability of the shareholders is dependent upon the amount of capital they have invested in the company. A maximum of 50 shareholders is allowed.

The proposed company name needs to be approved prior to beginning the registration process. To establish the identities of the people within the corporation, the director(s) must provide their full name, address, nationality and birthdate, while shareholders need only supply their full names and addresses. Proof of residency through submission of a recent bank statement or utility bill is also required.

The company must declare its principal activity and any holdings and also disclose how much capital has been invested, and how many shares each shareholder currently holds.

If one of the directors is not a resident of the EU or OECD, they will be approved by the authorities, and the same stipulation applies to shareholders. A registered office must be set up. There is a requirement that the minutes of the meeting where the first directors were appointed and the Articles of Association and Statutes that apply to the company are submitted.

Slovakia does not require that corporations contribute to public healthcare or social security from their profits. It offers a low tax rate on profits and allows the separation of private and company assets. Company formation expenses include an initial fee and annual renewal fee.



### **Spain**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Spain

Spain company formation takes approximately two working weeks. Acceptable company suffixes include Sociedad Limitada Unipersonal or Sociedad Limitada, with the former applicable for companies with only one owner.

The company must propose a name for approval to begin the process and must also submit the names of its director or directors and shareholders, with approval given by the Mercantile Register.

A notary then takes over the process and the relevant tax authorities and chosen are notified of the approved name. Minimum requirements for share capital apply but shareholder names are kept private after publication in the Mercantile Record upon formation of the company. The company will receive a VAT number and a VIES number, which may take up to two months.

Only one director and shareholder are required, and the company must maintain a local registered office. Each of the shareholders and directors in the company must also be supplied with a fiscal identity number.

There are no nationality or residency requirements for directors or shareholders and the company can become operational as soon as it receives its CIF number, which is usually on the day of incorporation and is the equivalent of a VAT number.

Company formation in Spain does require that the company register with social security. This can be done at the office where the registered address is located. The company must also choose a health company if they elect to employ within Spain.

Notary and government fees are applicable with annual renewal fees and various filing requirements including environmental impact reports.



#### Sweden

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Sweden

Company formation in Sweden begins with the submission of the proposed company name to the Swedish Companies Registration Office, after which a registration number is issued. Formation takes two to three working weeks.

Sweden has minimum requirements for share capital, and property can be included. One director must be a resident of the country, however, there are no restrictions on other directors and shareholders. Only one director and shareholder are required to establish a company.

Directors must establish their identities with the authorities through approved photographic ID, as well as residential address proof with a bank statement or utility bill from the last three months.

A company auditor has to be appointed with personal information relevant to the shareholders and the auditor submitted to the authorities. An auditor is not required if the company has fewer than three employees. Documents must be filed with the Company Registry, including the Articles of Association and the Statutes that apply to the company. The minutes of the meeting, where the first directors of the company are appointed, must also be supplied.

The next step is the issuance of a Certificate of Incorporation. A registered office is required to be maintained in-country supported by a registered agent, and administrative services for the business must be maintained. A resident director is needed for the serving of legal documents and also to open up the company bank account.

Annual fees are payable and a Register of Directors and Register of Shareholders should be maintained at the official address. Annual documents have to be filed to satisfy government requirements.



#### **Switzerland**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Switzerland**

Company formation in Switzerland is in the Sarl/GmbH limited liability company format with no restrictions on foreign ownership of companies. The registration process takes approximately two weeks.

To incorporate in Switzerland, one of the directors must be a resident, two people are required to start a business, and there is a minimum share capital requirement for start-up.



The company name has to be approved by the commercial register. Once approved, the director(s) and shareholder(s) must submit their personal information to the authorities. This includes their names, dates of birth and, for the director, their address and nationality. Proof of identity can be established with approved photographic ID.

Stamp duty must be paid, and the company must register with both the Social Security Authority and the local tax authorities. Switzerland requires that a registered office is established but annual meetings don't have to be held in the country.

A resident director is mandated but need not to be a Swiss citizen and there are no nationality restrictions for shareholders. Nominee shareholders are also permitted.

Initial details regarding the company must be handed over to the Commercial Register but following initial publication, it is not necessary to disclose the sale of shares for public record.

Record-keeping requirements dictate that the Swiss resident keeps tax returns. An annual audit is not required, however any bank that has company accounts needs to have information about the beneficiaries of the company.

The public deed for the company includes the voting rights of shareholders, the share capital, the purpose of the company, the number of shares, types and contributions and the calling of shareholder meetings.

#### **Turkey**

### **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Turkey**

Company formation in Turkey falls under the 'LS' private limited company structure and requires a single director and shareholder. Processing takes around 10 days to complete. Turkey is also home to several popular free trade zones.

Following company name approval, the firm will have minimum share requirements imposed upon it and the director and shareholder will need to supply approved photographic ID, with two copies of their passports, to be certified and translated by a Notary Public.

## The company must register with the Chamber of Commerce and provide:

- Notarised copies of signature declarations
- Board resolutions that identify the founding shareholders of the company
- A rental contract for the company office address
- A receipt from the bank verifying that the funds are in place
- Shareholders must also provide photographs for identification purposes.

The company must establish registered office space and notify the tax office. The notary is also required to certify that legal books are in place so the company is eligible for a tax registration number. The rental agreement must also be certified by the Notary Public.

Company formation in Turkey requires that 25 percent of the initial capital be deposited into the company's bank within three months of the company being incorporated. Within three years of that date, the remainder of the subscribed capital has to be paid.

Turkey does not permit ready-made companies to be sold. In order to establish a company, the company director must go to Istanbul and complete the registration process. The company director must also visit the Tax Office so that the agency can ascertain that the business is functioning as declared.



#### **Turks & Caicos**

## Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Turks & Caicos

TCI Exempt Company is the most popular company structure for foreign investors in Turks & Caicos, which is a British protectorate. Company formation requires one director and one shareholder along with a name translated into English for the Certificate of Incorporation, and can be completed in just 48 hours. An English version of the Articles of Incorporation should also be provided.

The company does not have to use the word Limited in its name, and can choose to use common abbreviations such as Ltd or AG.

The shareholder may be a company and the same applies to the director or any officer within the company, who may also be a corporate entity. If preferred, one person may fulfill all roles within the company.

The company is not required to include its holdings within the Memorandum of Association and may issue more than one type of share and attach different rights to each type. The company may also operate with the need for a register of Mortgages and Charges.

Reporting requirements are the provision of an annual statement that demonstrates regulatory compliance. A registered local office is also mandated but there is no requirement for a resident on-the-ground director.

The only annual expense is the renewal fee, and records maintenance.

#### **Benefits**

- 20-year tax corporate tax moratorium
- Zero taxation on sales, income, profits and capital gains
- Foreign ownership permitted
- Zero currency restrictions
- No minimum starting capital requirement
- High level of corporate anonymity with no requirement for a director/shareholder register
- No auditing requirements



#### **United Kingdom**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in United Kingdom**

Company formation in the UK offers three distinct models including:

- Private limited company (Ltd.)
- Limited liability partnership (LLP)
- Public limited liability company (PLC)

In the UK, company formation can be undertaken within 24 hours. Neither director nor shareholders need to be UK residents.

The Ltd. company model requires one person to incorporate and only a single director and shareholder are required for formation. UK law also permits shareholders to be corporate entities.

The primary advantage of this type of UK company formation is that the limited nature of the company protects shareholders in the event that there is a business failure or that debts are incurred. The UK will also provide protection for a corporate name. Once the Registrar of Companies accepts a name, no other businesses may use it.

Restrictions include not using names that imply any connection with the government or using names that imply connections with existing institutions. The UK also requires that there be a registered local office.

A limited liability partnership organisation doesn't require shareholders. The benefits of this type of incorporation include broader flexibility than a private limited company and no director requirement, as well as good liability limitations. Unlike a private limited company, a limited liability partnership doesn't entail memorandum or articles of association. It also has no restrictions on owning and holding property.

A VAT number is not automatically given to a UK company and is required if business is to be conducted within the country.

The UK is party to several tax treaties and, if there is a tax treaty between the nation in which the business does the most economic activity and the UK, the terms of the treaty will apply. If the company is currently paying taxes in a different company, it will be considered a UK tax resident. In some cases, where there is no tax treaty, the UK unilaterally offers double tax relief to the company.



### **Wyoming**

## **Emirates Group Services can help you start your business in Wyoming**

Wyoming company formation offers various benefits including the opportunity to form a limited liability company, which can be done remotely. An alternative option is a 'C' corporation structure, with benefits including easy ownership transferal. Company formation usually takes around seven days.

The state is also completely free of business licence requirements and shareholder names are kept private with companies able to decide their own shareholder and director meetings, and no state requirement. Only one director is required to form a company, with one shareholder.

Wyoming charges a fee for company formation (and annual renewal fee) after name approval and submission of registration forms. The Articles of Association are filed with the Secretary of State in Wyoming and once approval is received, the company gets its certificate of incorporation.

Application for an employer identification number is required and the company will need to maintain its Shareholder Register and Director Register.

It is also necessary to have a locally registered office and agent.

#### **Benefits**

- Zero minimum capital requirement
- Owners/shareholders need not be US citizens
- No financial statement/accounts filing requirement
- · Complete company confidentiality





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