### SIMPLIFYING GLOBAL INDIRECT TAX COMPLIANCE

A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT FOR PEACE OF MIND



IDEAS | PEOPLE | TRUST

## SIMPLIFYING INDIRECT TAX COMPLIANCE

### 

Governments around the world are increasingly using indirect taxation as a fiscal lever to stimulate economies and generate revenue for their treasuries. Indirect taxes are often self-administered, leaving significant scope for errors to be made.

Attempts by governments to close the tax gap (the gap between expected and actual tax take) and improve compliance standards have triggered a wave of digitisation projects across the globe. This in turn has resulted in the increasing requirement for indirect tax returns to be filed more frequently, often in digital format, alongside transactional data.

The knock-on effect has been an acceleration in the compliance challenge for businesses. Keeping up with changing obligations and deadlines in individual countries and understanding the impact on cashflow, creates additional burdens on local finance teams.

Businesses can risk incurring penalties if errors occur or returns are not filed on time.



#### ESSENTIAL COMPLIANCE SUPPORT

At BDO, we are helping multinational, local and domestic businesses to overcome their indirect tax compliance challenges efficiently and effectively.

As a provider of global indirect tax services, our refreshingly different approach combines an experienced and dedicated team of indirect tax advisers with cuttingedge indirect tax compliance automation technology.

Drawing on backgrounds in international supply chain management, our experienced advisers fully understand the technical tax issues underpinning your operations. Our VAT group uses sophisticated tax automation software to create both cost and operational efficiencies.

We are not tied in to any particular software provider and are able to offer more than one solution, so we can select the best fit to meet your needs. We regularly review our approach to ensure we are using the most appropriate technology for your business.

Our standardised systems and processes help you meet your compliance obligations, while simultaneously running a sequence of assurance checks for all transactions. This also enables standardisation of audit trails across multiple territories and supports insightful analysis, which our team can discuss with you.

By combining the power of technology, effective processes and professional expertise, we help to ensure that your indirect tax processes are compliant with local rules.

### COMPLETE PEACE OF MIND

As part of our commitment to ongoing improvement, we will look to identify opportunities for material cost savings for your business through technology, process efficiencies and employing a flexible workforce.

Our VAT group can also offer more than compliance services. We will get to know and understand your operations so we can respond quickly and effectively to technical tax issues as they arise, giving you complete peace of mind.

# **OUR CORE PROCESS AND IMPLEMENTATION**

#### HOW DOES IT WORK?



#### TIMELINE

The transition and initial on-boarding process is an important part of any compliance project. In our experience, this stage is where the majority of the risk lies and as a result it must be thorough, detailed and viewed as a foundation for the long term success of the project. By choosing BDO, you have a partner who will build your vision of success into the project from day one.

Below is an indicative implementation timeline:

#### **1. PRE-CONTRACT AWARD**

- Planning and modelling
- Finalise project plan
- Kick off workshop
- SOW modelling
- Master compliance plan.

#### 2. IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

- Implementation
- Facilitate local meetings
- Complete knowledge and data transfer
- Configure software for project framework.

#### 3. WORK COMMENCES

- Launch and continuous improvement
- Activate client portal and project governance
- Agreed countries go live
- Collate and review tax attributes.

## A COORDINATED GLOBAL APPROACH

Our UK team of indirect tax specialists provide a single point of contact globally, so you don't have to deal with different experts for each country. This coordinated and streamlined approach offers many benefits, including:

#### AN EXPERIENCED TEAM

Allowing your team to focus on the business, freeing up valuable time and resources.

#### CONTINUITY OF SERVICE WITH ENGLISH SPEAKING ADVISERS

Saving you time, reducing the potential for errors and removing any language barriers.

#### SCALABLE SUPPORT

Seamlessly providing additional services in any existing jurisdiction, or adding new jurisdictions.

#### **OPTIMAL EXPERTISE**

Maximising technical insight and compliance competence.

#### **EXPERIENCED SUPPORT**

Our best practice approach to indirect tax support has been developed and refined by our experience in implementing large-scale global indirect tax solutions for multinational businesses.

#### CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY

We use the best compliance automation technology on the market and are free to adopt new technology as it emerges.

#### A CONSISTENT APPROACH AND PROCESSES

Enhancing your tax governance globally, reducing the risk of errors, improving compliance efficiency and reducing associated costs.

#### EXTENSIVE GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE WORLDWIDE

Giving you access to local expertise wherever your sites are located.

#### TAILORED SERVICE

We can undertake individual indirect tax engagements delivered by local expects across the world.

#### A HOLISTIC SERVICE

Giving you global visibility of your compliance status, reducing the risk of nasty surprises.

#### DEEP CLIENT KNOWLEDGE

Our team works hard to understand your business and operations so we can not only advise on creating efficient VAT profiles, but also respond quickly and effectively to emerging technical tax issues.

#### CLEAR COMMUNICATION

We believe in regular, open communications so that we understand your strategic thinking and tailor our advice accordingly. You will receive regular updates and insights to support your business.

Our UK team is supported by the global BDO network, ensuring that we have the local tax knowledge and presence if needed to deal with any changes or challenges that may arise, including tax audits and inspections.

#### COMPREHENSIVE INDIRECT TAX SUPPORT

We are a network of independent member firms across more than 160 countries. Our network of indirect tax specialists understand how indirect taxes will affect your business, in the locations where you operate now and where you may seek to expand in the future.

We are not not an alliance of disparate independent organisations, but a single network of member firms all bound by the same dedication to client service. All BDO member firms' indirect tax specialists embrace a common commitment to providing quality service based on technical expertise, commercial awareness and local knowledge.

#### VALUE-ADDED SERVICES

We collaborate with multinational groups to recognise indirect tax opportunities, helping to develop strategies and then implement them.

We go beyond delivering basic compliance services to work proactively with you to ensure your VAT profile in each country is as efficient as possible.

Our services not only add value, but also free up your own finance team's time and resources - in the UK and globally, allowing you to focus more effectively on activities that deliver real value to your business.

### **ABOUT BDO GLOBAL**

#### **GLOBAL INDIRECT TAX**

As a key part of one of the world's largest networks of public accounting, tax and advisory firms, we offer the full range of Indirect Tax service offerings you would expect of a firm of our calibre and quality. We can help you meet your global compliance obligations, our network of Indirect Tax specialists can offer local advice and expertise on how indirect taxes will impact your business. You will notice a real difference working with BDO. We will seek the right solution for your needs. We will be proactive in our approach, and offer you the commercial advice you need.

BDO operates in over 160 countries, so if you need assistance in other jurisdictions, we have local specialists who can help.

#### BDO INTERNATIONAL US\$11.8 billion 2020/2021 REVENUE A YEAR ON YEAR INCREASE OF 10.8%<sup>1</sup>

97,000 Staff

1,720 Offices

#### FOR FURTNER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:



Countries

KAMAL KATARIA Director +44 (0)7805 808 781 kamal.kataria@bdo.co.uk

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

KAMAL KATARIA

+44 (0)7805 808 781

44 (0)7850 337079 kamal.kataria@bdo.co.uk This publication has been carefully prepared, but it has been written in general terms and should be seen as containing broad statements only. This publication should not be used or relied upon to cover specific situations and you should not act, or refrain from acting, upon the information contained in this publication without obtaining specific professional advice. Please contact BDO LLP to discuss these matters in the context of your particular circumstances. BDO LLP, its partners, employees and agents do not accept or assume any responsibility or duty of care in respect of any use of or reliance on this publication, and will deny any liability for any loss arising from any action taken or not taken or decision made by anyone in reliance on this publication or any part of it. Any use of this publication or reliance on it for any purpose or in any context is therefore at your own risk, without any right of recourse against BDO LLP or any of its partners, employees or agents.

BDO LLP, a UK limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales under number OC305127, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms. A list of members' names is open to inspection at our registered office, 55 Baker Street, London W1U 7EU. BDO LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority to conduct investment business.

BDO is the brand name of the BDO network and for each of the BDO member firms.

BDO Northern Ireland, a partnership formed in and under the laws of Northern Ireland, is licensed to operate within the international BDO network of independent member firms.

Copyright © January 2022 BDO LLP. All rights reserved. Published in the UK.

www.bdo.co.uk