

There are some important changes relating to Guernsey companies this year and I will outline the three major changes that will affect Guernsey Companies and Directors.

You need to take action in the next few weeks to make sure your company complies with these changes.

Registration of Directors and Re-registration of Companies

- Guernsey is going to have a new online Company registry system.
- All Guernsey companies will need to be registered on the online system.
- As a director of a Guernsey company you will need to register as a director on the new system.
- This can be done from 1 July 2008.
- You will need to go to the Company Registry Office in person and complete a form and produce personal photographic ID, i.e. a passport and driving license.
- Once all the directors of a company have registered, the company can be re-registered.
- This can be done online if one of the directors requests a PIN after registering as a director. Otherwise the form can be submitted by post.
- The deadline for company re-registration is 31 October 2008. After this time there will be a cost for re-registering a company.
- For more information visit www.guernseyregistry.com

Quarterly Distribution Returns

- Following the introduction of “Zero-10” most Guernsey companies will not pay any tax on profits but instead tax will be payable on all distributions or deemed distributions made from profits generated after 1 January 2008.
- Companies are required to submit distribution returns every quarter detailing distributions and deemed distributions made to shareholders by Guernsey companies.
- The quarterly distributions software has not yet been released so the due date for submissions for the March 2008 and June 2008 quarters has been extended to 31 August 2008.
- Future quarterly submissions will be due 15 days after each quarter end.
- The company is responsible for deducting the tax and paying it over to Income Tax.

Audit Exemption

- An audit exemption for small companies is imminent.
- Directors will still be responsible for keeping proper accounting records and preparing accounts that show a true and fair view.
- If you currently are audited by us I would like to discuss with you whether you will continue to need an audit.

How we can help you

- Please make a list of distributions made to shareholders (not including payments shown on the ETI returns).
- Send this list to us as soon as possible after 1 July.
- We will then contact you to discuss the distributions which relate to profits generated after 1 January 2008 and therefore need to be included on the August returns.
- Please notify us when you have re-registered your company/ies.
- Please note that we are away from 21 July until 11th August.