

FIVE STEPS TO START YOUR BUSINESS IN BRUSSELS

LEGAL ASPECTS AND WHICH STRATEGY
TO ADOPT FOR A VIETNAMESE INVESTOR

GUILLAUME BLAUWART Tax Advisor

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- 1. Activities in Brussels with Vietnamese company?
- 2. Easy is to set up a Belgian company?
- 3. Hiring Belgian /transferring Vietnamese team? Cost reduction?
- 4. Business going forward: Belgian tax incentives?
- 5. Return on investment?





1. OFFICE OF A VIETNAMESE COMPANY IN BRUSSELS

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REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN BRUSSELS

Who?

Small company - without client in Europe

How?

- Rent a small office
- Hire Belgian team
- Transfer of Vietnamese manager

Why?

Market Vietnamese products

Impact?

- Vietnamese revenues on sales in Europe
- Corporate Income Tax (« CIT »)?





2. CREATING A BELGIAN COMPANY

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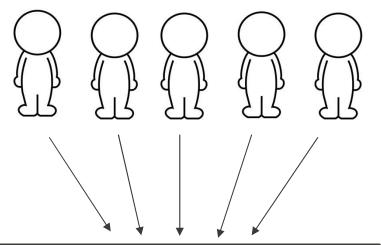
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INCORPORATION PROCESS - PUBLIC NOTARY



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Ultimate Beneficial Owners





Vietnamese Mother company

- Article of association
- Trade register extract
 - 100% shares
 - · Contribution in equity



Belgian subsidiary

- Directors
- Registered address
- Purpose
- Financial Year

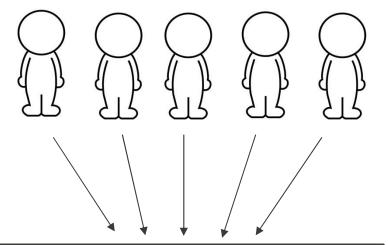
CONTRIBUTION IN EQUITY

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- Amount depends on the form
- Public LLC (« Big size »): 61.500 EUR (approx 1.500 Million Dong)
- Private LLC (form commonly use): no minimum
- Justified by appropriate Financial Plan

Ultimate Beneficial Owners







Vietnamese Mother company

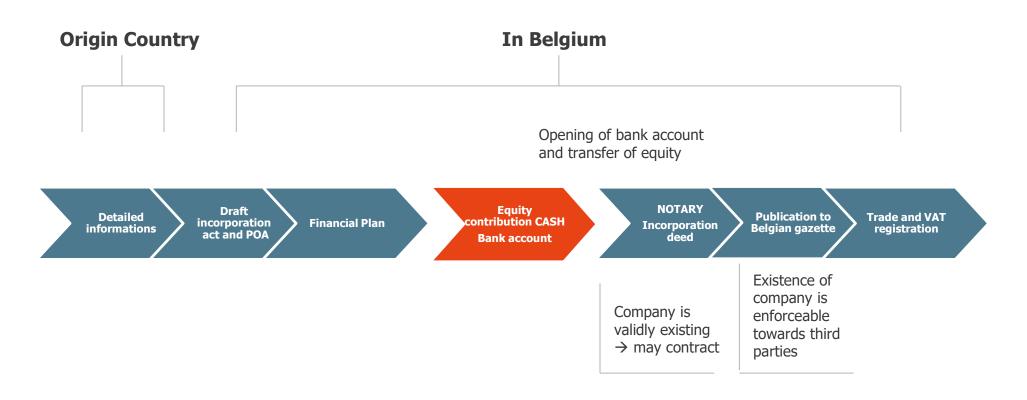
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INCORPORATION PROCESS - COMPANY





3. DEVELOP THE BUSINESS LOCALLY: HAVING A TEAM

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MAIN FOCUS

- Payroll services provider
- No obligation to hire local director or local employee
- Working permit for non-EU team members
- Incentives related to HR:

R&D searchers: 80% payroll tax exemption (1)

Lower social contribution (2)

Special tax regime for impatriates for non Belgian team members (3)

HIRING EMPLOYEES alterDomus*

(1) PAYROLL TAX EXEMPTION FOR R&D EMPLOYEES

How does it work?

• Costs reduction: INDIVIDUAL TAX X 80%

Who can benefit?

Benefit for the employer creating jobs in R&D

Conditions

- Special reporting obligation
- The employee is a researcher with a specific degree (University or Bachelor).



HIRING EMPLOYEES

(1) PAYROLL TAX EXEMPTION FOR R&D

EXAMPLE:

YEARLY GROSS SALARY	60.000
Payroll tax	20.0004.000: Belgian treasury – 20%16.000: Preserved by the employer - 80%
Net salary	40.000
Payroll tax paid to authorities	4.000
Total cost at employer	44.000
Saving	16.000 – 27%

HIRING EMPLOYEES

(2) LOWER SOCIAL SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS

Benefits for Employer

- $_{\odot}~$ For the 1^{st} recruitment : no social security (up to § 4000/quarter) for an unlimited period
- o From the 2nd to the 6th recruitment : partial exemption

HIRING EMPLOYEES

(3) SPECIAL TAX REGIME FOR IMPATRIATES

Employees who perform a activity in Belgium

Who?

o Hired directly from abroad

OR

o Assigned by a foreign company, part of a multinational group

Who?

- o Tax-free expatriate allowance
- One-off reimbursement of employee costs



4. BUSINESS GOING FORWARD: IN A NUTSHELL

DURING FINANCIAL YEAR

MAIN FOCUS

- Focus on your business/develop European market
- Consumption tax (VAT) returns: to be submitted on a quarterly/monthly basis
- Financial Statements, CIT returns, AGM, ... Once a year (for all companies)
- Tax incentives to be optimised:
 - R&D tax credit (4)
 - Innovative Income Deduction (5)

INNOVATIVE INCOME DEDUCTION

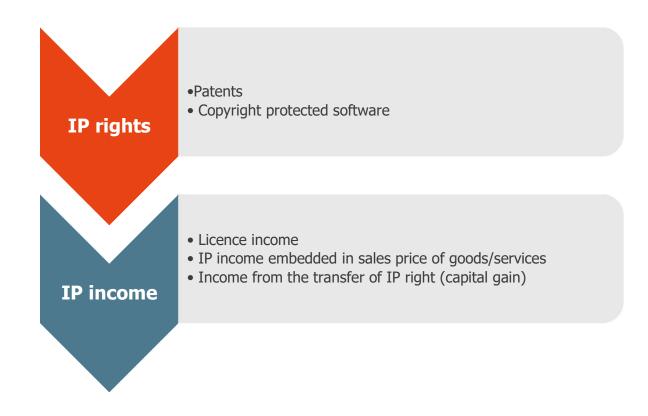
4. INNOVATION INCOME DEDUCTION

- > Deduction of 85% of the net income derived from qualifying IP assets.
- > The net income in gross amount of the innovation income decrease by R&D costs
- > Net income x 85%
- > Limited if necessary by a ratio (**Nexus ratio**) = a substance test
 - > R&D costs paid to a related company
 - > Costs incurred for the acquisition of an IP right



INNOVATIVE INCOME DEDUCTION

4. INNOVATION INCOME DEDUCTION



INCENTIVES IN BELGIUM

4. INNOVATION INCOME DEDUCTION

EXAMPLE: IP right fully developed internally

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2
Gross IP income	1.200.000	1.500.000
R&D Costs	500.000	_
		4 500 000
Net IP income	700.000	1.500.000
Recap costs prev years	-	-
Available for IID	700.000	1.500.000
Deduction of 85%	(595.000)	(1.275.000)
Tax Basis	105.000	225.000
Tax rate	25%	25%
Tax burden	26.250	56.250
Effective tax rate	3,75%	3,75%



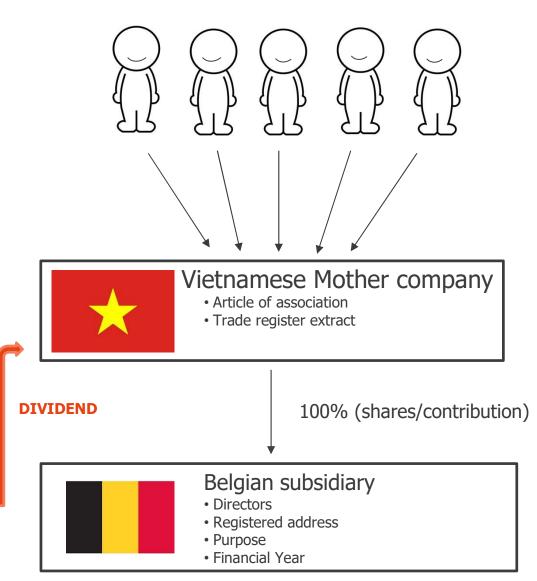
5. SHAREHOLDER'S REWARD: DISTRIBUTION OF DIVIDEND

END OF THE YEAR: DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION

- High flexibility on interim dividend
- No limitation to the amount of cash to be rapatriate
- No withholding tax if distributed to a Taiwanese mother company
- Net asset test and Liquidity test

Ultimate Beneficial Owners

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A REGIONAL APPROACH WITHIN A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK

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37 Offices / 21 Countries





QUESTIONS / ANSWERS

YOUR KEY CONTACTS

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