

RAJA GROUP – UK TAX STRATEGY

This tax strategy document is published in compliance with Part 2 Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 2016 and relates to the current and subsequent financial years. This document is reviewed annually.

Background

This document sets out the Tax Strategy for the UK entities shown below, ('Raja UK in the present document) which are part of the RAJA Group (headquartered in France).

Viking Office UK Ltd
Viking Digital ECIT Ltd
Rajapack Ltd
Morplan Ltd
Viking Office International BV (UK VAT registration)

The tax strategy covers all applicable UK taxes, which include corporation tax, VAT, withholding, customs duties, stamp duties, employment taxes and all other appropriate taxes.

RAJA Group operates in 19 European countries with 4,500 employees. As Europe's leading distributor of packaging, supplies and equipment for businesses, the RAJA Group is the preferred partner of 2 million companies in Europe, of all sizes and in all sectors of activity.

Aim

Raja UK is committed to comply with its statutory tax filing, reporting and payment obligations wherever it operates and to foster constructive and transparent relationships with the tax authorities. Raja UK tax affairs are managed in a way which considers RAJA Group's wider corporate reputation in line with their overall high standards of governance, core ethical behaviours and values.

Governance in relation to UK taxation

The day-to-day responsibility for ensuring adherence to the tax strategy, the supporting governance framework, the management of tax risks and the handling of the respective tax filing, reporting and payment obligations is managed by Raja UK tax department.

Raja UK tax department shall also report about any material adverse tax events which arise to:

- its Managing Director plus the legal team in certain circumstances,
- the corporate tax team of RAJA Group and the Group CFO at headquarters.

This governance allows RAJA Group Board members to be adequately engaged in the tax affairs and thereby ensure that Raja UK are adhering to their responsibilities.

The following are the key principles to which Raja UK adhere to when considering all aspects of taxation:

Governance and Risk Management - It is Raja UK policy to comply with all applicable UK tax legislation, regulations, and reporting requirements. Raja UK manages UK tax affairs through its established internal governance framework and ensures that experienced and senior personnel engage in identifying, assessing, and managing all UK tax risks so that they are accounted for appropriately. The day-to-day management of UK tax affairs is undertaken by our Senior UK tax manager who reports to the Finance Directors of the Raja UK entities.

Qualified Team – Raja UK employ appropriately qualified tax professionals and accounting staff to manage its tax position and take the advice of external experts to support the tax function in evaluating risk areas, adhering to complex tax laws, and implementing best practice.

External advisors – External advisors are engaged to provide technical expertise to support the tax function in evaluating risk areas, adhering to complex laws, and implementing best practice.

Attitude to tax planning – Raja UK has strong commercial focus and, as part of its duty to its stakeholders to mitigate unnecessary costs, utilises tax reliefs, exemptions, and allowances available in the manner intended by the tax authorities and statute. Any tax planning undertaken has commercial and economic substance reasons and Raja UK does not engage in any artificial tax arrangements. At all times Raja UK seeks to comply fully with its regulatory and other obligations and to act in a way which upholds its reputation as a responsible corporate citizen.

The level of risk which Raja UK accepts in relation to UK taxation is consistent with its overall objective of achieving certainty in the overall tax affairs. At all times Raja UK seeks to comply with regulatory and other obligations and to act in a way which upholds its reputation as a responsible corporate citizen.

Transparency with HM Revenue & Customs (“HMRC”) – Raja UK seek to have an open transparent and constructive relationship with HMRC and will disclose all relevant facts and circumstances to their Customer Compliance Manager at HMRC and seek to resolve any disputed matters through proactive and transparent engagement.