NAVIGATING GLOBAL EQUITY COMPENSATION

IN APAC AND EMEA

STRATEGIES STRATEGIES FOR COMPLIANCE, OPTIMIZATION & EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT



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RETHINKING GLOBAL TAX WITHHOLDING

Beware of Hypo Tax Usage

Remember that using hypothetical tax rates for withholding is not sanctioned by the FASB.

Plan for Trailing Liabilities

Develop strategies to handle trailing tax liabilities for employees who change work locations during the vesting period.

Cash Employee cuts a check Employer Withholds From Next Paycheck Employer / Employee Sells Shares

Regular Compliance Audits

Conduct periodic reviews to ensure ongoing compliance with changing global tax regulations

Educate Employees

Provide clear communication to employees about their tax obligations and the company's withholding practices.

Stay Current on Local Tax Laws

Regularly review and update your knowledge of tax laws in all countries where you have employees receiving equity compensation.

TYPES OF MOBILITY STATUS



Mobile Employee

Employee who works in more than one location.



Cross Border Commuter

Employee who lives in one tax jurisdiction and commutes to a work location in a different tax jurisdiction.



Global Assignee

Employee who is on a long-term work assignment outside their normal place of work (usually between 1 and 3 years).



Local Hire

Employee who is hired directly to work in a tax jurisdiction located outside his/her normal country of residence.



Shorm-term Assignee

Employee who is on a short-term work assignment outside their normal place of work (usually < 1 year).



Business Traveler

Employee who routinely travels to a work location(s) other than his/her normal place of work.



Permanent Transfer

One-way transfer from one work location to another work location (may be employee initiated or company initiated).



Hybrid & Remote Worker

Employee who works in another tax jurisdiction from assigned work office on a full or part time basis

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INTRODUCTION TO TRAILING LIABILITY

Also known as "cross-border taxation", "multi-jurisdictional taxation"

A trailing liability is an obligation to pay tax on current income related to past employment services performed in countries the employee worked in prior to transferring to his/her current country.



Identify trailing liabilities by tracking employees who have worked in multiple jurisdictions during the vesting period of their equity awards, paying special attention to those who have changed work locations or expatriates returning to their home country

KEY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH MOBILITY

Operational Risk

Hidden high costs of inefficient procedures to manage financial & non-financial risks of equity awards held by GA's

Financial Risk

Interests & penalties for failure to withhold, late payment

Overpayment of taxes

HR Risk

Failure to retain, motivate key employees Unhappy employees who become subject to complex international tax exposure

Business Reputation Risk

Tax evasion by high profile employees Irreparable damage to local country business

Global Risks

Assess key risks by evaluating the volume and complexity of your mobile workforce, the diversity of jurisdictions involved, the types of equity awards granted, and the robustness of your current tracking and compliance processes.

UK:

Failure to withhold penalty (100%)

US Citizens & Green Card Holders:

ISO tax deferral preferential for US regular tax & IRC Sec. 83(b) optional election

Israel:

Qualified 102 plans held in trust, taxation in Host location at vest



China:

SAFE registration process

Singapore

Tax due on unvested equity awards at departure

Australia

ESS annual reporting