Identifying Your Remote Workforce: managing risks to the business

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Remote workers – action required

Today's environment

 COVID-19 has caused major disruption, resulting in significant displacement of personnel globally. Whilst global mobility teams sought to rapidly identify the whereabouts of international assignees, assessing safety and compliance risks, many regular ("non-assignee") employees have been working outside of their usual location, some for many months.

What's the impact?

• Remote working can have an impact on your organisation's tax, social security and immigration profile, and can generate significant employment law risk.

What actions need to be taken?

 Identifying remote worker cases as soon as possible is essential to enable the business to assess and action any mandatory compliance obligations. It will also allow you to identify increased and unbudgeted costs and document decision-making/policy exceptions.

Deloitte's 5 step methodology

Deloitte can help with a straightforward 5 step methodology providing you with a high priority action plan.

1. Survey	2. Identify	3. Report	4. Assess	5. Action
 Deloitte can use data collected by your organization or can collect data using the Remote Workers Identifier tool – see overleaf Survey asks simple questions to determine employee whereabouts since the start of the pandemic 	 Identify individuals working remotely and categorize according to length of time spent in another country /seniority/clustering in certain locations etc. Evidence and document remote workforce and decision-making 	 Triage and prioritize cases Create action plan with assigned priorities Approve areas for immediate review 	 Core displacement data collected enables focused assessment which could include: Immigration and right to work CT, employment tax and social security actions Employment law assessments etc. Instruct cost projections and update budget 	 Execute action plan; Handle PE risks Communicate with internal audit Action mandatory obligations including payroll withholding Communicate approach/interim policies Inform your position for 2021 enabling a longer term action plan

ocus area	Considerations
Risk	 Immigration risk: Individuals working in another country without the proper immigration or regulatory permissions Corporate tax and transfer pricing risks: Permanent Establishment (PE) creation and need for attribution of profits to unplanned locations. Employment tax, social security & employment law risks: Through longer term or under the radar remote working, there could be a shift in country/state tax costs
Costs	 There will likely be administrative costs associated with remote workers creating a presence in a new location for the employer – registrations tax filings, statutory books, etc. A single employee can cause an employer significant costs For Assignees – unbudgeted current year assignment costs (due to higher tax jurisdictions, potential double taxation due to resuming or not ceasing tax residence in the home or a 3rd country) For Non-Assignees – tax and social security may be due in country of remote work, but being withheld in usual country of work. Fees and effort associated with reviewing and instructing amendments to wage statements and retroactive reporting plus payment needed in new payroll locations. Potential penalties and interest for underpaid remittances or late payments
Employee experience	 Cash flow challenges due to mismatch of monies paid to home, host, or 3rd location if taxes are employee-funded Delayed income tax return fillings due to additional analysis and amended wage statements Unexpected surprises resulting from unknown individual compliance obligations
Compliance	 Unforeseen corporate and individual registration, reporting, payment and filling requirements in new locations Underpaid employment tax and social security Increased risk of audit/ enquiry. Need for a risk-based approach to assess and document positions.

Remote Workers Identifier

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Dashboard

The Deloitte Remote Workers Identifier uses a simple survey to identify employee whereabouts since the start of the pandemic to enable an up to date analysis to be performed, assessing mandatory compliance obligations. The data can be presented in a dashboard format and enables a triage process to be implemented to prioritize actions.

Key features

- Survey administration will be handled by Deloitte so that you can focus on other priorities that matter most
- The Deloitte Remote Workers Identifier is fully mobile enabled, providing individuals with flexibility to use their PC, tablet, or mobile device
- The survey has drop down date and location menus to facilitate data quality
- Results will inform you of employee locations and can be used to analyze risk exposure
- Results can be presented in report format and/or via dashboard reporting

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		than 5 minutes to complete	
Table State			

• **Technology enabled design** Fully mobile enabled ----The opportunity Through the reporting functionality, Deloitte can identify locations where compliance risks are evident and develop a plan in collaboration with you to reduce risk and manage compliance and costs. URRENT USUAL REMOTE START DATE - END DATE OCATION OCATIO United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom United Kingdom China 01/02/2020 28/02/2020 United States 01/02/2020 28/02/2020 China United 01/02/2020 28/02/2020 United States 01/02/2020 28/02/2020 20 United UAE 01/06/2020 In progress 130 **Domestic (State)**

International Dashboard

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