
PRACTICE NOTE

PN21/2021

Date: 18 August 2021

Changing the Name of a Company incorporated under the
Isle of Man Companies Acts 1931 - 2004

Introduction

This practice note sets out the procedure for changing the name of a company. It is intended as a general guide only and must be read in conjunction with the relevant legislation. It should not be relied upon as it does not have any binding force.

Procedure for changing the name of a company

Apply to the Companies Registry for approval of the proposed name (Section 19(1), Companies Act 1931), on our website at www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/companies-registry. Click on 'Check name availability' and type in the name you are querying. If the name appears to be available, select the option to apply for the name. Fill in the details on the following screen, and ensure that under 'Application Type' you select 'Change of Name'.

The decision on the name will be emailed to you if you have supplied an email contact address, otherwise you will be informed of the decision by post.

If the proposed name contains a restricted word or phrase as included in the Companies and Business Names (Restricted Words and Phrases) Regulations 2013 <https://www.gov.im/media/1348308/uncertificated-securities-regulations-2006-operators-amendment-regulations-2012.pdf>, considerable time will be saved if you provide as much information as possible when you apply for approval of the new company name.

Be sure to show all punctuation, spelling and abbreviations (including the use of "LIMITED" or "LTD", "PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY" or "PLC") exactly as you want them to appear in the new name.

If the name is approved, the company must now pass a Special Resolution to change the company name.

The Special Resolution should be an original, signed by the Chairperson of the Board; or a printed copy of the original, certified as a true copy by an officer of the company. A Special Resolution will also be accepted having been signed by all the members of the company as a written resolution. Resolutions filed more than one calendar month after they are passed will incur late fees as per the usual scale.

Please ensure the new name on the Special Resolution is exactly the same as the name that you applied for.

When the Resolution has been presented, checked and found to be correct, the Department will issue the Change of Name Certificate. The change of name is only effective from the date the Resolution is accepted; it cannot be backdated.

The Change of Name Certificate will be posted to the Registered Office.

You do not need to present any additional documents to effect the change of company name, e.g. copies of minutes of meetings or copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association showing the new name.

Further information

Our staff will willingly answer general queries by telephone or e-mail but cannot give legal advice. If you require such advice you should consult an Advocate.

The telephone number for the Companies Registry is: 01624 689389

The e-mail address is: companies@gov.im

Statutory forms and practice notes are available free of charge from the website: www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/companies-registry

A list of licenced TCSP providers is available on the Isle of Man Financial Supervision Authority website at <https://www.iomfsa.im/register-search/>.

Details of Isle of Man Advocates are available from the Isle of Man Law Society at:

Tel: +44 (0)1624 662910

E-mail: enquiries@iomlawsociety.co.im

Website: www.iomlawsociety.co.im

Copies of Acts of Tynwald dealt with by the Companies Registry can be found on the following website administered by H.M. Attorney General: <http://www.legislation.gov.im/cms/index.php>

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Enquiries Email: companies@gov.im

Filings Email: companyfilings@gov.im

Website: www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/companies-registry