

# NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2022

EDITION 6

"You have everything you need to build something far bigger than yourself."

You are born with Greatness.

## A Little Motivation

All great business minds a held within people (human beings), and every human undergoes trials and tribulations that may feel like they are about to kick them out of their whole path to purpose. Hence this edition, I have decided to give motivation and encouragement, as well as leaving a reference that one can look back at now and again when life is reaching those trying moments that life may bring.

I don't know where you are right now in your life and what you're going through. But what I do know is that life will not always be great, because if life was always great, it means that we as people can never grow. In order to live an outstanding life, you need to find yourself in challenging moments, where you don't know the answers and you don't know how things will work out and you don't know if you will get where you want to go. It is scary to be in these stages of life. But the irony is that these are the most important and powerful times of your life because these times are bound to bring change.

Always remember: You are born with greatness, and your failures and successes don't define who you are. Your failures do not make you worse, and your successes do not make you better. They are just failures and successes that define your journey not your final destination. You have been blessed to be here right now and that is what it is. When things are not what you want them to be, know that something is happening. You cannot stop change. Change is going to happen whether you like it or not. But what you can do, and what you need to do, is direct change towards your outstanding life. Most people (when finding themselves in a difficult position) worry about the future and focus on what they don't have.

As people, we tend to seek quick solutions or they try to cover it up with instant gratification like medication, alcohol and eating. Some people argue with people they love, in order not to take responsibility and find blame in others. While some people blame their situation and circumstances: "it is because of this and that, that my life is like this". My gratification is eating! So I know when my weight is going up, then I don't have my house in order and need to correct the main cause of the disorder taking place.

The Invisible Forces vs The Visible Forces.

One should start listening to the words they use. The words you use impact your mind-set. The only way you get back on track when you find yourself in these situations is to focus on the invisible, as the invisible always controls the visible. The invisible is far more powerful than the visible. What I mean by that is things like love, purpose, meaning, vision. The Bible says without a vision you will perish. A vision is made from your purpose. Your purpose comes from who you are and what your identity is. Who you are is great, and you have something amazing to offer the world. So when you realise your greatness and find your purpose and develop a vision from that, you find your true north principles.

All that has happened in your life when you find yourself in tough situations, is that you have lost your way. This means you now need to find and develop new ways to live. The old way will no longer work for you, as you need to grow. If you are not growing, you are dying. There are no mistakes; everything you have done has led you to today. It does not matter what your current situation is, just embrace it and understand that it does not define you. When you get to that understanding, you will find peace and clarity. In that peace and clarity you will find your way back. Love yourself and forgive yourself, because only with love and gratitude in your heart will you find yourself.

This thought I wrote in 2016 in a blog (https://johnnyeliades.com/thought-for-2016/) and to date it still works as a personal motivation.

Johnny Eliades Managing Director

# THE **TEAM**

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Johnny Eliades

Managing
Director



Antony Tom

Accounting

Manager



Micheal Dusabe

Head

of Tax Department



Jason Nel
IE Property Development
Operational Manager



Jodene Mills
Head of Statutory
Department &
Foundation



Engela Mills
Admin Manager
& Financial Administrator

# We Build Great Businesses

### Legal and Compliance laws

#### by Michell Lukhele

We have previously had discussions of the POPIA and The Companies Act, under the legal Department's section of the IE International Newsletter, but that can't possibly be the only rules governing businesses in South Africa So, what else does a business owner have to comply with?

There are a quite few laws and regulations (e.g. PAIA, Consumer Protection Laws, Tax laws, Employment and Labour Acts, and the list continues) and these can regularly get a bit overwhelming and confusing. In this edition, as well as the upcoming editions, I will be touching on a few of these laws so as to bring them to each entrepreneur or potential entrepreneurs' knowledge and help you and your company stay on the compliant side of the law.

#### PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS

The biggest Act to know herein is the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Act No. 28 of 2013.

#### **But what is Intellectual Property?**

Firstly, it is important to note that Intellectual property is with no limits, a category of property. It includes any intangible property that is the result of creativity. Basically, things that stems from a persons creative idea.

#### So what then is intellectual property law?

Intellectual property law refers to all legislation concerning patents, designs, trademarks and copyright protection.

#### Are these laws really necessary?

Yes: Intellectual Property laws are meant to protect the intellectual property of legal entities, this is because intellectual property can also carry significant value and is thus vulnerable for exploitation by other parties. (Imagine having your full proof plan to build a bridge to space being stolen and accredited to someone else)

#### What is the aim of the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Act No. 28 of 2013?

This law, as gazetted, aims to provide for the recognition and protection of certain manifestations of indigenous knowledge as a species of intellectual property; to this end to amend certain laws so as to provide for the protection of relevant manifestations of indigenous knowledge as a species of intellectual property, namely-

the Performers' Protection Act, 1967,

- to provide for the recognition and protection of performances of traditional works; the Copyright Act, 1978,
- · to provide for the recognition and protection of indigenous works;
- to provide for the establishment of a National Council in respect of indigenous knowledge;
- to provide for National Databases for recording indigenous knowledge and to provide for the recording of indigenous works; and
- to provide for the establishment of a National Trust Fund for Indigenous Knowledge;

Legal and Compliance laws / Cont.

#### the Trade Marks Act, 1993,

- to provide for the recognition of indigenous terms and expressions and for the registration of such terms and expressions as trade marks;
- to create for this purpose a further part of the trade marks register;
- to provide for the recording of indigenous terms and expressions; and
- · to provide for further protection of geographical indications;

#### the Designs Act, 1993,

- · to provide for the recognition and registration of indigenous designs;
- to create for this purpose a further part of the designs register; and
- to introduce statutory provisions to provide for the establishment of a National Council in respect of indigenous knowledge, a National Database for the recording of indigenous knowledge and a National Trust and Trust Fund for purposes of indigenous knowledge; and to provide for matters incidental thereto

See full Act in Link below:

https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis\_document/201409/37148gon996act28-2013.pdf

### STATUTORY DEPARTMENT

by Engela Mills

#### Different Companies (NPCs, Pty, CC)

- You get Private Property Companies (PTY) LTD (5days to Register any company with CIPC)
- Close Corporations You can no longer register them and CC are urged to convert to (PTY) LTD this is due to companies act 2008. These do not have share certificates the members are the owners as shown on the CIPC document
- Non-Profit Companies NPC
- Non-Profit Organizations this is not part of CIPC it is registered with government directly. (Can be any time from 3 months to 6 months)
- · All documents have to be certified

## Cloud Accounting in the digital era

By Tinashe Mashoyoya



The advent of the fourth industrial revolution (4IR) which some have dubbed the digital revolution and also industry 4.0 has brought along with it technology innovations that are not only reshaping our social interactions but are also opening new opportunities and broadening possibilities for improving businesses performance. We've seen the rise of innovations such as artificial intelligence (AI), augmented reality (AR), internet of things (IoT), blockchain and cloud computing, most of which are internet based and can be leveraged by businesses to great advantage. Cumulative research and expert opinion on 4IR continue to indicate that businesses that fail to adapt to and integrate such technology innovations into their operations will struggle to survive in the near future and will most likely fail eventually. Given the rapid development of these emerging technologies, this outcome is likely to happen sooner for some businesses than they realise. In future we will expand on each of these technologies, and how they are opening up new opportunities especially for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) beginning with what could perhaps be viewed as a channel through which most of these technologies can be accessed, i.e., cloud computing.

#### **Cloud Computing**

Cloud computing, in simple terms, is as computer technology innovation that allows users to access other computer hardware and software technology resources remotely over an internet connection often at a fraction of the cost of acquiring such resources. Cloud computing, therefore, offers users access to computer software programs, computer infrastructure as well as platforms upon which users can build their own programs, without having to spend a fortune. This is one the advantages cloud computing brings especially for small businesses that may not have adequate financial resources to invest in competent computer technology and increase their chances of surviving in the future. Some of the other advantages include:

#### **Ubiquitous, convenient and on demand access:**

Cloud computing makes it possible for users to access computer services from any location, using devices such as laptops, tablets or a smartphone capable of accessing the Internet, therefore allowing access to files and work processes remotely. This feature proved to be crucial for businesses that, for example needed workers to access and work on their files remotely throughout the various Covid-19 lockdowns.

Cloud Accounting in the digital era / Cont.

#### **Configurable computing resources:**

Cloud computing users have a variety of service configuration options such as storage and processing services which can be adapted for their specific needs. Such storage and processing services are provided to users offsite by third parties and can be modelled to provide software as a service (SaaS), infrastructure as a service (IaaS) and/or platform as a service (PaaS) depending on the users' needs. SaaS configuration is when users are provided access to third party software only over the internet for a fee. Fees vary between monthly and annual subscriptions. With IaaS, users are provided access to third party computer infrastructure such as servers which are accessed over the internet while PaaS provides access, over the internet, to third party software platforms where they can build their own applications. Businesses also have options in terms the models within which such configurations can be deployed, and these can be in the form of private, public or hybrid cloud models. With private models, computing resources are developed and maintained in-house while with public models, hardware and/or computer resources are provided to public users over the internet and hybrid models combines private and public cloud models.

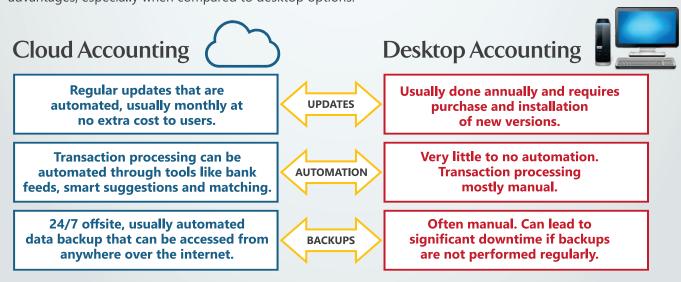
#### Scalability:

Cloud computing allows users to increase the amount of computing resources they use without incurring the additional capital expenditure and/or affecting performance. This is usually done by just upgrading service plans at the click of a button and at a fraction of the capital cost needed to do in-house.

#### Trialability:

Most cloud computing service providers offer users the ability to try their services obligation free for a limited period. This allows users to make more effective decisions about the computing services suitable for their businesses without breaking the bank.

Adoption of cloud computing, as can be seen from above, affords businesses, especially SMEs access to vast computer technology resources without which they would be unable to compete effectively in the 4IR. Given the crucial role played by SMEs in developing economies such as South Africa through employment creation and notable contributions to GDP, their survival is paramount and cloud computing can play a pivotal role in ensuring that survival. Cloud computing also presents a different dimension to the success and survival of businesses in the 4IR by facilitating more value adding collaborative partnerships between businesses and professional services providers such as chartered accountants at low cost. Such a collaboration between accountant and client allows the accountant to add more value to the client by freeing up time and resources and allowing the accountant to focus on advising the client rather than the traditional data processing functions. This is so because cloud computing presents various cloud based accounting packages that can be accessed remotely and at low cost and can therefore afford accountants the ability to offload some traditional accounting services to the cloud and focus more on additional value adding advisory services. Since business organisations are increasingly moving away from rigid workplaces and times and more towards flexible options, they can take advantage of the collaborative tools in cloud based accounting services to facilitate real time information sharing between them and professional accountants thus improving the quality of financial information while creating more opportunities for other value adding services. In addition to real time collaboration with professional accountants, cloud accounting also has the following advantages, especially when compared to desktop options:



Adopting cloud accounting is, therefore, a great opportunity for businesses to jump onto the 4IR train and improve their chances of surviving and even performing better in the future. At IECCA we have well trained professionals who can assist you to migrate your accounting needs to the cloud through diverse cloud based solutions such as Sage Business Cloud and Xero while offering you strategies to grow your business. Have a chat with us and discover how we can help you leverage the power of cloud accounting and ready your business for the future.

### Implementation of Tax Directives Enhancements

#### by Michael Dusabe

8 December 2021 – SARS will introduce changes to its systems from 1 March 2022 to prevent taxpayers who receive income from more than one source, and where one of the sources is income from a retirement fund, ending up with a large tax debt payable to SARS after assessment of their income tax return.

SARS is aware that a significant tax debt can arise at year-end when all sources of income are combined in order to determine taxable income and the tax due.

In response to this, recently introduced legislation makes provision for SARS to determine the effective rate of tax in respect of the combined employment and/or pension sources of income of a taxpayer.

The effective rate of tax is based on the latest data available to SARS and that rate will be provided to the retirement fund administrators for purposes of withholding PAYE based on that data.

This rate is then made available via e@syFile™ to the employer and will only apply to taxpayers who have a form of retirement income.

SARS PAYE system allows for a taxpayer to request to be taxed monthly at a higher rate so that any tax due at year-end is adequately covered. However, not many taxpayers who fall into the category are making use of this option.

SARS Commissioner Edward Kieswetter said the organisation remains committed to providing clarity and certainty to taxpayers about their legal obligations. SARS also strives to make it easy to comply through system changes uch as this.

#### New channel to register a Trust

28 March 2022 – SARS has launched an online functionality for the registration of Trusts for Income Tax purposes via the SARS Online Query System (SOQS) on this website. Trustees, representative taxpayers, and registered representatives can now not only register a trust for income tax purposes, but also submit any supporting documents online. In simplifying this process, we have made it easier for taxpayers to have a seamless experience when interacting with SARS in a digital environment rather than visiting a SARS branch for Trust tax registration.

For more information, see our:

- Trusts webpage
- Send us an Online Query (SOQS) webpage (with all the current SARS services)
- Supporting documents required to register a Trust
- The direct link on the SOQS system to register your Trust for Income Tax

If you need the detail process first before going to the online registration link, you can see the updated <u>Guide on how to use the SARS Online Query System</u>, and scroll to the Trust section.



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