

**Business Registration Act
(CHAPTER 32)**

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BUSINESS REGISTRATION ACT

(CHAPTER 32)

(Original Enactment: 1985 REVISED EDITION)

REVISED EDITION 2004

(31st July 2004)

An Act to provide for the registration of persons carrying on business in Singapore and for matters incidental thereto.

[1st September 1974]

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Business Registration Act.

Interpretation

- 2.—(1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“Authority” means the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority established under the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004 (Act 3 of 2004);

“business” includes every form of trade, commerce, craftsmanship, calling, profession and any activity carried on for the purposes of gain but does not include any office, employment or occupation, or any of the businesses specified in the First Schedule;

“business name” means the name or style under which a person carries on business;

“certificate of registration” means a certificate issued under section 8;

“corporation” means a company registered under the Companies Act (Cap. 50) or under any corresponding previous legislation and includes any body corporate formed or incorporated outside Singapore and any branch or subsidiary thereof;

“document” means any application, form, report, certification, notice, confirmation, declaration or other document to be filed or lodged with or submitted to the Registrar or, as the case may be, any certificate, notice or other document to be issued by the Registrar;

“firm” means an unincorporated body of 2 or more individuals, or one or more individuals and one or more corporations, or 2 or more corporations, who have entered into partnership with one another with a view to carrying on business for profit;

“foreign firm” means any firm, individual or corporation whose principal place of business is situated outside Singapore;

“individual” means a natural person and includes an administrator, executor, liquidator, trustee, nominee of any person, guardian and committee having a direct control or management of any business but does not include a corporation;

“inspector” means a person authorised in writing by the Registrar to be an inspector for the purposes of this Act;

“person” includes a corporation, firm, foreign firm and individual;

“person responsible for the management of a business” includes every director, manager, partner, officer, individual, secretary, agent or employee at any time charged either solely or to a substantial extent with the management of a business;

“prescribed person” means a person, or a person within a class of persons, prescribed by the Minister;

“register” means any register kept under or by virtue of the provisions of this Act;

“Registrar” means the Registrar of Businesses appointed under section 3 and includes any Deputy Registrar or Assistant Registrar of Businesses appointed under that section.

[40/99; 13/2002; 3/2004]

(2) A person who has a place of business in Singapore shall be deemed to be carrying on business in Singapore for the purposes of this Act.

(3) Where a person carrying on business is required under this Act to do any act or thing, the person responsible for the management of the business for or on behalf of the first-mentioned person shall also be answerable for the doing of or omission to do that act or thing.

[40/99]

Administration of Act and appointment of Registrar of Businesses, etc.

3.—(1) The Authority shall be responsible for the administration of this Act, subject to the general or special directions of the Minister.

[3/2004]

(2) The Minister may, after consultation with the Authority —

- (a) appoint an officer of the Authority to be the Registrar of Businesses; and
- (b) from amongst the officers of the Authority, public officers and the officers of any other statutory board, appoint such number of Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars of Businesses as he considers necessary,

for the proper administration of this Act.

[3/2004]

(3) The Registrar shall be responsible generally for the carrying out of the provisions of this Act and for the collection of the fees thereunder and shall pay all amounts so collected into the funds of the Authority.

[3/2004]

(4) The Authority may give to the Registrar such directions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as to the exercise of his powers, functions or duties under this Act, and the Registrar shall give effect to such directions.