

TAX POLICY

Introduction

Brambles' Code of Conduct sets out what is expected of everyone at Brambles and our Tax Policy aligns with that. This policy has been approved by the Brambles Board.

Brambles is committed to complying with tax laws and to having open and constructive relationships with tax authorities. Taxation laws are inherently complex, and Brambles seeks to comply with the laws by paying the right amount of tax in the correct jurisdiction, disclosing relevant information, and claiming reliefs or incentives where they are available. We support greater transparency of companies' tax payments and processes, in order to build public trust.

We pay corporate income taxes, customs duties, employment and other taxes. In addition, we collect and pay employee taxes as well as indirect taxes such as sales tax and VAT. The taxes we pay and collect form a significant part of the economic contribution to the countries in which we operate.

Our commitment is underpinned by the following principles:

1. Tax risk management and governance framework

We follow Brambles' risk management system as part of our internal control processes. We identify, assess and manage tax risks and account for them appropriately. We implement risk management measures including controls over the following risks:

- Operation and Transaction risks – the risk of inadequate tax consideration, expertise and judgement into business transactions, and poor implementation or management of key risks, including inadequate documentation to support positions taken. Key controls include sign-off by key functional areas including Group Tax in accordance with an approvals framework;
- Compliance risk – the risk of late or inaccurate tax returns. Key controls include a central database monitoring the lodgement of tax returns, and the use of external accounting firms to prepare or review such returns;
- Tax accounting risk – the risk of material financial mis-statement as defined in the relevant accounting standards. Key controls include providing tax accounting instructions to financial statement preparers, and review and sign-off of material tax balances by Group Tax; and
- External and management risk – the risk associated with new laws and management of the tax function. Key controls include ensuring that appropriate policies and procedures are in place, maintained and used consistently around the world, and that the global tax team has the skills and experience to implement the approach appropriately.

Material tax issues and risks, when identified, are reported to the Brambles Audit Committee and Brambles Board.

2. Level of risk in relation to taxation Brambles is prepared to accept

The effective management of risk, including tax risk, is vital to the continued growth and success of Brambles. We incorporate effective risk management as part of our business processes. Brambles has designed and implemented internal control systems and risk management processes, including those relevant to tax risk, and these are reviewed by the Board.

Internal governance procedures impact on acceptable levels of risk by:

- Identifying, analysing and ranking risk issues, including tax, in a consistent manner, using a common methodology;
- Making our risk tolerance for tax issues a key consideration in our decision making; and
- Requiring approval by senior management, or the Board, for transactions according to an approval process having regard to the level of risk and materiality of the consequences involved.

3. Tax strategy and planning

Brambles Code of Conduct states that all business should be conducted in accordance with the laws and regulations in the countries in which the business is located. Our tax strategy and planning supports our business strategy and reflects commercial and economic activity. Relevant Brambles Group stakeholders are involved, according to an approval process having regard to the level of risk and materiality of the consequences involved, to ensure transactions are acceptable, including Brambles Board, CEO, CFO, and commercial, legal, treasury and accounting functions.

We adhere to relevant tax law and we seek to minimize the risk of uncertainty or disputes. For material transactions we seek certainty, for example by way of advance pricing agreements from tax authorities, and external opinions, which support our position. We also seek certainty through external advice or agreement with tax authorities where the law is uncertain or complex.

We conduct transactions between group companies on an arm's-length basis and in accordance with current OECD principles.

4. Approach towards tax authorities

We seek to build and sustain relationships with governments and fiscal authorities that are constructive and based on trust and mutual respect. Brambles complies with the tax laws in each country, but should any inaccuracies arise, these will be voluntarily disclosed to taxation authorities.

We work collaboratively wherever possible with fiscal authorities to resolve disputes and to achieve early agreement and certainty.

If material disputes arise and we cannot obtain agreement with tax authorities, and believe the company's position is correct, we are prepared to litigate the matter.

We engage with governments, and its various bodies, on the development of tax laws, and their administrations, either directly or through trade and other similar associations as appropriate.

Our approach is evidenced by, for example, low risk ratings from the Australian Taxation Office and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

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