Electronic Money & Payment Institutions



EU Passporting Rights - Cyprus is an EU member state compliant with EU laws and regulations. Once authorised in Cyprus, EMIs and PIs, may offer their services freely within the EU on a cross-border basis or by setting up branches through the so-called "EU passporting process" without any further authorization from the Central Bank of Cyprus ("CBC").

Why Cyprus? **High Regulatory Standards** – Harmonized national legislation with the relevant EU directives and practices governing the operations of PIs and EMIs, including the EU Directive 2015/2366 (the 2nd Payment Services Directive).

Domestic Business Infrastructure - High level business environment comprised of highly qualified and experienced professional financial services providers i.e. banking, accounting, legal etc. Convenient time zone for conducting 24 hour a day business.

Tax System - Favorable tax system. e.g. no withholding tax on dividend distributions to foreign shareholders, 12.5% corporation tax with possibility to drop up to 2.5% due to Notional Interest Deduction (NID).

▶ Cost efficiency - Cost effective set up and low ongoing operational costs.

Educated Workforce - Access to highly qualified and educated workforce with significant experience in a broad spectrum of industries including financial services and IT. English is the bus iness language

Experienced Regulator – Experienced, highly cooperative and business friendly Regulator in CBC which provides streamlined procedures, reduced bureaucracy and lower regulatory fees.

License Types

EMI License captures the provision of electronic money services which is broadly defined as an electronic store of monetary value on a technical device that may be widely used for making payments to entities other than the e-money issuer.

PI License covers the following 8 distinct payment services:

Services enabling cash to be placed on a payment account as well as all the operations required for operating a payment account.

Account information services.

Payment initiation services.

Money remittance.

Issue of payment instruments and/or acquiring of payment transactions.

Services enabling cash withdrawals from a payment account as well as all the operations required for operating a payment account.

Execution of payment transactions, including transfers of funds on a payment account with the user's payment provider or with another payment service provider-

- execution of direct debits, including one-off direct debits.
- execution of payment transactions through a payment card or a similar device.
- execution of credit transfers, including standing orders.

Execution of payment transactions where the funds are covered by a credit line for a payment service user-

- d) execution of direct debits, including one-off direct debits.
- e) execution of payment transactions through a payment card or a similar device.
- f) execution of credit transfers, including standing orders.







As a member of the integrated **PwC Global Network**, PwC Cyprus possesses a unique depth of resources combined with an acute level of expertise to deliver standout, ongoing value to your business.

We are a **highly specialized team**, dedicated in the provision of licensing and advisory services for EMIs and PIs with a demonstrated ability to **successfully navigate clients** through the regulatory maze.

Our Service Offerings



Licensing



Port-licensing Promoter



Legal



Regulatory & AML Compliance



Risk Advisory



IT Assurance



IT Consulting



Regulatory & Transactional Support



Internal Audit



Recruiting



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Corporate & Secretarial

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