



Are you paying too much European VAT?

BRAL has been assisting companies to reclaim their European VAT since 1988. Our clients range from developing and successful owner managed businesses and international businesses through to public companies to whom we also supply a range of taxation and planning services.

VAT reclaim

VAT (Value Added Tax) is a general tax, imposed on the consumption of goods and services in Europe. It can total as much as 25%, depending on the VAT rate in the country where the expense is incurred. As the burden of indirect taxes increases, due to the ever changing complex rules of each EU member country, it is critical to manage your exposure to indirect taxes and prevent unnecessary costs.

Our services

BRAL can handle your entire claim for you by:

- explaining what can be reclaimed;
- working to maximise your claim;
- preparing the claim in the language and format required;
- submitting the claim in the required format;
- negotiating with the authorities on borderline issues; and
- responding to any questions from the authorities.

In addition we:

- keep you informed with regular updates;
- liaise with suppliers to have incorrect invoices re-issued;
- send a member of staff to select the relevant invoices from your offices and give you stamped and authorised photocopies to hold on file (if required). Originals will be returned to you after the claim has been settled.

Who can claim?

Any business incurring VAT in a European country can make a claim if:

- the business is neither registered, nor liable to be registered, for VAT in the country where the expense is incurred;
- the expenses were for business purposes; and
- the business is EU based and registered in your home country for VAT, or the business is non-EU based and registered for business purposes in its own country.

Case Study 1

Company A Inc. from USA exhibited at Farnborough International Airshow in the UK. Below is a breakdown of their exhibition costs and the decrease in costs achieved by the use of BRAL services.

Total costs including stand, hotel bills, lunches, dinners, car hire and petrol (incl. UK VAT @ 17.5%)	£57,881.73
Total amount recovered by BRAL for Company A (less our fee)	£7,327.58
Reduced exhibition costs total	£50,554.15
Total % saving made by Company A Inc.	12.65%

What can be reclaimed?

- Accommodation
- Airplane - fuel/lease/repairs
- Automobile - diesel/parking/rental/repairs
- Business - marketing/services/supplies
- Conference
- Fees - consulting/legal/maintenance
- Intercompany charges
- Purchases - office supplies/product samples
- Research - clinical trials/copyright/product development and testing
- Shipping
- Subsistence - group/personal
- Telecommunications
- Trade Show - booth/catering/entrance/services/supplies
- Training

Expert help

BRAL are the experts when it comes to reclaiming European Tax on behalf of both EU and non-EU businesses.

There are many ways to streamline your business practices in order to decrease the European VAT that your company incurs and hence increase bottom line profit. These include:

- use of a Tax Agent vs fiscal representation;
- tax warehousing;
- transfer pricing policies; and
- industry specific VAT measures.

Key benefits of using us

- VAT refund maximisation
- Full VAT compliance and consultancy services
- Dedicated account management
- Contingency based fee
- Decreased costs via the outsourcing of preparation of VAT claims
- Increased profit via VAT refund maximisation

Case Study 2

Company B Inc. from France has a subsidiary company in the UK. The UK company performs certain functions on behalf of the parent company and invoices the parent company for such services.

Intercompany charges (incl UK VAT @ 17.5%)	£75,000.00
Total amount recovered by BRAL for Company B (less our fee)	£11,170.21
Reduced intercompany charges	£65,505.32
Total % saving made by Company B Inc.	12.65%

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