



## Company Management

The benefits and flexibility delivered by offshore companies make them a highly attractive option for clients across the globe. Offshore companies are used for a wide variety of purposes ranging from single asset vehicles holding a specific asset or assets such as commercial or residential property, super yachts or investment portfolios to complex international tax planning with an offshore company or a series of companies forming an integral part of a global trading operation.

### Background

The original attraction of incorporating a company offshore was often to achieve limited liability for the shareholder with an added advantage of favourable tax treatment and confidentiality.

The Channel Islands are widely regarded as the benchmark for good governance and regulation. Risk management is now an important consideration for the service provider with legal structures, responsibilities to shareholders and regulators understood, carefully monitored and controlled.

Guernsey, with a cutting edge Company Registry incorporating a highly competitive fast track incorporation facility, provides the perfect environment for most types of structure. Added to this are the benefits enjoyed by its favourable European time zone and modern legal and regulatory framework. The island is well supported too both at local and international level by high calibre globally recognised investment, legal, tax and accountancy professionals (the UK 'big four' all have a significant presence on the island).

The jurisdiction for the incorporation of a company will, however, be largely decided by the advising professionals and to some extent on the intended use and the activities to be undertaken with various factors considered. The British Virgin Islands, United Kingdom and Switzerland are all also commonly used and each can provide certain advantages depending on the type and purpose of the structure. We are able to assist our clients with the incorporation of companies in both these and a wider range of jurisdiction.

### Features of a Guernsey company

- Governed by The Companies (Guernsey) Law, 2008
- 24 hour, 2 hour or 15 minute incorporation, depending on type of company
- Standard sets of Memorandum and Articles of Association are available and bespoke sets can be uploaded onto the system at incorporation
- On-line annual validation replaces annual return Providing efficient maintenance of the company on the Register
- Simple solvency test replaces minimum capital requirements
- Only one Director required as minimum
- Audit exemption available for most companies
- Attractive fiscal regime

### For further information contact

Ian Rouget on +44 (0)1481 731204  
ian.rouget@ardeltrust.com

### Ardel Trust Company (Guernsey) Limited

PO Box 175, Frances House, Sir William Place, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 4HQ  
T +44 (0)1481 723573 F +44 (0)1481 732121

The information contained within these notes is necessarily limited in scope and statements made are consequently general in effect. Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information on the product sheet, Ardel Trust Company (Guernsey) Limited cannot accept responsibility for any loss suffered as a result of persons relying thereon. The company advises all clients to consult their own professional advisor on all legal, tax and fiscal matters as necessary. Regulated by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission in accordance with The Regulation of Fiduciaries, Administration Businesses and Company Directors, etc. (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2000 as amended 2008. Company registration number: 5487.