Phase 2 of the New Inspection Regime

Revision of Specified Forms and Filing Requirements

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Highlights of the New Inspection Regime (1)

- The Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) ("CO") provided for a new inspection regime for personal information on the Companies Register ("the Register") maintained by the Companies Registry ("CR").
- The Register maintained by the CR contains personal information available for public inspection.
- Such personal information includes :
 - the usual residential addresses ("URAs") and full identification numbers ("IDNs") of directors of companies;
 - full IDNs of company secretaries and some other individuals (such as liquidators and provisional liquidators).
- Similar personal information is also contained in the registers kept by companies which are open for public inspection.





Highlights of the New Inspection Regime (2)

- Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the CO concerning the New Inspection Regime which were passed by the Legislative Council in July 2012 but had not fully commenced, correspondence addresses instead of URAs of directors and partial IDNs instead of full IDNs of directors, company secretaries and other relevant persons would be made available on the Register for public inspection.
- The URAs and full IDNs ("Protected Information") would only be accessible by "specified persons" upon application.
- Similarly, companies may withhold from public inspection the Protected Information on the registers they have kept.





Three Phases of the New Inspection Regime

> Phase 1 (from 23 August 2021)

Phase 2 (from 24 October 2022)

- Protected Information on the Index of Directors on the Register have been replaced with correspondence addresses and partial IDNs for public inspection.
- Protected Information contained in documents filed for registration after commencement of this phase is **NO LONGER** provided for public inspection.
- "Specified persons" can apply to the CR for access to Protected Information of directors and other persons.

Phase 3 (from 27 December 2023)





Key Provisions in the CO

In case:-

- a.communications sent by the Registrar to the director, and requiring a response within a specified period, remain unanswered; or
- b.there is evidence that the service of documents by the Registrar at the relevant correspondence address of the director is not effective to bring them to the notice of the director,

the Registrar may make a protected address available for public inspection [section 55(1)]





Key Provisions in the CO / Subsidiary Legislation

Annual Return (Local Company)(Form NAR1)

The particulars to be contained **no longer include**:

- > URA and full IDN of a natural person director;
- > Full IDN of a natural person company secretary.

[sections 3 and 4 of Schedule 6 to the CO]

Annual Return (Registered Non-Hong Kong Companies)(Form NN3)

The particulars to be contained **no longer include**:

- URA and full IDN of a natural person director;
- Full IDN of a natural person company secretary;
- Full IDN of a natural person authorized representative.

[sections 9(2A), (2B) and (2C) of the Companies (Non-Hong Kong Companies) Regulation (Cap. 622J)]





Revised Specified Forms (1)

- To facilitate the implementation of Phase 2 of the New Inspection Regime, 26 specified forms which pertain to the reporting of Protected Information have been revised for use starting from 24 October 2022.
- The revised specified forms were published in the Gazette (G.N. 3130 and 3168) on <u>24 June 2022</u>.
- The same can be downloaded from "Forms > Specified Forms" on CR's website.
- Please refer to External Circular No. 1/2022 for details.





Revised Specified Forms (2)

Commonly used forms being revised include:

Local Company

- Form NAR1 Annual Return
- Form ND2A Notice of Change of Company Secretary and Director (Appointment / Cessation)
- Form ND2B Notice of Change in Particulars of Company Secretary and Director
- Form ND4 Notice of Resignation of Company Secretary and Director
- Form NNC1 Incorporation Form (Company Limited by Shares)
- Form NW3 Notice of Appointment of Liquidator or Provisional Liquidator





Revised Specified Forms (3)

Registered Non-Hong Kong Company

- Form NN1 Application for Registration as Registered Non-Hong Kong Company
- Form NN2 Notification of Termination of Authorization of Authorized Representative of Registered Non-Hong Kong Company
- Form NN3 Annual Return of Registered Non-Hong Kong Company
- Form NN6 Return of Change of Company Secretary and Director of Registered Non-Hong Kong Company (Appointment / Cessation)
- Form NN7 Return of Change in Particulars of Company Secretary and Director of Registered Non-Hong Kong Company
- Form NN8 Return of Change of Authorized Representative of Registered Non-Hong Kong Company (Appointment / Cessation)
- Form NN8C Return of Change in Particulars of Authorized Representative of Registered Non-Hong Kong Company





Revised Specified Forms (4)

Major changes include :

- Modification of the relevant fields for reporting correspondence address of directors and partial identification numbers of relevant persons;
- Introduction of a "PI-sheet" to individual form for reporting Protected Information.

(Note : The PI-sheet is <u>NOT</u> available for public inspection.)





Major Changes at a Glance (1)

- Main Form and PI-Sheet

	使改公司秘書及董事通知書(委任/停任) Notice of Change of Company Secretary and Director (Appointment/Cessation)	PI-ND2A	公司編號 Company Number
锉 No	Companies Registry 表格 Form ND2A Form ND2A	Protected Information	在公司秘書/董事 (自然人) - 受保護資料 ppointment of Company Secretary / Director (Natural Person) - rotected Information C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C
Ø	2 公司秘書/董事的停任 Cessation to Act as Company Secretary/Director (総磁通・含公司転着/董事件: 通用模式 A 標準 Use Continuation Sheet A if more than 1 company secretary/director ceased to act) A. 現時在公司註冊處登記的詳情 Particulars Currently Registered with the Companies Registry 調査期的定格的加上 ✓ 波 Please took the relevant box(es) 身分	The <u>full number</u> of Hong Kong Identity Card or passport of company secretary should be reported on this page. - 公司須於本頁申報新委任董事的香港身分證或護照的 <u>完整號</u> The <u>full number</u> of Hong Kong Identity Card or passport and <u>usu</u> of the newly appointed director should be reported on this page. (每一頁PI-ND2A 只可確第一名自然人的是供講習杯: 如知道一名自然人員杯: 通知DPI-ND2A 言	the newly appointed 碼及通常住址。 ual residential address
0	公司秘書/董事的詳情 (自然人) Particulars of Company Secretary/ Director (Natural Person) 中文差名 Name in Chinese 英文差名 Name in English Sumame Other Names	person, please report separately on additional PH-ND2A sheet(s).) 請注導用的空格内加上 ぐ 健 Please lick the relevant box(so) 身分 」 公可秘書 「董事」修	吴袖董事
0	身分識別 Identification 著准身分證医分號碼 Partial Number of Hong Kong Identity Card 建間医分號碼 Partial Number of Passport 或 OR	Name in English Sumame 名字 のでは、日本語の 御分識別 Identification	
Ø	公司秘書/董事的詳情 (法人屬簡) Particulars of Company Secretary/Director (Body Corporate) 中文及英文名稱 Chinese and English Names	Hong Kong Identity Card (<u>Full</u> Number) (b) 鏡照 簽發國家/批函 Passport Issuing Country / Region	
0	B. 停任詳情 Details of Cessation 停在原因 Reason for Cessation 上世 Pet日期 Date of Cessation 日DD 月MM 年 YYYY	● 董事/與補董事的 通常住址 Usual Residential Address of Director / Alternate Director	
Ø	上述董事或侯補董事在停任日期後,是否仍然擔任道公司的侯補董事或董事職位? Will this director or alternate director continue to hold office as alternate director or director in this company after the date of cessation?	篇家 / 批碼	
● 公 司 註	機交人資料 Presentor's Reference 請勿填寫本欄 For Official Use 姓名 Name: 地址 Address:	Country/Region	【蓋此頁內的條碼 R THE BARCODES ON THIS PAGE
COMPANIES R	電話 Tel: 傳真 Fax: 電郵 Email: 播號 Reference: 周報圖# (2023年 10月) Specification No. 1/2022 (October 2022)	(安付港結 HD2A 師・講師所存 PI-HD2A 賞誉計書推。) Please place all PI-HD2A sheets at the end when delivering the Form ND2A」 問句編載 (12022 12022年10月) Operfication No. (12022 (October 2022))	



Major Changes at a Glance (2)

- Main Form (Form ND2A)

公司编號 Company Number
/Director (Natural Person) than 1 natural person is appointed as
* * * (*)
月 MM 年 YYYY
t事或董事? □是 Yes irector in this □否 No
▲悉該指引所模述的董事一般責任。 rectors' Duties' published by the f directors outlined in the Guide.
ever does not apply
ave attained the age of 18 years.





Major Changes at a Glance (3)

- PI-Sheet (PI-ND2A)

_	PI-ND2A			公司編號 Company Number
		董事(自然人)-) ompany Secretary ntion		latural Person) –
		と 眾 紀 錄 不 f ge will not be sho		
	The <u>full number</u> of H company secretary sho - 公司須於本頁申報新 The <u>full number</u> of Hon	委任公司秘書的香港身分 ong Kong Identity Card uld be reported on this pa 委任董事的香港身分證詞 g Kong Identity Card or p director should be reported	or passport of th ge. 試護照的 <u>完整號碼</u> assport and <u>usual</u>	e newly appointed 及 <u>通常住址</u> 。
	Each PI-ND2A sheet can only report person, please report separately on a			
	<i>請在讓用的空格內加上 ✓ 號 Please</i> 身分 Capacity 中文姓名 Name in Chinese	公司秘書 🗍 🗯		董事 nate Director
	英文姓名 姓氏 Name in English Surname 名字			
	Other Names 身分識 <u>別 Identification</u> (3) 香港身分證(<u>完整</u> 號碼)			
		國家/地區 ountry/Region		
		完整號碼 <u>Full</u> Number		
_	董事/候補董事的 通常任证 Osual Residential Address of Director/Alternate Director			
	國家/地區 Country/Region			
			and the second se	亂此頁內的條碼 HE BARCODES ON THIS PAGE





Introduction of New Amendment Form – Form AD

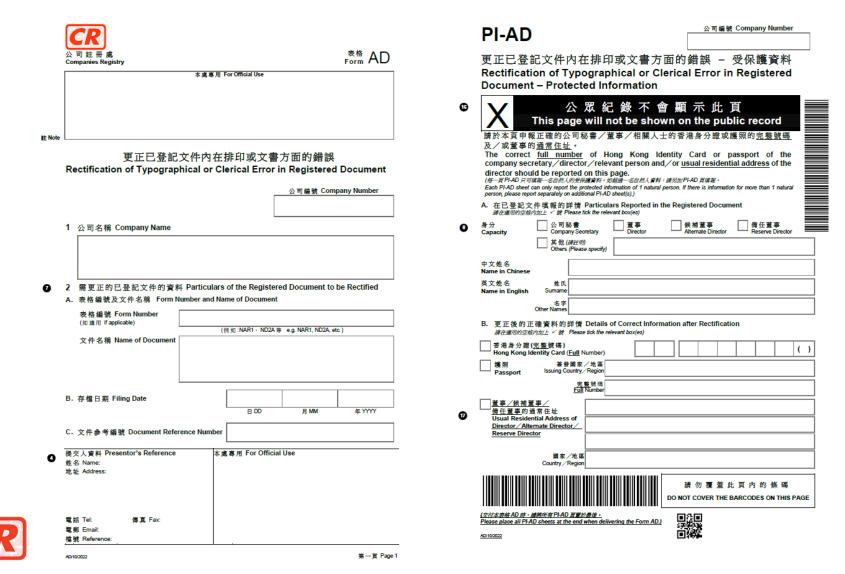
- In view of section 54(2) of the CO, the approach for rectification of information on the Companies Register has to be revised to ensure that Protected Information contained in amended documents will <u>NOT</u> be made available for public inspection;
- A new Administration Form, Form AD Rectification of Typographical or Clerical Error in Registered Document is introduced for use starting from 24 October 2022;
- Please refer to External Circular No. 6/2022 "Implementation of Phase 2 of New Inspection Regime - Rectification of Information on the Companies Register" which superseded External Circular No. 7/2014 on the same issue.





Form AD (1)

- Main Form and PI-Sheet



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Form AD (2)

- Section 3

- For rectification of typographical or clerical error involving personal particulars of individuals, section 3 of the Form AD should be completed.
- Protected Information should be reported on a PI-AD sheet.
- PI-AD sheet is NOT available for public inspection.

CD	公	司	註	₩	處
	CON	1PAN	IES F	REGIS	TRY

	^{表格} Form AD				司編號 Comp	any Num	ber
	3 更正已登記文件内的 Rectification of Person		n the Registe	red Docur	ment		
	 在已登記文件填報的許 (如需更正超過一名自然人的資料 Use Continuation Sheet A if info 	,請用續買 A 填報 mation of more than 1	natural person is to		l Document		
8		y 量事 Director	一候補	董事 ate Director	C 備任董事 Reserve Dir	ector	
	中文姓名 Name in Chinese						
	英文姓名 姓氏 Name in English Surname 名字						
	Other Namies B. 更正後的正確資料的制	单情 Details of Co	rrect Informat	ion after Re	ectification		
9	<i>請在適用的空格內加上 ✓ 號</i> 中文姓名 Name in Chinese	Please tick the relevant	box(es)				
0	英文姓名 Name in English			姓氏 Surman	ne		
				2字 Other Na			
	前用姓名 中文 Previous Name Chinese		英文 English		lines		
	日本 中文 Alias Chinese		英文 English				
10	▲ 董事/候補董事/備任董事 Usual Residential Address of Alternate Director/ Reserve	of Director/			: 址填報於 PI-A address is provi		D sheet
	→ 通訊地址/地址 Correspondence Address /Address						
	,						
	國家/地區 Country/Region						
	Country/ Region 電郵地址 Email Address						
0	■香港身分證 Hong Kong Identity Card	<u>完整</u> 號碼 <u>Full</u> Number			號碼填報於 Pl		eet
12		<u>部分</u> 號碼 <u>Partial</u> Number			* :	* *	(*)
	──護照 簽發國 Passport Issuing Count	家/地區 try/Region					
0	完整就 Full Nur				填報於 PI-AD] provided in PI-/		
12	部分號 Partial						
	AD/10/2022					第	二頁 Page 2

Form AD (3)

- Section 4

For rectification of typographical or clerical error in other information, section 4 of the Form AD should be completed.

	表	m AD	公司编號 Company Number
	Fo		
₿	4	更正本表格第3項未涵蓋的其他資料 Rectification of Other Information Not Covered by §	Section 3 of this Form
		(如空位不足,請用續買B 填雜 Use Continuation Sheet B if the space pro	
		需更正的資料 Information to be rectified	
1		(i) 錯誤資料載於已登記文件內的位置 Location of the inco	prrect information in the registered document
		(ii) 錯誤資料的描述 Description of the incorrect information	
15		(iii)更正後的正確資料 Correct Information after rectification	



Form AD (4)

- Relevant page of the registered document containing the erroneous information may be attached to the Form AD if it <u>does not include</u> <u>any Protected Information</u>.
- In this case, the word "AMENDED" should be printed on the top of the amended page with the corrected information underlined while the other content of the page should remain identical to the original registered document.





附表一 Schedule 1 (非上市公司適用 FOR NON-LISTED COMPANY)

本中報慶的始意日期 Date to which this Return is Made Up 06. 10. 2022. 目DD 月MM 年YYYY

非上市公司的成員詳情 (第 13 項). Particulars of Member(s) of a Non-listed Company (Section 13).

(存記本がSF上市公-可必研算指定) - 加速位不足、ジョンロー構設会、可足位的設定。--) (Non-listed company having a share capital must complete this page. If the space provided is insufficient, or if there is more than one class of shares, please use additional Schedule 1.)

<mark>裁至本申報表的幼崽日期的成員錄情 Particulars of Member(s) as at the Date to which this Return is Made Up</mark>.

比加別股份的已發行	庁總數 Total Number of Issue	d Shares in this	Class	10	000.,		
	意祉。 Address,	5	월台 Shares	8			
進名/名 樹 Names		聪時持有量 Current Holding。	尊遵*。 Transferred *。		借註 Remarks。		
	1.5.22		放目 Numbera	日期 Dates			
CHAN TAI MAN 陳大文。	RM F <u>3/F</u> GOOD HOPE HOUSE, GOOD WISH ESTATE, 4 CAUSEWAY BAY ROAD, TIN HAU, HONG KONG,	10,000.	×		3		

未如公司的股份自上一份周年申報表日期以來(如屬首份周年申報表·期自公司成立為法願以來)有任何轉讓·有關證情亦讀一併申報:股份受讓人的姓名/名稱讀在「備註」一欄註明。

If there have been any transfers of the company's shares since the date of the last annual return (or since incorporation if this is the first annual return), please also provide details of the transfers; the name of the transferee should be stated in the 'Remarks' column...

指码编数 1/2014 (2014年3月) Specification No. 1/2014 (March 2014) 1



Transitional Arrangements (1)

There is <u>NO</u> transitional arrangement regarding delivery of specified forms and amended documents to CR for registration.

- > As from 24 October 2022 :
 - The CR only accepts the <u>revised</u> specified forms. Forms that are currently in use are **no longer acceptable** and will be returned to the document presentors.
 - The CR only accepts **Form AD** for applying for rectification of typographical and clerical errors on registered documents. The previous approach of using the amended version of documents for rectification is **no longer acceptable** and the amended version of document will be returned to the presentors.





Transitional Arrangements (2)

- The Electronic submission service for amended documents via "Online Submission > Rectification of Registered Documents" at the e-Registry has been suspended.
- Submission of Form AD is only accepted in hard copy form for the time being.





Transitional Arrangements – TPSI Service

Third Party Software Interface ("TPSI") service at e-Registry

- The TPSI service has ceased for 10 specified forms which contain Personal Information upon commencement of Phase 2 of the New Inspection Regime :
 - Form NAR1
 - Form ND2A
 - Form ND2B
 - Form ND4
 - Forms ND5, ND7 and ND8
 - Form NNC1
 - Form NNC1G
 - Form NN3
- The TPSI service for these 10 forms will be provided upon Phase 3 of the New Inspection Regime (in December 2023).





Frequently Asked Questions Received by CR

- Can directors use their usual residential address as correspondence address?
- Can the correspondence address of natural person directors be an oversea address?
- Can PO Box be used for correspondence address?
- Will shareholders' addresses reported in the Annual Return be open for public inspection?
- Is local company required to enter both the usual residential address and correspondence address in the Register of Directors? How about registered non-Hong Kong company?
- For Form AD, if a company intends to amend its Annual Return for the year 2009 but all directors have resigned, who can sign the Form AD?





Further Information

Thematic section on "New Inspection Regime"

on the Companies Registry's website



(www.cr.gov.hk/en/legislation/nir/overview.htm)





Thank You!



