

Register of Significant Controllers – Implementation of the New Requirements

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Significant Controller

A Significant Controller of a company includes a registrable legal entity and a registrable person.





Significant Controller (2)

- Who is a Registrable Person?
 - a natural person or specified entity that has significant control over the company





Significant Controller (3)

- Which entity is a Registrable Legal Entity?
 - a legal entity which is a member of the company and has significant control over the company

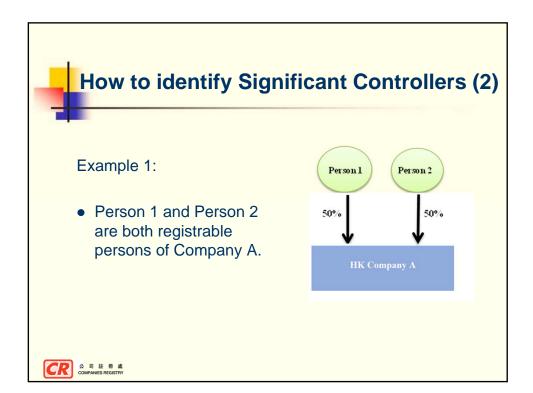


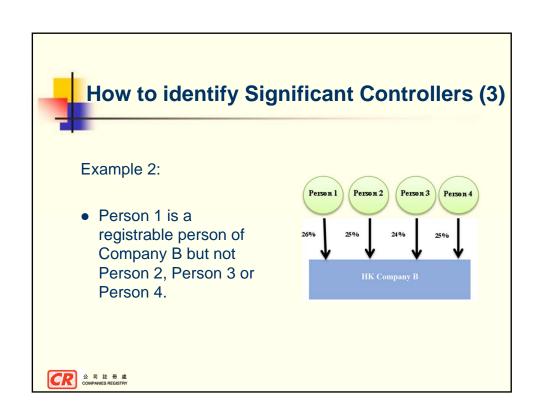


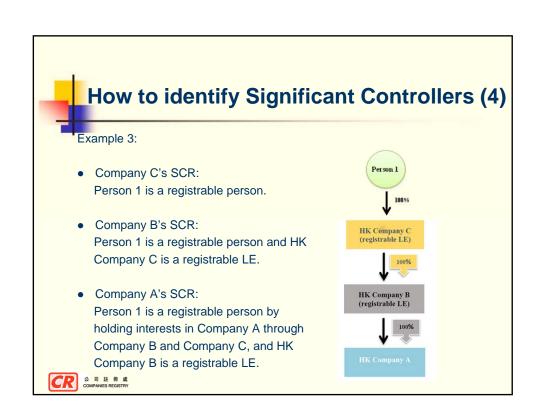
How to identify Significant Controllers

- ◆ Meet any one or more of the conditions in section 1 of Schedule 5A of the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 2018:
 - Holds / Shares > 25% of issued shares / profits
 - Holds > 25% of voting rights
 - Appoint / Remove board of directors
 - Significant influence or control
 - Significant influence or control over a trust or firm whose trustees or members meet any one or more of the above four conditions











Example 4:

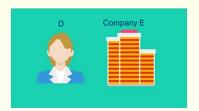
- Person C has the right to appoint a majority of board of directors of ABC Limited
- ABC Limited's SCR:
 Person C is a registrable person as she has the right to appoint a majority of directors of the Company







- Person D can ensure that Company E generally adopts the activities that she desires
- Company E's SCR:
 Person D is a registrable person of Company E as she has the right to exercise significant influence over the company







Giving Notices

- Giving notice to the person that the company knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, to be a significant controller; OR
- Giving notice to the person that the company knows, or has reasonable cause to believe to know, the identity of another person who is a significant controller
- Within 7 days





Giving Notices (2)

Contents of Notice

- confirm whether the addressee is a significant controller or not
 - > If yes, confirm or correct the required particulars and provide any missing particulars of the addressee
- state whether the addressee knows another person who is a significant controller or not.
 - > If yes, provide specified particulars and state whether the particulars are provided with that person's knowledge or not





Giving Notices (3)

- addressee of the notice is required to confirm or provide the requested particulars within one month
- Failure to comply with the notice is an offence and the notice addressee and every related person are liable to a fine at level 4 (\$25,000)
- samples of Notices can be found in Annex D of the Guideline on the keeping of Significant Controllers Registers by Companies
- available on CR's website (www.cr.gov.hk)





Significant Controllers Register

Entering particulars in the SCR

- Registrable Person
 - particulars must not be entered unless all are confirmed by the registrable person
 - > must be entered within 7 days after so confirmed
- Registrable Legal Entity
 - > a particular must be entered within 7 days after the particular comes to the notice of the company





Significant Controllers Register (2)

◆ Required Particulars of significant controllers

Registrable person – natural person

- name
- correspondence address
- ID Card No. / Passport No. + Passport issuing country
- date of becoming a significant controller
- nature of control over the company





Significant Controllers Register (3)

Registrable person – specified entity

- name
- address of its principal office
- legal form and the law that governs it
- date of becoming a significant controller
- nature of control over the company





Significant Controllers Register (4)

Registrable legal entity

- name
- registration No.
- · address of its registered or principal office
- · legal form and the law that governs it
- · date of becoming a significant controller
- nature of control over the company
- ◆ Name and contact details of Designated Representative



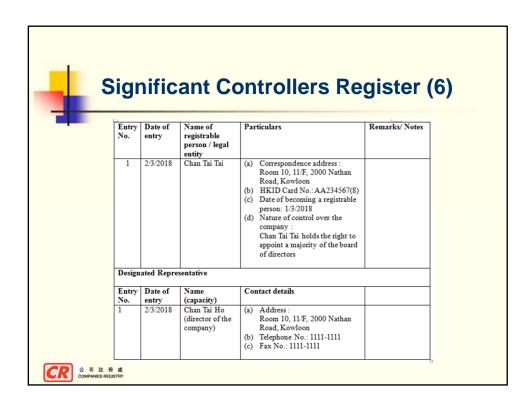


Significant Controllers Register (5)

Example 1 – A Company Limited's SCR:

Chan Tai Tai is the significant controller of A Company Limited







Significant Controllers Register (7)

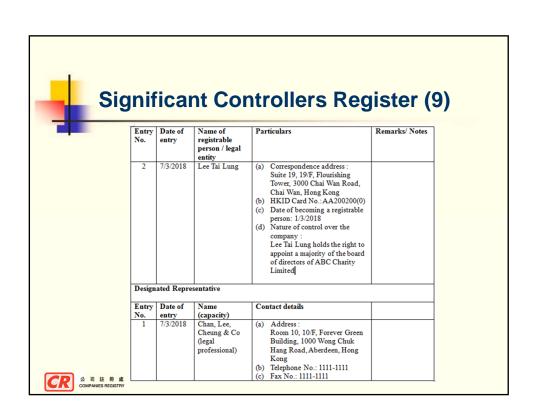
Example 2 – B Company Limited's SCR:

B Company Limited has one shareholder, ABC Charity Limited

Lee Tai Lung is a member and holds the right to appoint a majority of the board of directors of ABC Charity Limited



Significant Controllers Register (8)				
Entry No.	Date of entry	Name of registrable person / legal entity	Particulars	Remarks/ Note
1	7/3/2018	ABC Charity Limited	(a) Legal form: guarantee company (b) Registration number: 123456 (c) Place of incorporation: Hong Kong (Governing Law) (d) Address of registered office: Room 10, 10/F, Forever Green Building, 1000 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong (e) Date of becoming a registrable legal entity: 1/3/2018 (f) Nature of control over the company: ABC Charity Limited holds more than 25% of the issued shares of the company	





Significant Controllers Register (10)

- ◆ Examples of additional matters to be noted in the significant controllers register
- Scenario 1 : no significant controller

"The company knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, that it has no significant controller."





Significant Controllers Register (11)

 Scenario 2 : particulars of identified registrable person not confirmed

"The company has identified a registrable person of the company, namely, [state the name of the registrable person here], but not all the required particulars of that person have been confirmed."





Significant Controllers Register (12)

Scenario 3 : company's investigations are ongoing

"The company has not yet completed taking reasonable steps to ascertain whether it has a significant controller."





Significant Controllers Register (13)

 Scenario 4 : notice to a significant controller – notice not complied with within 1 month

"The company has given a notice to a person, namely, [state the name of the person here], whom it knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, to be a registrable person / registrable legal entity of the company, but the person has failed to comply with the requirements of the notice within 1 month from the date of the notice."

(Other examples can be found in Annex C of the Guideline)





Location of Significant Controllers Register

 A company must keep its Significant Controllers Register ("SCR") at the company's registered office or a place in Hong Kong

Notification to Registrar of Companies

- If the SCR is <u>not</u> kept at the company's registered office:
 - □ file revised Form NR2 with the Registrar
 - □ within 15 days after the SCR is first kept at that place







Exception to existing companies

- if the SCR is kept at the same place where the company's register of members is kept and the Registrar has already been informed of that place
- no need to file Form NR2





Change of Location

- If there is any change to the location of SCR:
 - □ file revised Form NR2 with the Registrar
 - □ within 15 days after the change





Revised Form NR2

- revised Form NR2 was gazetted on 9 February 2018
- as from 1 March 2018, the CR will only accept the revised Form NR2 for registration
- can be downloaded from CR's website (www.cr.gov.hk)





Further Information

- Dedicated thematic section on "Significant Controllers Register" on Companies Registry's website (www.cr.gov.hk/en/scr)
 - > Companies (Amendment) Ordinance 2018
 - Companies Registry External Circular No. 2/2018
 - Guideline on the Keeping of Significant Controllers Registers by Companies
 - > Frequently asked questions





Thank You

Thematic section: www.cr.gov.hk/en/scr

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