



Crowe Horwath.

# U.S. Companies Doing Business in Germany

Unique Knowledge for Businesses and Individuals Doing Business in Both Countries

We are able to provide on-the-spot German tax and audit advice to U.S. clients and use local knowledge for a successful cross-border strategy.

Our dedicated team of individuals experienced in serving U.S. companies doing business in Germany is part of the tax and audit groups of the Crowe Horwath Germany network. The team's primary objective is to advise and assist American clients with tax and statutory reporting exposure in Germany as well as German clients with tax exposure and financial reporting needs in the United States. This team draws on the unique body of knowledge necessary to serve businesses and individuals doing business in both countries.

## Unique Knowledge for Organizations and Individuals Doing Business in the U.S. and Germany

More and more often, business takes place across borders, which increases complexity. Businesses and individuals engaged in this environment need access to the experience of those who can help them simplify compliance with the myriad tax, statutory, and financial reporting requirements that accompany cross-border activity. A stumble in compliance can be a costly distraction.

## Doing Business in Germany

Germany is one of the world's major industrialized nations and Europe's largest national economy, characterized by a highly qualified labor force, a developed infrastructure, and a high level of innovation. Germany is considered one of the best places in Europe to conduct business. To keep the economy strong and internationally competitive, the German government has created a tax regime that encourages entrepreneurship and foreign investment. To help American businesses and individuals take advantage of these conditions, Crowe Horwath Germany has a practice group dedicated to guiding U.S. clients through the compliance maze and otherwise helping with reporting needs. This team is located in Germany, so it is rich in local market intelligence.

## How Crowe Horwath Can Help

Crowe Horwath possesses broad experience and a deep understanding of the issues and difficulties relevant to American businesses and individuals doing or intending to do business in Germany. We can help companies stay one step ahead of challenging tax, audit, and business complexities, enabling them to operate efficiently across different jurisdictions and achieve their overall business objectives. The team is staffed by Crowe Kleeberg in Munich, part of Crowe Horwath Germany.

## Selected Services to Be Provided

The team in Germany can help American organizations and individuals with:

- Registration of a branch or a liaison office and advice on the related issues of corporate tax, trade tax, and German value-added tax (VAT)
- Advice regarding setting up a new business, including advice on structural and capital matters for companies of all legal forms
- Fulfillment of tax obligations in the framework of tax compliance services (in particular corporate tax, trade tax, personal income tax, and VAT)
- Support in German VAT matters or the claiming of VAT refunds
- Support in transfer pricing issues
- Identification of tax optimization possibilities as well as identification of risks and mitigation strategies for companies, permanent establishments, and individuals

## Why Crowe Horwath

Crowe Horwath can draw on its vast experience, having worked with a large number of clients within a wide range of companies belonging to multinational groups or family-owned enterprises. Crowe Horwath offers a customized approach developed in close cooperation with clients and colleagues across the network. Our German colleagues:

- Have local knowledge, which is the precondition for a successful cross-border strategy
  - Speak fluent German and English
  - Can be contacted directly
  - Commit themselves to respond to queries within 24 hours
- Tax optimization of transnational structures
  - Transaction services (such as due diligence)
  - Correspondence with German tax authorities, preparation for tax audits, and accompaniment in the presence of tax auditors
  - Bookkeeping services
  - Audit services, including statutory audits and audits conducted under International Standards on Accounting, as well as support for audits conducted under U.S. generally accepted auditing standards (U.S. GAAS)



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## Crowe Horwath LLP, The Unique Alternative®

Crowe Horwath LLP ([www.crowehorwath.com](http://www.crowehorwath.com)) is one of the largest public accounting and consulting firms in the United States. Under its core purpose of “Building Value with Values,®” Crowe uses its deep industry expertise to provide audit services to public and private entities while also helping clients reach their goals with tax, advisory, risk, and performance services. Crowe and its subsidiaries have offices coast to coast with more than 3,000 personnel. The firm is recognized by many organizations as one of the country’s best places to work. Crowe serves clients worldwide as an independent member of Crowe Horwath International, one of the largest global accounting networks in the world, consisting of more than 150 independent accounting and advisory services firms in more than 100 countries around the world.

## Crowe Horwath Germany

Crowe Horwath Germany ([www.crowehorwath.net/de](http://www.crowehorwath.net/de)) is represented in the six key economic centers of Germany: Hamburg, Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Stuttgart, and Munich. Crowe Horwath Germany is comprised of 1,000 professionals offering comprehensive consultancy services to national and international clients in matters of tax and business management, as well as in all auditing-related issues. The highly-qualified staff has a command of the entire advisory spectrum in the areas of tax consulting, auditing, business consulting, international client support and corporate finance. Crowe Horwath Germany is represented in Munich by Crowe Kleeberg. Crowe Kleeberg personnel staff this team, but the resources of all of the German member firms are at your disposal.

## Crowe Horwath International

Crowe Horwath International, ranked among the top 10 global accounting networks, consists of more than 200 independent accounting and advisory services firms in over 120 countries around the world. Crowe Horwath member firms are known for their local knowledge, expertise and experience balanced by an international reputation for the highest quality of service.

[www.crowehorwath.com](http://www.crowehorwath.com)

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