



Lumina Datamatics GmbH

Griesheim

Annual Financial Statements

as at 31 March 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Acceptance of the engagement	2
2. Attestation report	3
3. Enclosures	4
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023	5
Income Statement from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023	6
Balance Sheet accounts as at 31 March 2023	7
Income Statement accounts from 01 April to 31 March 2023	9
Notes as at 31 March 2023	11
General Terms and Conditions	15

1. Acceptance of the engagement

The management of

**Lumina Datamatics GmbH,
Griesheim**

- hereinafter also "company" -

engaged us to prepare the annual financial statements as at 31 March 2023 on the basis of the accounting records that we prepared, as well as the additional vouchers and inventory records provided to us, which we have not audited in accordance with the terms of our engagement, taking into account the information provided to us in accordance with the statutory requirements and in accordance with the instructions by the client within this framework to exercise existing accounting options. We performed this engagement to prepare the annual financial statements with no assessments in the month of April 2023 in our office in Munich.

General Engagement Terms

General terms and conditions for German tax advisors attached these financial statements, are decisive for the realization of the engagement and our responsibility, including those to third parties.

Representation letter

The company provided us in writing, as requested, with the standard professional representation letter in respect of the accounting records, vouchers and inventory records as well as the information provided to us, which we have stored in our files.

The company assured us in a standard professional representation letter that the balance sheet contains all assets, liabilities and risks of the company that are required to be recognised correctly and in full.

We obtained the responsibility letter in connection with the preparation of the annual financial statements by submitting to the management of the company the draft of the annual financial statements and the draft of this preparation report as the basis for management's representation letter.

2. Attestation report

In accordance with the terms of our engagement, we have prepared the annual financial statements – comprising the balance sheet, income statement and notes to the financial statements – of Lumina Datamatics GmbH for the financial year from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 in accordance with the provisions of German Commercial Law.

The basis of preparation was the accounting records maintained by us and the additional vouchers and inventory records provided to us, which we have not audited in accordance with the terms of our engagement, as well as the information provided to us.

The accounting records and the preparation of the inventory records and the annual financial statements in accordance with the provisions of German Commercial Law are the responsibility of the company's management.

We have performed our engagement in accordance with the "Verlautbarungen der Bundessteuerberaterkammer zu den Grundsätzen für die Erstellung von Jahresabschlüssen" (Pronouncement by the German Federal Chamber of Tax Advisers on the principles for the preparation of annual financial statements). This engagement comprises the preparation of the balance sheet, income statement and notes, on the basis of the accounting records, the inventory records and the accounting policies required to be applied.

Munich, April 27, 2023

WTS GmbH



Peggy Jones

Tax Advisor



Peter Stadler

Tax Advisor

3. Enclosures

Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

ASSETS

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

	Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR		Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR
A. Current assets			A. Equity		
I. Receivables and other assets			I. Subscribed capital	200,000.00	200,000.00
1. Trade receivables	82,255.71	60,608.56	II. Retained profits brought forward	36,193.48	28,024.66
2. Other assets	<u>5,920.15</u>	<u>6,782.34</u>	III. Net income for the financial year	9,551.91	8,168.82
	88,175.86	67,390.90	B. Provisions		
II. Cash on hand, central bank balances, bank balances, and checks	223,905.21	224,907.13	1. Provisions for taxes	1,286.00	2,166.00
B. Prepaid expenses	1,093.32	2,416.70	2. Other provisions	<u>17,934.57</u>	<u>16,618.22</u>
				19,220.57	18,784.22
			C. Liabilities		
			1. Trade payables	2,540.42	132.52
			2. Liabilities to affiliated companies	37,253.13	33,052.13
			3. Other liabilities	8,414.88	6,552.38
			- of which taxes EUR 8,414.88 (EUR 6,552.38)		
				<u>48,208.43</u>	<u>39,737.03</u>
	<u><u>313,174.39</u></u>	<u><u>294,714.73</u></u>		<u><u>313,174.39</u></u>	<u><u>294,714.73</u></u>

Income Statement
from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

	Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR
1. Sales	431,076.72	387,634.95
2. Gross revenue	431,076.72	387,634.95
3. Other operating income	536.84	452.13
4. Personnel expenses	93,049.66	87,461.86
5. Other operating expenses	327,075.85	290,281.27
6. Interest and similar expenses	7.00	0.00
7. Taxes on income	1,929.14	2,175.13
8. Net income/net loss after tax	9,551.91	8,168.82
9. Net income for the financial year	9,551.91	8,168.82

Balance Sheet accounts
as at 31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

ASSETS

Account	Description	Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR
	Trade receivables		
1200	Trade receivables	82,255.71	60,608.56
	Other assets		
1305	Other assets rem. term > 1 yr.	5,002.08	5,002.08
1370	Items in transit	0.00	585.36
1434	Input tax ded. following period/year	24.07	7.90
1450	Reclaimed corporate income tax	<u>894.00</u>	<u>1,187.00</u>
		5,920.15	6,782.34
	Cash on hand, central bank balances, bank balances, and checks		
1800	Bank	223,905.21	224,907.13
	Prepaid expenses		
1900	Prepaid expenses	1,093.32	2,416.70
		<u><u>313,174.39</u></u>	<u><u>294,714.73</u></u>

Balance Sheet accounts
as at 31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

Account	Description	Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR
Subscribed capital			
2900	Subscribed capital	200,000.00	200,000.00
Retained profits brought forward			
2970	Retained profits bef apprprtn net profit	40,763.49	32,594.67
2978	Accumlted losses bef apprprtn net prft	<u>4,570.01-</u>	<u>4,570.01-</u>
		36,193.48	28,024.66
Net income for the financial year			
	Net income for the financial year	9,551.91	8,168.82
Provisions for taxes			
3035	Provision for trade tax, EStG s. 4(5b)	1,286.00	2,166.00
Other provisions			
3070	Other provisions	6,605.00	5,213.00
3074	Provisions for vacation	2,329.57	2,405.22
3095	Provsns period-end closing/ audit costs	<u>9,000.00</u>	<u>9,000.00</u>
		17,934.57	16,618.22
Trade payables			
3300	Trade payables	2,540.42	132.52
Liabilities to affiliated companies			
3400	Liabilities to affiliated companies	101.13	101.13
3421	Trd pybls to affitd comp rem.term 1 yr.	<u>37,152.00</u>	<u>32,951.00</u>
		37,253.13	33,052.13
Other liabilities			
3730	Wage and church tax payables	844.75	915.66
1401	Deductible input tax, 7%	13.93-	138.95-
1405	Deductible input tax, 16%	0.77-	0.48-
1406	Deductible input tax, 19%	5,977.04-	6,425.83-
1407	Dedctbl inpt tax sec 13b UStG 19%	54,513.47-	47,713.87-
3801	VAT, 7%	0.00	138.95
3806	VAT, 19%	59,035.01	50,871.49
3820	VAT prepayments	40,887.14-	34,595.46-
3830	VAT prepayments 1/11	4,586.00-	4,213.00-
3837	VAT under section 13b UStG, 19%	<u>54,513.47</u>	<u>47,713.87</u>
		7,570.13	5,636.72
		<u>8,414.88</u>	<u>6,552.38</u>
		<u>313,174.39</u>	<u>294,714.73</u>

Income Statement accounts

from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

Account	Description	Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR
	Sales		
4300	Revenue, 7% VAT	0.00	1,985.00
4336	Tax-exemt other serv. s. 18b UStG	38,894.13	45,924.64
4338	Tax-exempt sales 3rd country	81,471.73	71,981.24
4400	Revenue, 19% VAT	<u>310,710.86</u>	<u>267,744.07</u>
		431,076.72	387,634.95
	Miscellaneous other operating income		
4847	Cur. transl. gains (not s. 256a HGB)	536.84	452.13
	Wages and salaries		
6000	Bonus Payments	8,949.00	3,197.00
6020	Salaries	70,204.00	71,004.00
6076	Exp. chge. prov. vac. pay	<u>75.65-</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		79,077.35	74,201.00
	Social security costs and expenses related to pension plans and for support		
6110	Statutory social security expenses	13,830.19	13,105.09
6120	Contrib. to occup. health/safety agency	<u>142.12</u>	<u>155.77</u>
		13,972.31	13,260.86
	Insurance premiums, fees and contributions		
6400	Insurance premiums	1,462.04	1,461.98
6420	Contributions	168.36	344.42
6430	Other levies	110.00	30.80
6436	Late filing penalties/ admin. fines	<u>5.00</u>	<u>16.00</u>
		1,745.40	1,853.20
	Cost of third-party repairs and maintenance		
6490	Other repairs and maintenance	0.00	80.00
6495	Hardware / software maintenance expenses	<u>519.18</u>	<u>540.80</u>
		519.18	620.80
	Advertising and travel expenses		
6640	Entertainment expenses	53.13	0.00
6644	Non-deductible entertainm. expenses	22.77	0.00
6663	Employee travel expnses, cost of travel	136.25	0.00
6664	Employee trav. expn, addnl substnc costs	<u>61.60</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		273.75	0.00
Carried forward		<u>336,025.57</u>	<u>298,151.22</u>

Income Statement accounts

from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

Account	Description	Financial Year EUR	Prior Year EUR
Brought forward		336,025.57	298,151.22
	Miscellaneous operating costs		
6303	Purchased services/ third-party services	286,913.00	251,125.61
6805	Telephone	1,703.81	620.96
6810	Fax and Internet expenses	18.92	0.00
6820	Newspapers, books (specialist lit.)	1,323.32	661.68
6825	Legal and consulting expenses	5,685.07	10,420.79
6827	Period-end closing and audit costs	6,267.77	6,180.00
6830	Bookkeeping expenses	20,776.05	17,085.71
6855	Incidental monetary transaction costs	<u>1,432.97</u>	<u>1,361.02</u>
		324,120.91	287,455.77
	Miscellaneous other operating expenses		
6881	Cur. transl. losses (not s. 256a HGB)	416.61	351.50
	Interest and similar expenses		
7302	Non-ded. oth. incid. charges, s. 4/5b	7.00	0.00
	Taxes on income		
7600	Corporate income tax	1,972.00	1,972.00
7603	Corporate income tax for prior years	0.00	1.00-
7608	Solidarity surcharge	108.44	108.44
7609	Solidarity surcharge for prior years	16.10-	0.05-
7641	Backp/refunds trade tax pr yrs, s 4/5	0.00	95.74
7643	Income fr. reversal trade tax, pr yrs	<u>135.20-</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		1,929.14	2,175.13
	Net income for the financial year	<u>9,551.91</u>	<u>8,168.82</u>

Notes as at
31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

General information on the annual financial statement

The company's annual financial statement was prepared on the basis of the accounting rules of the German Commercial Code (Handelsgesetzbuch, HGB).

The provisions of the Limited Liability Companies (GmbHG) also had to be observed in addition to the above regulations.

Information that can be given either on the balance sheet, in the income statement or in the notes to the financial statements is given entirely in the notes.

The nature of total cost method was chosen for the income statement.

According to the size categories stated in Section § 267a of the German Commercial Code, the company is a micro corporation.

When preparing the annual financial statement, no use was made of the size-related exemptions as per Sections § 267a of the German Commercial Code. Use was made of the size-related exemptions of Sections §§ 274a and 288 of the German Commercial Code.

Notes as at
31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

Information identifying the company according to the registry court

Company name according to registry court:	Lumina Datamatics GmbH
Registered company seat according to registry court:	Griesheim
Registry entry:	Handelsregister
Registry court:	Darmstadt
Registry court number:	HRB 92689

Disclosures on accounting policies

Accounting policies

The measurement of receivables and other assets reflects all identifiable risks.

Tax provisions contain the taxes attributable to the prior and the current year that have not yet been assessed.

The other provisions were recognised for all further uncertain liabilities. They reflect all identifiable risks.

Liabilities are recognised at their settlement amount.

The annual financial statements contain items denominated in foreign currencies that have been translated in EUR.

Notes as at
31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

Accounting policies that have changed as against the prior year

There was no fundamental change in accounting policies compared with the prior year.

Balance sheet disclosures

The amount of receivables with a remaining term of more than one year amounts to 5,002.08 EUR (prior year: 5,002.08 EUR).

Liabilities with a remaining term of up to one year amounts to 48.107,30 EUR (prior year: 39.635,90 EUR)

Liabilities with a remaining term of more than one year amounts to 101.13 EUR (prior year: 101.13 EUR).

Notes as at

31 March 2023

Lumina Datamatics GmbH, Griesheim

Other disclosures

Average number of employees during the financial year

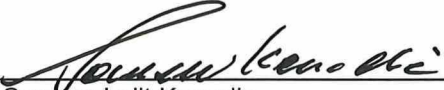
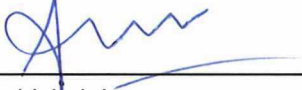
The average number of employees during the financial year in the company was 2.0.

Membership of group

The accounts of Lumina Datamatics GmbH were included in the group financial statements of Lumina Datamatics, Inc., USA.

Datamatics Global Services Limited India prepared the group financial statements for the largest group of consolidated companies. The published group financial statements are available on the websites of the Bombay Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange of India.

Signature of management

Place, date	 _____ Sameer Lalit Kanodia
Place, date	 _____ Ashish Jain

General terms and conditions for German tax advisors (*Steuerberater, Steuerbevollmächtigte*) and firms of tax advisors (*Steuerberatungsgesellschaften*)

as of August 2022

These "general terms and conditions" shall govern contracts between German qualified tax advisors (*Steuerberater, Steuerbevollmächtigte*) as well as firms of tax advisors (*Steuerberatungsgesellschaften*) (hereinafter collectively referred to as the 'Tax Advisors', and each of them a 'Tax Advisor') and their clients (*Auftraggeber*), unless otherwise expressly agreed in text form (*Textform*) or prescribed by law.

1. Scope and execution of the engagement

- (1) The scope of the services to be rendered by the Tax Advisor shall be governed by the specific engagement. The engagement shall be executed in accordance with the principles of proper professional practice and in compliance with the relevant rules of professional conduct and professional obligations (cf. German Act Regulating the Profession of Tax Advisors [*Steuerberatungsgesetz – StBerG*] [hereinafter "StBerG"], German Professional Code of Conduct for Tax Advisors [*Berufsordnung der Steuerberater – BOSTB*]).
- (2) Foreign law shall only be taken into account if this has been expressly agreed in text form.
- (3) In the event that the legal position changes after a matter has been conclusively completed, the Tax Advisor shall not be under any obligation to alert the client to such change or the resulting implications.
- (4) The review of the documents and figures provided to the Tax Advisor, in particular the accounts and balance sheet, with regard to accuracy, completeness and conformity with applicable rules shall not form part of the engagement unless otherwise expressly agreed in text form. The Tax Advisor will assume that the information provided by the client, in particular the figures, is correct and will use it as a basis for their work. To the extent that they detect any evident inaccuracies, the Tax Advisor shall be obliged to point them out.
- (5) The engagement shall not be deemed to constitute an authorization to represent the client before public authorities, courts and other bodies. Such authorization would need to be granted separately. Where, owing to the client's absence, it proves impossible to coordinate with them as to the filing of legal remedies, the Tax Advisor shall be deemed, in case of doubt, to be both authorized and obliged to take action with a view to meeting a deadline.

2. Duty of confidentiality

- (1) In accordance with the law, the Tax Advisor shall be under a duty to maintain confidentiality with regard to all facts that have come to their attention in connection with the execution of the engagement unless the client releases them from this duty. The duty of confidentiality shall continue even beyond a termination of the contractual relationship. The duty of confidentiality shall apply, to the same extent, to the Tax Advisor's staff.
- (2) The duty of confidentiality shall not apply to the extent that a disclosure is necessary in order to protect the Tax Advisor's legitimate interests. Furthermore, the Tax Advisor is hereby released from the duty of confidentiality to the extent that, under the terms and conditions of their professional liability insurance, they have a duty to provide information and cooperate.
- (3) The foregoing shall not affect any statutory rights to refuse to provide information or to refuse to testify under sec. 102 German General Tax Code (*Abgabenordnung – AO*), sec. 53 German Code of Criminal Procedure (*Strafprozessordnung – StPO*) and sec. 383 German Code of Civil Procedure (*Zivilprozessordnung – ZPO*).
- (4) The Tax Advisor is hereby released from the duty of confidentiality to the extent that (i) this is necessary for purposes of carrying out a certification audit in the Tax Advisor's firm and (ii) the individuals who are acting in this regard, for their part, have been instructed as to their duty of confidentiality. The client hereby agrees that the person carrying out the certification/audit may inspect the client file which was created and is being maintained by the Tax Advisor.

3. Involvement of third parties

The Tax Advisor shall be entitled to involve staff and, subject to the prerequisites of sec. 62a StBerG, also external service providers (in particular data-processing companies) for purposes of carrying out the engagement. The bringing-in of third-party experts (e.g. other Tax Advisors, auditors, German qualified attorneys [*Rechtsanwälte*]) shall require consent and instruction on the part of the client. Without having been instructed by the client, the Tax Advisor shall be neither entitled nor obliged to bring in such third parties.

3a. Electronic communication, data protection¹⁾

- (1) In the context of the engagements, the Tax Advisor shall be entitled to electronically collect personal data of the client and to process such data in an automated file or to transmit such data to a service computer center for further processing of the data related to the engagement.
- (2) In order to satisfy their obligations under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (hereinafter "GDPR") and the German Federal Data Protection Act (*Bundesdatenschutzgesetz – BDSG*), the Tax Advisor shall be entitled to appoint a data-protection officer. Unless this data-protection officer is already subject to a duty of confidentiality under clause 2(1) sent. 3 above, the Tax Advisor shall ensure that the data-protection officer, upon taking up their activity, shall undertake to maintain data secrecy.
- (3) To the extent that the client wants to communicate with the Tax Advisor via a fax line or an e-mail address, the client must share in the costs for setting up and maintaining the use of signature procedures and encryption procedures of the Tax Advisor (e.g. for acquiring and setting up any necessary software and/or hardware).

4. Remedying of deficiencies

- (1) The client shall have a right to demand that any deficiencies be remedied. The Tax Advisor must be afforded an opportunity to take remedial action. If and to the extent that the engagement constitutes a contract for services (*Dienstvertrag*) within the meaning of secs. 611, 675 German Civil Code (*Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch – BGB*) (hereinafter "BGB"), the client may refuse any remedial action by the Tax Advisor if the engagement is terminated by the client and the deficiency is detected only after the engagement has been validly terminated.
- (2) Should the Tax Advisor fail to remedy the asserted deficiencies within a reasonable period or refuse to remedy the deficiencies, then the client may, at the Tax Advisor's expense, have the deficiencies remedied by another Tax Advisor and/or — at the client's choice — demand a reduction of the fees or rescission of the contract.
- (3) The Tax Advisor may at any time, also vis-à-vis third parties, correct obvious inaccuracies (e.g. clerical errors, or errors in calculation). Other deficiencies may be corrected by the Tax Advisor vis-à-vis third parties subject to the client's consent. Such consent shall not be required where the Tax Advisor's legitimate interests take precedence over the client's interests.

5. Liability

- (1) The liability of the Tax Advisor and their persons employed in performing a contractual obligation for whom the Tax Advisor is vicariously liable' [*Erfüllungsgehilfen*] [hereinafter the 'Vicarious Agents'] for any loss/damage resulting from one breach of duty or — in the context of a uniform injurious effect (*einheitliche Schadensfolge*) — from several breaches of duty on the occasion of executing an engagement shall be capped at EUR 4 mio.²⁾ (in words: four million euros).³⁾ The limitation of liability shall apply in relation to negligence only; liability for intent shall not be subject to such limitation. Liability claims in relation to any loss/damage arising from injuries to life, body or health shall be excluded from this limitation of liability. The limitation of liability shall apply to the Tax Advisor's entire activity for the client, i.e. also, in particular, to an extension to the scope of the engagement; in this regard, there shall be no need for agreeing the limitation of liability again. The limitation of liability shall also apply in the case of the establishment of a joint practice

1) Moreover, for purposes of the processing of personal data, a legal basis under art. 6 EU General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR") must be applicable. That norm merely lists the legal bases for a lawful processing of personal data. In addition, the Tax Advisor must fulfill the duty to provide certain information, under arts. 13 or 14 GDPR, by way of furnishing additional information. In this regard please note the comments and explanations contained in the instruction leaflet regarding forms no. 1005 "data-protection information for clients" and no. 1006 "data-protection information regarding the processing of staff data".

2) Please insert amount as appropriate. In order to be able to take advantage of this provision, an amount of at least EUR 1 million must be specified, and the contractual amount insured must be at least EUR 1 million for the individual damage event; otherwise clause 5 needs to be deleted. In that case it must be seen to it that the liability-related agreement to be reached in the form of an individual contract contain a provision that corresponds to clause 5(2). Please also refer to the further comments contained in instruction leaflet no. 1001.

3) The reform of the German Federal Code of the Legal Profession (*Bundesrechtsanwaltsordnung – BRAO*) (hereinafter "BRAO") enters into force as at 1 Aug. 2022. Pursuant to sec. 59n(1) BRAO as amended, each professional-practice company (*Berufsausübungsgesellschaft*), regardless of its legal form, is under an obligation to take out and maintain professional liability insurance. This gives rise to changes depending on the respective sum insured. In regulating the insurance cover required for professional practices, the sweeping BRAO reform differentiates as follows: as a rule, it is mandatory to have a sum insured of EUR 2.5 million (sec. 59o(1) BRAO as amended). For small professional-practice companies, however, a sum insured of EUR 1 million is sufficient pursuant to sec. 59o(2) BRAO as amended. A lower minimum sum insured of EUR 500,000 applies in the case of professional practices without limited liability (sec. 59o(3) BRAO as amended). Pursuant to 67a(1) sent. 1 no. 2 StBerG, a firm's liability may be limited, in its general terms and conditions, to an amount equal to four times the minimum sum insured, provided that corresponding insurance cover exists. Owing to the increase in the minimum insurance cover, this must be adjusted accordingly as of 1 Aug. 2022. In order to be able to take advantage of said stipulation in this case, the amount must be adjusted in accordance with the individual case. The contractual sum insured must comply with the requirements in relation to the individual insured event; otherwise, delete clause 5. In that case, it must be ensured that the individual contractual agreement regarding liability contains a stipulation that corresponds to clause 5(2). Please also refer to the information in DWS instruction leaflet no. 1001.



(Sozietät) / partnership company (*Partnerschaft*) and assumption of the engagement by the joint practice / partnership company as well as for partners who join the joint practice / partnership company. Furthermore, the limitation of liability shall also apply vis-à-vis third parties to the extent that these fall within the scope of protection of the engagement; in this regard, sec. 334 BGB is expressly not waived. Any agreements, contained in individual contracts, providing for a limitation of liability shall take precedence over this provision but — unless otherwise expressly stipulated — shall not affect the validity of this provision.

(2) Provided that there was a sufficiently high insurance cover in place, the limitation of liability shall apply retroactively from the beginning of the engagement or, as the case may be, from the point of taking out higher insurance cover. If the scope of the engagement is subsequently modified or expanded, then the limitation of liability shall also extend to these cases.

6. Duties on the part of the client; client's failure to cooperate and client's default of acceptance

(1) The client shall be obliged to cooperate to the extent that this is necessary in order for the engagement to be duly executed. In particular, they shall submit to the Tax Advisor, unprompted, a complete set of all documents necessary in order to execute the engagement; such submission shall occur in such a timely manner as to afford the Tax Advisor a reasonable processing time. The same shall apply with regard to briefings about all events and circumstances which may be of importance for purposes of executing the engagement. The client shall be obliged to take note of all written and oral communications issued by the Tax Advisor and to consult them when in doubt.

(2) The client shall refrain from anything that may prejudice the independence of the Tax Advisor or the Tax Advisor's Vicarious Agents.

(3) The client hereby undertakes to pass on the results of the Tax Advisor's work only with the Tax Advisor's consent unless the consent to such results being passed on to a specific third party already flows from the content of the engagement.

(4) Should the Tax Advisor employ data-processing programs at the client's premises, then the client shall be obliged to comply with the instructions by the Tax Advisor with regard to installation and application of such programs. In addition, the client shall be obliged to only use the programs within the scope prescribed by the Tax Advisor, which shall also be the scope of use to which the client is entitled. The client must not disseminate the programs. The Tax Advisor shall remain the owner of the rights of use. The client shall refrain from anything which constitutes an obstacle to the exercise by the Tax Advisor of the rights of use with regard to the programs.

(5) Should the client fail to comply with a duty to cooperate incumbent on them under clause 6(1)–(4) or as provided for elsewhere or be in default of acceptance in relation to the services tendered by the Tax Advisor, then the Tax Advisor shall have the right to terminate the contract without notice (cf. clause 9(3)). This shall not affect the Tax Advisor's claim to be compensated for the additional expenses incurred by them owing to the client's default or failure to cooperate as well as for any loss/damage caused, even in the event that the Tax Advisor opts not to exercise their right of termination.

7. Copyright protection

The services rendered by the Tax Advisor constitute their intellectual property. They are protected by copyright. Beyond their intended use, work results may be passed on only upon prior written consent by the Tax Advisor.

8. Fees, advance payment and offsetting

(1) The Tax Advisor's fees (professional fees and reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses) for their professional activity in accordance with sec. 33 StBerG shall be determined pursuant to the German Regulation on Tax Advisors' Fees (*Steuerberatervergütungsverordnung – StBVV*) (hereinafter "*StBVV*"). Fees above or below the statutory fees may be agreed in text form. Agreeing fees below the statutory fees is permissible in out-of-court matters only. Such lower fees must bear an adequate relation to the services, responsibility and liability risk of the Tax Advisor (sec. 4(3) StBVV).

(2) For activities not dealt with in the Regulation on Fees (e.g. sec. 57(3) nos. 2 and 3 StBerG), the applicable fees shall be those agreed; otherwise, the fees determined by statute for such activity; or else the customary fees (secs. 612(2) and 632(2) BGB).

(3) Only claims that are undisputed or have been determined with final and absolute effect (*rechtskräftig*) may be set off against a fee claim of the Tax Advisor.

(4) The Tax Advisor shall be entitled to request an advance payment for professional fees and out-of-pocket expenses already incurred or expected to be incurred. In the event that the requested advance payment is not made, the Tax Advisor may, upon prior notice, cease working for the client until the advance payment is received. Where a cessation of work may adversely affect the client, the Tax Advisor shall be obliged to notify the client, in a timely manner, of the Tax Advisor's intention to cease working.

9. Termination of the contract

(1) The contract shall terminate upon completion of the services, upon expiry of the agreed term, or by giving notice. The contract shall not terminate upon the client's death or upon the client becoming legally incapacitated or, in the case of a company, upon the company's dissolution.

(2) If and to the extent that the contract constitutes a contract for services within the meaning of secs. 611, 675 BGB, either party may terminate the contract for cause (*außerordentlich*) except in the case of a service relationship with fixed earnings (*Dienstverhältnis mit festen Bezügen*), sec. 627(1) BGB; notice must be given in text form. Any deviation from the foregoing in individual cases shall require an agreement to be negotiated between the Tax Advisor and the client.

(3) In order to prevent legal disadvantages for the client, upon termination of the contract by the Tax Advisor the Tax Advisor must, in any event, still take those actions which may reasonably be expected of them and which ought not to be postponed (e.g. application for the extension of a deadline which is about to expire).

(4) The Tax Advisor shall be obliged to hand over to the client anything the Tax Advisor receives or has received for purposes of executing the engagement and anything the Tax Advisor obtains in the context of the management of the affairs of another (*Geschäftsbesorgung*). In addition, the Tax Advisor shall be obliged, upon request, to provide the client with a progress report and to render account for the Tax Advisor's activities.

(5) Upon termination of the contract, the client must promptly hand over to the Tax Advisor the data-processing programs employed at the client's office for purposes of executing the engagement, including any copies created, as well as any other program documents, and/or delete them from the hard drive.

(6) Upon termination of the engagement, the documents must be collected from the Tax Advisor.

(7) In the event that the engagement terminates before it has been completed, the Tax Advisor's fee claim shall be governed by statute. Any deviation from the foregoing in individual cases shall require a separate agreement in text form.

10. Storage, delivery and right of retention with regard to work results and documents

(1) The Tax Advisor must store the client files for a period of ten years after the engagement has terminated. However, this obligation shall expire before the above period has elapsed if the Tax Advisor has asked the client to take receipt of the client files and the client has failed to comply with such request within six months of having received it.

(2) 'Client files' within the meaning of para. 1 only include such documents as have been obtained by the Tax Advisor, on the occasion of their professional activity, from or for the client; by contrast, they do not include the correspondence between the Tax Advisor and their client nor documents which the client has already received in the original or as a copy nor the working papers produced for internal purposes (sec. 66(2) sent. 4 StBerG as amended).

(3) At the request of the client, but no later than after termination of the engagement, the Tax Advisor shall hand over the client files to the client within a reasonable period. The Tax Advisor may create and retain copies or photocopies of documents which they return to the client, or do so by way of electronic data processing.

(4) The Tax Advisor may refuse to hand over the client files until their fees and out-of-pocket expenses have been settled. This shall not apply to the extent that withholding the client files and the individual documents would be unreasonable under the circumstances (sec. 66(3) StBerG as amended).

11. Miscellaneous

The engagement, its execution and the claims resulting therefrom shall be exclusively governed by German law. The place of performance shall be the client's place of residence unless they are a merchant (*Kaufmann*), legal person under public law, or special fund (*Sondervermögen*) under public law; otherwise, the place of performance shall be the professional establishment of the Tax Advisor. The Tax Advisor is — not — prepared to participate in dispute-resolution proceedings before a consumer conciliation body (secs. 36, 37 German Act on Alternative Dispute Resolution in Consumer Matters [*Gesetz über die alternative Streitbeilegung in Verbrauchersachen – VSBG*]).⁴⁾

12. Validity in the event of partial nullity

Should individual provisions of these terms and conditions of engagement be or become invalid, then this shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

4) Where it is desired for dispute-resolution proceedings to be carried out before the consumer conciliation body, delete the word 'not'. In this case, the relevant consumer conciliation body, along with its physical address and website, needs to be specified.