

General Notice No. 161 of 2014

PRACTICE DIRECTION (NO. 1 OF 2014) PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(8) OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2001

Approval of company names

This Practice Direction is issued pursuant to Section 12(8) of the Companies Act 2001

1. In accordance with the amendment brought to the Companies Act, the Registrar will not approve a proposed name for purposes of incorporation or change of name if **that name is identical to another as explained in paragraph 4.**
2. The Registrar will continue to have the discretion to direct a change of name if complaint against another company has been made in accordance with the procedures as laid down in paragraph 3.
3. Complaints requesting Registrar's direction for name change must, be made within 6 months for companies incorporated prior to 1 January 2014 or the date of incorporation of the company whichever is the latest. The same conditions apply for complaints where companies apply for a change of name.
4. The Registrar will consider as **"identical"** names which:
 - (a) have the same meaning in the French or English Language.
 - (b) are, in sound, pronounced the same.
 - (c) have been registered under the **"Patents, Industrial Designs and Trademarks Act 2002"**.
5. To improve your chances of having the name application approved and to reduce the risk of subsequent complaints being made, it is advisable to conduct a search for identical name before submitting for our approval using the facilities available on our website at ***<http://companies.gov.mu>***.

6. In case a name is required for the incorporation of a proposed company or on change of name of a company which will form part of a group of companies, the application should include a letter from the existing company confirming its consent to the incorporation of the new company name or on change of name of a company and the fact that it will form part of the same group of companies.

7. You may also call or phone (the Information Centre) on 202-0600 for query regarding the name approval.

Dated this 7th day of January 2014.

Office of the Corporate and Business Registration Department
One Cathedral Square Building
Jules Koenig Street
Port Louis