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JEDCO المؤسسة الأردنية لتطوير المشاريخ الاقتصادية Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation

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# **Pathway to Innovation**

A Guide to Protect Intellectual Property Rights in the Marketing

## **E-commerce and Programming Industries**

This publication has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union under the ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin program. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) and NJQ & Associates for IP who executed the work, thus can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union or the program management structures.

## This Guidebook apply only on Jordaninan SMEs

Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) has taken the lead in creating this guidebook to help SMEs and entrepreneurs in the Marketing, E- commerce, and Programming sectors protect their intellectual property (IP) assets. IP is essential for businesses in these sectors to succeed, as it can help them to differentiate themselves from their competitors, protect their novelties, and generate new revenue streams.

This guidebook provides entrepreneurs with the information they need to understand IP rights, understand IP rights, identify their IP assets, and take steps to protect them. It also provides information on the available support and resources that entrepreneurs can use to guard their IP assets from potential infringement.

- This guidebook is part of the "Pathway to Innovation" series, which includes the following publications:
- Pat Pathway to Innovation: A Guide to Protect Intellectual Property Rights in the Artistic Creation Industry
- Pathway to Innovation: A Guide to Protect Intellectual Property Rights in the Pharmaceutical Industry
- Pathway to Innovation: A Guide to Protect Intellectual Property Rights in the Graphics and Industrial Design Sector
   Pathway to Innovation: A Guide to Protect Intellectual Property Rights in the Cosmetic Industry

Warning: The information contained in this guidebook does not replace the advice of legal professionals. Its main objective is to provide the reader with some background information on the subject.

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### Introduction

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Intellectual property rights, research and innovation are key pillars in the development of knowledge societies, and play an important role in developing the competitiveness of Small and Midsize Enterprises (SMEs), including start- ups. Recent studies confirmed the positive link between Intellectual Property (IP) rights and economic performance. SMEs with IP rights generate higher revenue, and those with patents, trademarks, and designs double their revenue.

Based on its understanding of this relation, the Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) conducted an analysis paper following a specific methodology identifying the priority five sectors which generates higher intellectual property (IP) rights in Jordan, based on data on the number of intellectual property applications received and completed over the past five years for Trademarks and Patents registered with the Directorate of Industrial Property Protection at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply, and books deposited within specific areas at the National Library.

The analysis paper has identified that business in Marketing, E-commerce, and Programming are growing rapidly as they are highly innovative. Class 35 of the Nice Classification has had the highest number of registered Trademarks over the past five years among other registered Trademarks of services and goods, indicating that there is a high demand for IP rights protection within the sector. This category covers services related to advertising business administration, of ce management services and data processing. When analyzing records from the National Library, our analysis indicates that books filed under Business Administration No. (650) and Economics Studies No. (330) are the most deposited in the National Library, and this eludes to the fact that the most emerging topics in Jordan relate to business studies, many of which relate to e-commerce and applied technology systems. In fourth place came books filed under category No. (005) Programming and Cybersecurity. These results indicate a strong interest in business studies in Jordan. Especially with those related to systems, mobile applications and any form of digital software. According to the Global Innovation Index prepared by the World Intellectual Property Organization 2022, Jordan's performance among the middle-income group came out higher in two pillars: institutional work and market development.

When analyzing records from the Company Control Department, our analysis indicates that 93 percent of registered companies have either added Marketing E-commerce and Programming objectives to their scope of business, or registered new companies under these objectives within the past five years. Jordan has an attractive entrepreneurial ecosystem, providing a platform for innovation. There are a number of incubators and accelerators in Jordan that help support startups, helping to create a more vibrant innovation ecosystem.

The findings of the aforementioned analytical paper led to the publication of this guidebook as a reference for SMEs and entrepreneurs in the Marketing, E- commerce and Programming Industry, highlighting how to protect intellectual property rights, and introducing global practices to encourage using them for innovation and growth.

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#### **Overview of Technology Information Sector**

Among all Intellectual Property Rights divisions of patents, trademarks, and drawings and industrial design, and computer programs are the most prominent productivities of the human minds creativity when employing machine learning and programming to it. The Information Technology sector depends mainly on human creativity, thus Intellectual Property laws plays a major role in protecting Copyright. The protection provided by Jordanian legislation at various levels is particularly effective in protecting and promoting Intellectual Property Rights. This enables start-ups and innovative companies to protect their creative works and intellectual output by depositing them with the National Library or registering them as Trademarks. This provides them with protection and allows them to prevent others from using them, in addition to the possibility of exploiting them financially through regional and global licensing agreements.

Jordan has succeeded in establishing and developing a highly competitive Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector, which is a leading sector in the MENA region, and currently serves the technology and innovation market in the region. Moreover, the technology resources and ICT are becoming the main driving energy for globalization. Employing information technology in all commercial and industrial businesses is rather considered essential nowadays, as it will contribute in keeping pace with modern development necessities, including: preparing, creating and managing websites, e-commerce, programming, and advertising using the digital platforms. The Information Technology is a vital sector in Jordan for its economy, as it contributes with a 10 percent of the GDP. Of course, the sector will continue to grow, providing new opportunities for jobs and economic growth.

#### **Incentives For Investment In The Technology Sector**

1).Jordan of ers a set of investment incentives to encourage engagement in the field of information technology, and these incentives come as follows:

(%0): Sales tax on IT services.

(%0): Customs duties.

(%0): Export income tax.

Reduce the income tax payable on IT services activities to 5 per cent.

2) Jordan provides a very an attracting environment for investment in the field of information technology, and most investments in the field of information technology are concentrated in the following locations:

King Hussein Business Park: A high-quality and multi-use historical complex in Amman. It hosts more than 75 international and local companies and 100 startups, mostly in the ICT sector, and employs more than 4,000 people. The ICT sector provides jobs for more than 23,000 persons each year, among those is at least 30 percent for females.

Irbid Development Zone: It is a development area of 2 square kilometers, ideally suitable for information technology, outsourcing, healthcare, professional services, and research and development for mid-size companies.

The Abdali: is Amman's new central business neighborhoods and of ers 330,000 square meters of multifunctional of ce space capable of meeting a variety of needs.

#### IP Role in Supporting Marketing, E-commerce and Programming Industries

When starting an investment in the technology sector, it is necessary to know the modern ways to invest in intellectual property assets within your work in the Kingdom, and the following are some of the successful methods that must be known within the scope of your investment in Marketing, E- commerce and Programming Industries.

The program creator can control the way and style of commercial exploitation of original works such as video games or any programs and applications. In principle, others may not copy the protected works under copyright and neighboring rights or exploit them commercially without the prior permission of the rights holders. The benefit from the copyright and neighboring rights of the protected works can help the company or individual to gain a competitive advantage in the market and maintain it.

You can generate financial profits when your protected works are used under the umbrella of copyright and neighboring rights laws when third parties use them commercially, and this will add to the financial value of intellectual property assets. The owner of copyright or neighboring rights of the work may benefit from these rights or assign them through sale, gift or inheritance, as is the case with any real estate owner.

#### Here are ways to utilize copyright and neighboring rights:

- The possibility of selling your rights to another person or company by fully waiving them, or you can prepare several copies of the work protected by copyright and neighboring rights and sell them, such as prints, photographs and drawings, but for video games and programs there are other options such as renting
- Licensing, which means authorizing a person or company to benefit from your work protected by copyright in exchange for a sum of money or terms and conditions agreed upon by the two parties. This act must be in writing and explicitly and in detail define all rights that are subject to the contract, stating the extent of the permitted exploit of the licensed work, its purpose, the duration of exploitation and its place. One of the advantages of licensing is that you remain the copyright owner while you allow others to copy the work, distribute it, download it, publish it on digital communication platforms, or prepare derivative works from it in exchange for paying a financial amount. It is best to grant limited licenses that meet the needs and interests of the licensee, and when you grant a license without waiving you ownership, you will be able to grant an unlimited number of licenses to third parties who want to benefit from it for similar or dif erent purposes and with similar or dif erent terms as well.
- Finding financing through borrowing from financial institutions in exchange for mortgaging all or part of the intellectual property assets that belong to you. Companies or individuals who own copyright and neighboring rights assets can use this set of rights as additional guarantees to enable investors and lenders to issue an deed over those assets.

The possibility of obtaining financial compensation through resorting to the courts, as Jordan has signed several important international treaties that have greatly helped to coordinate the level of protection of copyright and neighboring rights. The Jordanian Copyright Protection Law also includes preventive measures, criminal and other civil measures that are activated by filing a lawsuit to demand compensation and criminal protection in order to protect the copyright from any form of aggression. In addition, the Copyright Law allowed the owners of intellectual property assets to file a lawsuit against any party that infringes the exclusive rights owned by the copyright holder, with the possibility of obtaining financial compensation and the elimination of non-original works. The Jordanian law also allows the application of criminal penalties on those who intentionally infringe on the copyright. We remind the reader that the law did not require registration or deposit of the work for the purposes of including it in civil or criminal protection. Article (45) of the Copyright Protection Law No. 22 of 1992 and its amendments states that the non-deposit of the work does not entail a violation of the copyrights stipulated in this law.

#### Protecting Intellectual Property Assets in Information Technology Sector

The Jordanian Copyright Law and its amendments No. 22 of 1992, grant writers, composers, software engineers, web designers and other authors the legal protection for their literary and artistic creations, programs and other types of creations commonly referred to as "works". Copyright protects certain aspects of your business, including computer programs in the source language or machine language.

Copyright law protects the original idea that the computer program is manifesting it as a literary work. The source code is a literary work that can be read by a human being, and on this basis the expression of the ideas of the software engineers who wrote it can be considered a literary work. Instructions issued in binary and machine- readable format are also protected as a literary work. The financial value of generated copyrighted code lies entirely from the functional purposes of the software. The generated code that makes the computer work, and this is what you sell to the users.

#### **Know your Intellectual Property Assets**

WIPO IP Diagnostics: is an assessment tool that helps small and medium-sized businesses identify their intellectual property assets. The tool is completely free.

It gives you a preliminary view of potential IP assets in every major aspect of your business. You will get a complete report in about one hour. The report is tailored to your specific business context. The WIOP don't ask for user information, therefore, the data is anonymous.

You can complete the WIPO IP Diagnostics assessment as many times as you wish, at no cost.

#### **Term of Protection under the Law**

According to Jordanian law, the term of protection lasts for the life of the author and for a period of 50 years after his death, or after the death of the last co- author of the work if they are more than one author. Therefore, the author is not the only beneficiary of the work, but also its heirs. When the term of copyright protection for the work expires, the work is part of the public domain.

## Protecting Intellectual Property Assets through Depositing at the National Library

The Department of the National Library is af liated to the Ministry of Culture and has an important role in preserving the national cultural production. Among the most important objectives and tasks of the Department are: maintaining the national intellectual production, preserving copies of deposited works, making the national bibliography and organizing the unified index. As well as providing photocopying and borrowing services.



WPO tool

As a software engineer, you can gain legal protection on your computer programs under copyright law without any formal procedures. They are automatically protected from the moment they were generated without special procedures for registration, filing, payment of fees or any other formalities. However, a system without formalities may lead to dif culties when you are trying to secure your rights in a dispute with another party. Indeed, if someone claims that you imitated their software, then what can you do to prove that you are the original author of the source code? Time plays a vital role in intellectual property disputes and considered as the decisive element, you can take some precautions to prove that you have written the source code for the program. The best solution for you is to deposit your source code with the of cial authority for deposits.

The Department of the National Library provides an optional procedure for depositing software, the deposit is made in the library free of charge before the work is of ered for sale or distribution in the Kingdom. The deposited copies should be identical to the original copy, and that it is the finest copy of the product. This procedure gives you proof of the validity of your claim for protection under copyright.

To benefit from the services of the Depository Center and the protection over your work, please follow the following procedure

Where to apply: Depository Center of the Department of the National Library

fees: free of charge

Procedures and important documents
A written authorization from the author to the authorized person to fill out the application, the company's registration certificate and the license to practice work.

- The applicant shall fill out the deposit form depending on the type of the deposit.

- A document showing names of all authors involved in the artwork

- Submitting one or two copies of the artwork at the depository center depending to its type.

If the work cannot be produced during the same year in which it obtained the deposit number, the deposit number shall be considered dismissed and invalid, thus the number shall be renewed.



There are several useful services for your business at the Department of the National Library, including the following:

Deposit Service printed books.

Deposit Service for Computer software.

Filling a complaint to the General Manager of the National Library Department

## **Trademark Registration**

The Directorate of Industrial Property Protection is responsible for the preparation and implementation of policies for the development of industrial intellectual property. The Trademark department provides a smooth and fast Trademark  $\sim$  registration procedure.

## What to know about your Trademark

Registering a trademark in Jordan is not considered protection or registration in the world, and for the purposes of protecting the trademark globally, an application must be submitted through one of the accredited companies to register trademarks outside Jordan or going to the country in which the Trademark is desired to be registered and follow the legal procedures of that country.

Your Trademark indicates your reliability between you and the public, so registering your Trademark protects your company's products and services from exploitation or infringement. Under the Nice Convention of 1957, a global classification of goods and services for the purposes of Trademark registration was established. Business activates related to technology mainly fall under these two classification; Nice classification No. (42), which include technological services such as (software design, computer systems design, virus protection services, e-commerce services, and others). And Nice classification No. (35), which is concerned with electronic services, including marketing and business management.

- The protection period for Trademark rights is ten years from the date of submitting the electronic application. Trademarks are renewed upon expiry of their term for another ten years.

- Your Trademark must be expressive and suf cient to distinguish your own goods or services from other people, and to be perceivable by sight.

- A mark may include names, letters, numbers, shapes or colors, or a combination of any of them together.

- Marks resembling the symbol of His Majesty the King, royal emblems, or the impression "royal" may not be of cially registered, also any emblem or decorations of the governments of any county. The mark must not include the following words and phrases: "Privilege" "Privileged" "Royal Privileged" "Registered" "Registered Drawing" "Copyright" "Imitation is considered forgery" or similar words and phrases. In addition, it is not allowed to register marks that violate public order or morals or that lead to public fraud.

- The (first- to- file) right: The applicant for registration of a Trademark in the Kingdom of Jordan shall have the right of priority to register it also in all countries with which Jordan has signed a bilateral or international agreement. This shall be done by proving the existence of an application for registration with the Directorate of Industrial Property Protection in Jordan since the date of submitting the application.



Depository Center

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**Trademark Registration** 

#### **Required Documents:**

- The certificate of registration of the company or the establishment that shows the authorized signatories.

- Power of attorney (duly certified, if the applicant is an agent).
- A document proving the right of priority.
- Trade name certificate (if any).
- Any other document that the applicant wishes to add to the application.

#### **Procedures:**

#### 1. Trademark owner information:

- Determine the type of applicant: (company, institution, or individual).
- Determine the nationality of the applicant.
- The national number, whether it is an individual, company, institution or any **2. entity that has been identified, and the personal number if the applicant does not hold Jordanian nationality.**
- Determine the applicant's profession (trader, manufacturer, importer or any other profession).

- A clear address for the applicant includes: (postal code, P.O. Box, e- mail, phone number, fax number, and place of residence), all communication made by the Directorate of Industrial Property Protection in relation to the application shall be on this address.

- Agent information (if any), the place of issuing the power of attorney.

#### 3. Application Information

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The description of a Trademark is determined by its content (name, drawing, name and drawing, or others). You must waive in Arabic and English general and descriptive words, you cannot register and / or dominate general or descriptive words, for example: words (programming, technology or application), and if you add them, you must waive them independently of the mark, as it is a general word that cannot be dominated by you.

#### 4. Words and graphics as part of the Trademark

You must clearly indicate what composes the Trademark in both Arabic and English, if any. The meaning of the Trademark must also be stated. An image of the Trademark should be uploaded if the Trademark contains a drawing, whether it is a graphic only or a name and a drawing together, and the acceptable file format is (JPG), and the file size is a maximum of (15) MB.

#### **§. Type of classification**

You have to specify the Trademark classification from the Nice classification list in both Arabic and English, and you can choose objectives to cover the scope of your work without any upper limit, provided that they are under the same category and related to it, and most of the work objectives related to technology fall under classes (42) and (35) within the Nice classification.

#### 6. Accepting or amending the application

After submitting your application electronically according to the instructions, you can followed up on the website where it shows the status of the application. Either you will be assigned to do specific amendment due to missing information in the application or you will be assigned to pay the required fees.

#### 7. Pay the required fees for submitting the application

The electronic payment number is issued on the website, as the payment process must be completed electronically by using the payment channels available to serve (e-FAWATEER.com). The value of the required fees at this stage is an amount of 100 JOD, and if the application is submitted through a power of attorney, 2 JOD dinars stamp fee is paid with the same financial receipt.

#### 8. Studying the Trademark registration application

The application moves to the stage of study and decision, and deciding on the application is related to the amount of applications submitted to the Directorate of Industrial Property Protection, and does not have a specific time, as their study may take several months.

#### -9 Deciding on the Trademark registration application

The result of the study shall be communicated to the applicant or his agent by an of cial letter, and the result should be one of the following decisions:

Approval of the submitted application as is, and moving on to the next stage.

Requesting amendment to the application: It is possible that the amendment is for the Trademark, attachments, or anything related to the submitted application. The applicant must submit the required amendment to the application electronically, and then the application is studied again for a period of two weeks. If the result is disapproval of the new amendments for the second time, in this case it is not possible to amend the application, but it is possible to appeal the decision of the Administrative of cer of Trademarks to the Supreme Administrative Court, according to Article 11 of the Trademark Law No. (33) for the year of 1952 and its amendments.

If the Trademark application is rejected by the Administrative of cer of Trademarks, you can appeal the decision the Supreme Administrative Court.

#### -10 Pay the publication announcement fees

Upon receiving a decision approving the application, the applicant is assigned to pay the fees for publishing the Trademark in the Of cial Gazette, estimated fee is (JOD 50) to be paid electronically, after which a preliminary approval certificate is obtained for the registration of the Trademark.

#### -11 Announcement of the application in the Official Gazette

The Administrative of cer shall announce the Trademark registration application in the Of cial Gazette as soon as possible, duly the purpose of the announcement in the Of cial Gazette is to enable any person to object to the registration of the Trademark within a period of three months from the date of publication.

After the three-month period expires without submitting any objection, we move forward with the application.

In the event of receiving an objection of the Trademark registration by any person, the application will be adjourned until receiving a final judgment on the case.



## -12 Pay the final fees for Trademark registration and issue a final registration certificate

After the expiry of the three-month period from the publication of the Trademark in the Of cial Gazette, or the final judgment on the objection, the applicant is assigned to pay a fee of (JOD 300), and after the payment, a final registration certificate is received on the address specified in the application, either by registered mail or by receiving it by hand from the Directorate of Industrial Property Protection at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

## **Jordan Chamber of Commerce Membership**

The Information Technology sector is a profitable activity that falls under the realm of Jordan Chamber of Commerce, it coordinate business in all commercial sectors in accordance with the Chambers of Commerce Law No. 70 of 2003. There are 16 chambers of commerce in Jordan distributed over all regions of the Kingdom, in addition to the Jordan Chamber of Industry, which is the broad umbrella for the Chambers of Commerce. Companies and institutions that aspire to work in the Kingdom must obtain a membership of the chamber of commerce within the area in which their business is focused. In addition to that, obtaining a membership of the Chamber of Commerce is one of the conditions for obtaining a professions license. Becoming a member is very simple, following the provided procedure:

- -1 Fill out the approved form for membership by the Chamber and submit it.
- -2 Bring a copy of your institution's registration certificate.
- 3 A copy of your lease contract or real estate title deed.

The annual membership fees at the Chamber of Commerce shall be according to the amount of yours company's capital according to the following table, in addition to a one-time registration fee equivalent to %50 of the membership fee for first-time registration.

		Fee	The Amount of Capital of the Corporation
	1.	1500 JOD	Fo <mark>r ten</mark> million dinars or more.
	2.	1000 JOD	For five million dinars and less than ten million dinars.
	3.	800 JOD	For two million dinars and less than five million dinars.
	4.	500 JOD	For one million dinars and less than two million dinars.
	5.	300 JOD	For half a million dinars and less than one million dinars.
H	6.	200 JOD	For one hundred thousand dinars and less than half a million dinars.
	7.	100 JOD	For fifty thousand dinars and less than one hundred thousand
	8.	50 JOD	For five thousand dinars and less than fifty thousand dinars.
	9	20 JOD	If the company's capital is less than five thousand dinars.

## **Company Control Department**

The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply is the government agency responsible for all commercial and industrial bodies in the Kingdom, it is mainly concerned with regulating activities related to the practice of companies and individuals to do business. The Ministry has several specialized directorates, including the Companies Control Department (CCD) and the Industrial Property Protection Directorate.

In order for you to start investing in the field of technology, you must register the business, in order to obtain the protection provided by law and to avoid violations and fines. Through the CCD website, you can submit an application for establishing a new company or adding certain objectives to a registered company. At the website, you can decide the type of the company and the scope of your work with the specific work objectives. The application can be followed up electronically until the company is of cially registered, bearing in mind that the time it takes to register a company may vary according to the type of your company, and whether the selected objectives need prior approvals.

Before starting registration, you must decide what is the appropriate company type for your business model. Each company type is different from the other mainly in two things; Firstly, in terms of the financial responsibility of the partners on behalf of the company's obligations and liabilities. Secondly, the management style. You should be aware that some working objectives require specific company type.

#### **Required Documents:**

- A copy of the personal identification of each partner or company representative.
- Establishment registration certificate for each company.
- A copy of the lawyer's power of attorney (if any).
- Bank certificate upon making the company's capital deposit.

#### **Procedures:**

-1 Create a special account on the CCD website by adding the national number, phone number and e-mail.

- 2 Choose the type of company and follow the steps electronically, according to the guideline.

- 3 You should receive an e-mail with the status of the request.

- 4 When the status of the application becomes (pending upon bank deposit), you should deposit at least %50 of the company's capital in the bank for limited liability companies, and the entire capital of the company shall be deposited if its type is a private shareholding company.

5. When the status of the application becomes (completed), the company's contract and the memorandum of association shall be printed and signed at the CCD.

- 6 You receive a request to pay the fees electronically.

-7 After paying the fees, the company's registration certificate shall be accessible for printing through the website.

#### **Obtaining pre-approvals:**

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Some working objectives require prior approvals from the of cials such as the Ministry of Entrepreneurship and Digital Economy, or from specialized bodies such as the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority or the Media Commission, and others, depending on the commercial objectives that you are interested in registering them. Some pre-approvals are obtained electronically, the CCD website will send a request to the concerned authority In the event of any refusal, and applicant will be notified through e-mail or phone number to rectify the situation.

#### **Complete the registration:**

The company will gain the legal personality as soon as the procedures are completed and the registration certificate is issued, and from this moment it can contract with others, rent a property, assign employees, open bank accounts and other legal conducts.

#### **Obtaining licenses:**

Before launching your business on ground, the company must issue a set of licenses to proceed with its own business activates, and these licenses vary according to their purposes, the most important of which is (obtaining a license to practice a profession). According to the Professions Licenses Law for the Greater Amman Municipality No. (11) of 2022, a person who wishes to practice any profession within the borders of the Greater Amman Municipality must issue a professions license to practice their work within the establishment.

What are the consequences of starting a business without a professions license? A person exposes his work to problems that might result to suspension of the establishment from doing work or its temporary closure, in addition to a fine ranging from JOD (200-100), and the penalty is doubled in the event of a repeated violation.



Obtaining licenses

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Company registration



Company guide

#### **Required Documents:**

A recent real estate title deed or a certified lease contract for commercial purposes.
A valid building work permit (construction license of the property).
A certificate proving your membership to the Amman Chamber of Commerce.
You should choose a building that is all its real estate taxes are paid.

#### **Procedures:**

- -1 Create an account on the website of the Greater Amman Municipality.
- 2 Submit an application for issuing a professions license and attach the documents.
- 3 You can follow- up electronically since any update on the status of the application and procedure will be sent on the website.
- 4 Then you should pay the fees, you can print your professions license electronically.

• If you plan to establish a business beyond the boards of the Greater Amman Municipality, a professions license shall be issued in accordance with the Professions Licensing Law No. 28 of 1999 and its amendments, by submitting an application to the municipality in which the commercial activity will be carried.

#### **Required Documents:**

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- The applicant's record of commercial registration or company registration certificate.
- Real estate title deed or a certified lease contract.
- A valid building work permit (construction license of the property).
- A copy of both, the identity of the owner of the property, and the license applicant.
- In case you have a registered Trade name, you should have add a copy.

#### The Possibility of Practicing Profession from Home

The Professions Licensing Law under its Instructions for Licensing Professions at Home for the year (2020), allowed the practice of some professions at home when a license is obtained from the Greater Amman Municipality. This exception includes a group of professions related to information technology such as (Software development and design, web design, e-marketing and advertising, graphic design, online retail. The license application is also submitted through the Greater Amman Municipality website. The recipient of the professions licenses shall receive an exemption of half the value of the fees determined for the same sector, for a period of three years from the date of obtaining the first license.

#### **Related Entities to Information Technology Sector**

Before starting your investment in the fields of technology specialized in software programming, e-marketing or business administration, here are some of the entities you should know within the scope of your investment in technology.

#### **Income and Sales Tax Department**

In order to contribute to Jordan's economy effectively and fuels the sense of social justice, taxpayers are will have to register with the Income and Sales Tax Department. Registration in the Income and Sales Tax Department is done electronically, by creating an account for the company on the department's system:

You should insert the national number of the establishment and upload the following documents at the website:

- Commercial Registration
- · Trade name (if any).
- · Certified lease contract.

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- · Professions license.
- · Certificate of income tax number.



**Tax Registration** 

It should be noted that the income tax payable on IT services activities is %5, according to Resolution approving the decision of the Board of Investment, related to the activities of the information technology sector services for the year 2016. These activities include software and applications development and their licenses, mobile applications, digital games, digital data processing, information technology sector training, e- education and training, call centers.

Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs), are agreements concluded between two or more countries to avoid the duplication of taxation on the same income in different countries. These agreements should facilitate doing business for individuals and companies engaged in international trade and investment, as they can avoid paying double taxes on their income. In Jordan, generated profit from patents and copyright is tax exempted under most of double taxation agreements and investment laws. Jordan have signed agreements with most countries around the world, most notably the United States of America, a large number of European Union countries and most Arab countries. These are the benefits you could when doing business with countries who signed DTAs with Jordan:

- Avoid paying taxes twice on the same income in two dif erent countries.
- Know which country should impose taxes on your income.
- Know your tax rate and the exempted amounts.
- Benefit from the mechanisms indicated for resolving tax disputes between the two countries.

### **Cybercrimes Unit under The Public Security Directorate**

The unit is a specialized in combating crimes that take place through the World Wide Web, for example: Hacking, fraud, data deletion and other crimes related to or through the digital space. With its support and assistance, you should be able to securely contact them when encountering any hacking attempt or issues related to the misuse of your website. The Cybercrime Unit works seven days a week throughout the day.



Cybercrimes Unit

#### **Software Company Success Story**

Bahri Yassine & Partners was founded in 1999 and is a Jordanian company specializing in the field of programming and information technology. The company owns the trademark "Eagles for Software", and is considered one of the leading companies in the Kingdom in the field of software and information technology. The company has developed a range of accounting software, HR systems, point-of-sale systems, and many other systems. Due to the company's trademark, the company has been able to provide approximately 34 systems and services, and more than 15,000 customers have benefited from its services. The company has over 100 engineers on its team and owns 6 branches.

Bahri Yassine & Partners has been able to build a strong Trademark that has given its customers confidence in the products and services the company provides in the field of information technology. The company has a large number of local and international clients to whom the company has provided services related to information technology and computer programs.

#### Law Index

1. Copyright Protection Law No. 22 of 1992 and its amendments

- 2. Trademarks Law No. 33 of 1952 and its amendments
- 3. Deposit of Artworks Regulation of 1994
- 4. Profession Licenses Law within the borders of Greater Amman Municipality No. 11 of 2022