



# ANSH LEGAL



سلطة واحة دبي للسيليكون  
Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority

DOING BUSINESS IN UAE  
FREE ZONE - DSO



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# About DSO

- Designed as a hi-tech ecosystem in Dubai, DSO offers a wide range of benefits.
- It is considered to be the only technology park in the region that provides both a living and working integrated community.
- A 100% government-owned free zone, was established following Law no 16 of 2005 of the Government of Dubai, with the Mission to "facilitate and promote modern technology based industries" thus supporting the region's demand for business expansion.
- DSO is a globally recognized free zone and an integrated technology park that allows people to live, work, and play.
- Hosting modern technology based industries and an urban master-planned community in an iconic location DSO offers state-of-the-art infrastructure and in-house business services.

# Company Type

- **Branch**

Any established company, whether in UAE or abroad, can register its branch DSO. The activity of the branch in DSO is required to be identical to the activity conducted by the parent company.

- **Free Zone Establishment (FZE)**

An FZE is a legal entity incorporated/registered by a single shareholder. The shareholder can either be an individual or a non-individual/corporate.

- **Free Zone Company (FZCO)**

An FZCO is a legal entity incorporated/registered with a minimum of two shareholders. Shareholders can be either individuals or non-individual(s)/corporate.

- **Start up Businesses & Entrepreneurs**

# License Type

- **Service License:** This allows the registered entity to carry out only specified services.
- **Trade License :** This allows the registered entity to practice activities which are related to import, export, and distribution of items and goods as specified in the license.
- **Industrial License:** This allows the registered entity to import raw material, manufacture, and process, assemble, package and export the finished product.

# Process & Documentation

## Set Up Process

- Submit application form
- Pre- approval of documents by DSOA
- Fee payment & legal document submission
- DSOA issues e-agreement
- Sign e-agreement
- Sign share capital letter (only for FZE/FZCO)
- E-license issued by DSOA

## Documents Required

- Application form
- Letter of intent
- Passport copy/copies
- NOC for UAE residents only
- Bank statement / reference letter or audited financial report
- Company business plan

# Administrative Zone in DSO

- Within Dubai Silicon Oasis (DSO) there are projects built and managed by private developers. These projects are not owned by Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA).
- These freehold & leasehold projects are located in the freehold & leasehold areas of DSO.
- If you wish to operate your business from a property that is not directly owned by Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA) but by a private developer/owner in a private development which are found within the freehold/leasehold areas of DSO then you will need to apply to **DSOA's Freehold Licensing Section** and follow the **Business Set Up Process for The Administrative Zone in DSO**.

# Freehold Set Up Process

## Individual Owners

- Submit application form
- Review & approval of documents by DSOA
- Fee payment
- Legal document prepared by DSOA for client's approval
- Sign and submit the tenancy contract to a DSOA officer
- E-license issued & uploaded on DSOA's customer portal

## Non – Individual Owners

- Submit application form and legal documents
- Review & approval of documents by DSOA
- Submit notarized and attested legal document/s to a DSOA officer.
- Review & approval of documents by DSOA
- Make Payment
- E-license issued & uploaded on DSOA's customer portal



# Documents Required for Initial Approval - FZCO, FZE & Branch (Service License)

- Power of Attorney - Required only in case of signing on behalf of the founder(s)
- Project Summary Letter
- Shareholder's (FZE & FZCO) & Manager passport copy
- Copy of Memorandum & Articles of Association and Certificate of Incorporation (Branch & Non-Individual Shareholder)
- Trade License of the mother company or shareholder (applicable for local companies only)
- Unit Title Deed
- Office Tenancy Contract (required after initial approval and prior to registration)

# Capital Requirement

Minimum Start Up Capital required is AED 100,000

- In case of FZE, each share shall be in multiples of AED.100,000/-
- In case of FZCO each share shall be in multiples of AED.10,000/-

# Business Operation Permit

- **DED registered companies**

Companies who are already established with the Dubai Economic Department (DED) and wish to operate in the Administrative Zone in DSO (i.e. in non -DSOA property) should apply for a Business Operation Permit.

- **Business Operation Permit:** This is a special permit for companies operating in the Administrative Zone of DSOA (areas owned by private developers) using a license issued by Dubai Economic Department (DED). This license is issued based on the license issued by Dubai Economic Department. No share capital is required for this type of license.

# Documentation for Business Operation Permit

- Manager's passport copy
- Copy of DED-Dubai Economic Development Trade Licence
- Copy of the Unit Title Deed (issued by the Land Department under the unit's owner name)
- Office Tenancy Contract (required after initial approval and prior to registration)

# Facilities at DSO

## Commercial

- Offices
- Warehouses & LIU's
- Conference facilities
- Land for development
- E-Services
- Hala Client Support
- In-house Government Services
- IT Services

## Residential

- Villas
- University Residence
- Silicon Residence

## Retail Outlets

# Dubai Technology Entrepreneur Campus (DTEC)

- DTEC is the largest tech entrepreneur centre in the region.
- Featuring 10,000 sqmt space, spanning two creatively designed locations
- It provides technology startups with the ultimate work environment from which to start and scale.
- DTEC also offers a program of events, trainings, mentorship and networking opportunities along with an in house VC, the only Intel® Internet of Things Ignition lab in the MENA region, the Intelak Aviation & Travel Tech incubator and the Dubai Smart City Accelerator.
- Startups can choose from hot desk, dedicated desk and small office options along with license and visa services, providing a one-stop shop for setting up a UAE business.

# DTEC Features

DTEC is an international startup hub. Home to hundreds of startups from more than 70 countries, DTEC supports young technology businesses with a range of facilities and services including:

- Easy freezone business setup
- Visa services
- 10,000 sqmt creatively designed space
- 24/7 access
- High speed WiFi
- Free tea, coffee & water
- Parking
- Creative meeting and breakout spaces
- Conference facilities
- Games rooms & cafes
- Annual event program
- Corporate partner labs
- Investment opportunities
- Acceleration programs

# DSOA Islamic Economy

- In October 2013, H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum launched the strategic plan for developing the Islamic economy sector.
- The strategic plan relies on seven main pillars and 46 initiatives.
- These include establishing Dubai as a global reference and economic engine of Islamic finance, a leading global network of information and education on the Islamic economy, and a world class center for Islamic economy standards and certification.
- Due to this commitment, DSO has been mandated to support 'Islamic digital' and 'Arabic content' initiatives.
- With DTEC, DSOA will offer startups and young businesses logistical support, venture capital funding, and relevant incentives.
- DSOA will additionally engage the support of its partners - including international technology companies to host global events, road-shows and networking platforms to market Dubai as the platform of choice for Arabic content creation and online solutions.





# About ANSH

Ansh Legal through its offices in the UAE and UK has a large network of affiliated law firms, corporate services firms, management consultants, tax advisers and professionals in several jurisdictions where its clients operate or have their assets or business interests. We actively advise several multi-national conglomerates, funds, family offices and high net worth individuals. Our lawyers have been advising several banks, financial institutions, governmental authorities and bodies and multi-national conglomerates over the past several years.

Being a multi-service law firm registered with Abu Dhabi Global Market Authority in the UAE and the Companies House, UK, the firms together assist on UAE and Indian law matters and coordinate advise on other jurisdictions through local experts. Our key practice areas are:

## ❑ Corporate

- Cross border investments
- Corporate mergers & acquisitions
- Funds
- Start-ups
- General Corporate & Commercial

## ❑ Finance

- The full spectrum of debt financing – bank lending, secured financing, margin financing, structured financing, leveraged and acquisition financing, infrastructure finance
- Securities and capital market matters including start-up funding, private placements
- Crypto and block chain technology
- Secondary market matters
- Insolvency and restructuring

## ❑ Financial regulatory

## ❑ General

- Succession and estate planning
- Technology and media
- Healthcare
- Commercial contracts
- Employment matters
- Dispute resolution advisory and support

# Team



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