

## Understand my search results

### Frequently asked questions

#### What is the Tongan register?

The Tongan register is a register that records basic details about every domestic and overseas company. It is an electronic register where company information and documents can be viewed online and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Companies with limited liability provide a vehicle for investment in business. The Companies Act under which companies are formed helps foster confidence in businesses by governing the relationships between investors (shareholders), directors and creditors. The electronic company register gives stakeholders a clearer picture of who and what they are dealing with when conducting business with a particular company.

#### What information is available online?

During the initial six-months after the effective date of the Company Act amendments, all registered companies are required to complete a re-registration form and submit it to the Companies Office. Until the re-registration process is completed for a particular company, only limited information will be available on-line about that company. Once a company is re-registered, searching the Tongan register online you will be able to access the following information:

Company Number

Company Name

Previous Names (if any)

Date of registration

Date of re-registration (if applicable)

Annual return filing month

Address details

Company Director details

Shareholder and share parcel details

Registered/imaged documents

Once the re-registration process is complete, then all information listed above will be available for active companies. If a company fails to re-register, it will be removed from the list of active Tongan companies, and only limited information will be available on-line about that company. You can always contact the Companies Office should you need historical information about a company that fails to complete re-registration.

#### Company search results

You can search by company, previous company name and director name to obtain information on a company. During the initial six-month re-registration period, company name searches will be the most effective method to use as not all active companies will be re-registered until the six-month period has passed. Therefore, during this initial six month period, previous company name and director name search results will be incomplete. You can always contact the Companies Office should you need additional information about a company that has not completed the re-registration process.

#### How much does it cost and how do I pay?

It is FREE to search the register online, but there are fees for registering some documents. For a full list of fees view the [current fee schedule](#).

## **What does it mean if a company is removed?**

This refers to a company that is no longer incorporated. For a company, this may result from a failure to re-register, a failure to file annual returns, the completion of liquidation, from an amalgamation with another company or from the company's own request to be removed from the register. The document filing history usually indicates why a company has been removed.