**News at the end of the year**

In addition to the enclosed brochure, we would like to point out the latest news:

**CORONA MEASURES**

**Härtefallfond – support for small businesses**

The support for the ninth Corona month for the period November 16 to December 15, 2020 can be applied for since December 16, 2020.

**Fixed cost benefit**

Since November 19, 2020, the third installment of the fixed cost benefit I can be applied for.

**Fixed cost benefit II (800,000)**

**Attention**: The fixed cost benefit II can only be applied for after a lockdown sales replacement application.

The first tranche for the fixed cost benefit II 800,000 can be requested from November 23, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the payment of the second tranche from July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

The fixed cost benefit II 800,000 is granted for up to ten observation periods or months in the period from September 16, 2020 to the longest June 30, 2021. The observation periods must be chronologically related or consist of two blocks of chronologically connected periods.

**Loss compensation**

The compensation for losses is between 70% and 90%. It can be requested from December 16, 2020.

The loss compensation cannot be combined with a turnover compensation. Likewise, compensation for loss may not be granted if the fixed cost benefit II 800,000.00 has already been claimed. In retrospect, however, it is possible to withdraw the application for a fixed cost benefit II and apply for a loss compensation instead.

**Sales compensation**

Since September 16, 2020, those directly affected companies can apply for a lockdown revenue replacement that must remain officially closed after December 7.

**Attention**: Even if you have already applied for a sales compensation for the period up to December 7, 2020, a new application must be made for the following period. The application deadline is January 15, 2021.

**Short-time work**

Short-time working is only referred to here for the sake of completeness. The regulations are complex, our payroll department is happy to answer any questions.

**Installment payment model for taxes and duties**

We include an information sheet from WKO Austria.

In addition to the **COVID measures**, we would like to point out the following:

**Deductibility of donations**

Donations are deductible in the amount of 10% of the profit. If the profit in 2019 was higher than 2020 or 2021, the limit from 2019 should be used.

**Vouchers instead of Christmas parties for employees**

Company events (e.g. Christmas parties) are tax-exempt up to € 365 per year and employee. In addition, gifts of up to € 186 per employee are tax-exempt. If this amount is not exhausted in 2020, the employer can issue vouchers with a value of up to € 365 to his employees tax-free between November 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021.

**VAT rate**

The reduced VAT rate of 5 % for gastronomy, accommodation, culture, etc. is to be extended until the end of 2021.

Feminine hygiene is subject to the reduced tax rate of 10% from January 1, 2021.

Certain repair services (e.g. for bicycles, e-bikes, shoes, clothing, etc.) are subject to the reduced tax rate of 10 % on January 1, 2021.

**Don't forget to print out a signed annual receipt from your cash register.**

**Reimbursement of social security contributions from 2017**

The application for reimbursement of multiple insurance for 2017 is only possible until December 31, 2020. We will be happy to help you.

**Pension provisions**

Security cover is required for any pension provisions. This coverage will be checked by us wherever the documents are available.

**Investments until the end of the year?**

For assets that were acquired or manufactured after June 30, 2020, a declining-balance depreciation of a maximum of 30% is possible.

For buildings purchased after June 30, 2020, the depreciation can be up to 3 times the previously applicable percentage.

For new investments for which the first measures were taken between August 1, 2020 and February 28, 2021, you can apply for an investment premium of 7% or 14%. Applications can be submitted between September 1, 2020 and February 28, 2021.

The limit for the immediate deductibility of low-value assets was increased from € 400 to € 800 in 2020.

Please also note that the half-yearly depreciation is used for investments before the end of the year, i.e. you can write off 6 months, even if the asset is only a few days in the business assets this year.

The **profit allowance** consists of two parts, the basic allowance and the investment-related allowance. If no investment has been made, the investment-related allowance can still be used up this year by **purchasing securities**.

We are happy to help you with the calculation.