



## VAT audit

*When, as a business, you are faced with a VAT audit, this usually generates some unease. After all, VAT is a complicated tax that is subject to strict rules; a well-structured internal business process is of huge importance. During a VAT audit, this will be verified specifically and the auditor will carry out an analysis of the available information. In order to identify any irregularities and to avoid tax fines, we can conduct a VAT audit on your behalf.*

### What does a VAT audit specifically entail?

When you request a VAT audit, we come along to your company and we audit various VAT-related aspects. For example, a selective investigation is performed on the incoming and outgoing operations. During the investigation, we check whether the invoices fulfil the obligations and whether the correct VAT rules have been observed. Additionally, we check whether there are any warning signs which may prompt the tax authorities to carry out an audit. After all, the tax authorities select the companies to be audited based on a data-mining system that is triggered by warning signs. Tracing warning signs can, in principle, prevent a VAT audit. Because of our expertise at international level, we can also ascertain whether all obligations in relation to your international trade have been met. Following the VAT audit, the main concerns will be explained and we provide advice about how those can be optimised. A VAT audit can also help to optimise the VAT cash flows, to alert other departments within the company to VAT-related risks and, in certain cases, to participate in VAT planning.

### Which tax fines can you avoid?

An incorrectly completed VAT return, a violation in terms of invoicing or the absence of data in the VAT listing or the intra-Community statements can lead to fines ranging from Euro 80.00 to EUR 1,350.

In the event of late payment of, for example, tax or advanced payments, or if too much VAT is deducted, a fine of 8 percent a year can be imposed. In addition, a proportional fine of 10 to 200 percent can follow.

Contact your accountmanager or one of our specialists at [contact@vdl.be](mailto:contact@vdl.be).