Background
Swiss VAT is calculated by a self-declaration method. Taxable companies have the duty to determine by themselves and to the best of their knowledge the payable amount of VAT. By way of audits – performed by the Swiss Federal Tax Administration (SFTA) – it is ensured that taxpayers follow the applicable VAT rules and no tax loss is at risk.

Challenges we see...
For many finance functions the announcement of a VAT audit usually leads to unpleasant questions: How to react to such an announcement? What kind of documents will be needed and in which way and form do they have to be presented? Who takes over the task of preparing the audit on top of the daily business? How to behave towards the authorities in case of uncertainties? And finally: Can we also benefit from the audit?

... and how we may support
There are several conditions and requirements during the preparation and the audit itself to finalize an audit successfully. Along with a structured and comprehensive set of documents it is inevitable to be well prepared for possible questions by the SFTA. During the audit, the appropriate communication with the officials is often decisive. A proactive collaboration during the review makes the whole process simpler for all concerned parties.

Our VAT specialists have a longtime experience regarding VAT audits. With our expert knowledge we support you with the preparation of documents and enable you to focus on the essential points and to leave a good first impression with the SFTA. We can offer you upfront coaching for your communication with the auditors, so that you can start well prepared and confident into the review.

During the revision, we can operate in the background or assist you personally during meetings with the officials. In case of inconsistent points, we support you to find together with the SFTA the most optimal solution.

In the aftermath to the revision, we develop strategies to correct the SFTA’s complaints, if there are any. Many times, an audit also reveals areas of improvement that might be followed-up.

At a glance
As appropriate, we support you during the preparation and / or the execution of a VAT audit by e.g.
- Preparing of documents
- Coaching in dealing with the officials
- Support during the audit itself – on site or in the background
- Post-processing of the audit

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