

Tax matters - Sweden's tax blog

April 6, 2020 |

VAT account during the corona crisis

⌚Reading time: 6 min



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The Swedish Tax Agency has announced that companies may have the opportunity to change their VAT account due to the corona crisis. This means that companies can change their accounting method or accounting period to temporarily strengthen their liquidity.

The economic effects of the corona virus, covid-19, are among other things that many companies end up in a difficult liquidity situation for reasons they cannot influence. This is partly due to the fact that their own operations have stopped, and partly because the customers cannot pay their invoices on time. Many companies have therefore encountered payment difficulties and cannot pay their VAT on time. The Swedish Tax Agency's new position means that the authority facilitates companies that

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Accounting methods

There are two accounting methods for VAT accounting, the billing method (which most companies use) and the year-end method. The invoicing method means that the VAT is accounted for in accordance with good accounting practice, that is, either when invoices are issued and received, or when delivery takes place. The year-end method means, during the current year, that VAT is recognized when the payment takes place. A requirement for reporting VAT according to the year-end method is that annual sales amount to a maximum of SEK 3 million. There are special reasons to change to the year-end method. The Swedish Tax Agency considers that the corona crisis is such an extraordinary circumstance that means that a change of accounting method can be approved. However, it is important that the VAT in the event of a change is neither double nor unrecognized.

Reporting Periods

A company can report VAT per month, quarter or year. A company with more than SEK 40 million can only report VAT per month, no later than the 26th of the month after the transactions have taken place. The main rule for companies with lower sales than SEK 40 million is to report VAT on a quarterly basis, but it is also possible to report on a monthly basis. In such a case, the report must be made no later than the 12th of the second month after the transactions have taken place. Companies that have annual sales of up to SEK 1 million must report VAT on an annual basis. Then the VAT account is made in connection with the submission of the income tax return or, if there has been EU trade, no later than the 26th of the second month after the end of the tax year.

Normally, an extension of the accounting period can only be made if certain conditions are met. The Swedish Tax Agency's position means that small and medium-sized companies can change the accounting period and thus postpone future payments of VAT without these conditions being met. It is important to ensure that companies that change accounting periods do not receive overlapping periods, which could lead to VAT being reported twice or not at all.

Possible changes

- Companies with estimated annual sales up to SEK 3 million - consider changing from billing method to year-end method
- Companies with estimated annual sales of up to SEK 1 million - consider changing to annual accounts
- Companies with annual sales of up to SEK 40 million, which report monthly - consider changing to quarterly accounts

Kommentar

Vi uppskattar Skatteverkets initiativ att underlätta för företagen i denna svåra tid. Vi rekommenderar att företagen gör en prognos över hur årsomsättningen kommer att påverkas i år samt en bedömning av om det är möjligt att göra någon förändring av momsredovisningen. En ändrad redovisningsmetod, eventuellt i kombination med förlängd redovisningsperiod, kan säkerligen vara till god hjälp för många företag som har svårt att klara sina betalningar.

För större företag eller företag som redan redovisar moms kvartalsvis men inte uppfyller kraven för att få redovisa moms årsvis eller byta till bokslutsmetoden har ställningstagandet inte någon effekt. och att ansöka om anstånd med betalningen av skatt är ändemot tillgängliga även för dessa företag.
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Anstånd går att söka enligt generella regler (på grund av synnerliga skäl) eller . De senare gäller endast moms, arbetsgivaravgifter och preliminärskatt på löner medan de generella anståndsreglerna även kan omfatta andra skatter.

Hör gärna av dig till din rådgivare på PwC om du vill diskutera vilka möjligheter ditt företag har.

Kontakta vår hotline

På PwC vill vi hjälpa till och göra skillnad genom att stödja företag under denna tid av osäkerhet. Vi har därför satt upp en dit du kan ringa och få svar på dina frågor kopplade till regeringens stödpaket och andra covid-19 relaterade affärsfrågor.



Cecilia Rasmusson arbetar med moms på PwC:s kontor i Sundsvall.
010-212 88 75

Prenumerera på Tax matters

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