

August 23, 2016

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Withholding Tax Services Coming Online September 5

In just under a month, on September 5, Tax Administration Jamaica (TAJ) will implement the third and final phase of its Revenue Administration Information System (RAIS) project. The system, which has been designed to improve TAJ's administrative efficiency, will now include access to a wider range of online services relating to Withholding Taxes (WHT). These include:

- Contractor's Levy
- Withholding Tax on Specified Services
- Withholding Tax on Dividends
- Withholding Tax on Interest
- Withholding Tax on Miscellaneous Services – (Royalties, Franchise, Management Fee, etc.)

This means that taxpayers engaged in tax withholding activities will benefit from greater efficiency with the generation and issuance of Withholding Tax Certificates (WHTC) online.

The integration of withholding tax services will allow tax withholding entities to manually create WHTCs online, upload predefined files which will automatically create the certificates as well being able to utilize the available TAJ web services. Additionally, business persons and

large organisations will also be able to validate a certificate using RAIS, similar to the feature which exists for validating Zero Rating and Tax Compliance Certificates.

Other benefits include; reduction in costs associated with certificate printing and the streamlining of the filing of tax returns with certificate information being pre-populated in the online returns. Mandatory use of these WHT features is expected to take effect January 2017.

TAJ continues to engage key stakeholders as it solicits feedback from private sector and inter-governmental partners, to inform the preparation and implementation process for the Phase 3 roll-out of RAIS. To date, several meetings have taken place with special interest groups and professional bodies to include the Courts of Jamaica, Jamaica Bankers Association, Jamaica Stock Exchange, Bank of Jamaica and the Jamaica Bar Association, Incorporated Masterbuilders Association of Jamaica, Jamaica Co-operative Credit Union League and the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service.

RAIS Phase 3 will also include the introduction of Stamp Duty and Transfer Tax, Environmental Protection Levy, Betting Gaming and Lottery Taxes and Trade and Business Licences as part of the new online service options.

For further information persons may contact the Customer Care Centre at **1-888-Tax-Help (1-888-829-4357)** toll-free or visit our website www.jamaicatax.gov.jm.

“END”

Contact:

Communications Unit
Tax Administration Jamaica
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E-mail: communications@taj.gov.jm

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