

UAE

Dubai Silicon Oasis

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Dubai Law No 7 of 2004 creates the Dubai Silicon Oasis (DSO), a purpose-built high-technology park for the microelectronics and the semiconductor industry within the territory of the Dubai International Airport Free Zone (DAFZA). The DSO has juristic personality and financial independence and is managed by DAFZA.

The purpose of the DSO is to attract large international companies specialising in modern technologies, to develop modern technological industries in the Emirate of Dubai, and to prepare and train the national workforce in modern technology.

DAFZA is responsible for the following within the DSO:

- the regulation of business and activities;
- the establishment and licensing of companies to do business;
- the establishment of provision and infrastructure, buildings, management services and all other services required to achieve the goals of the DSO;
- the provision of manpower to companies operating in the DSO at their request;
- the imposition and collection of fees for services;
- the establishment of an investment fund to provide companies and their employees with financing, allowing investors to participate in such fund;
- the establishment of companies for projects within and outside of the DSO; and
- the provision of all manner of services.

The activities that may be performed within the DSO include:

- (1) design, manufacture, development, storage, supply, distribution and redistribution of modern technological products;
- (2) assembly and packaging of products manufactured within or outside of the Dubai Silicon Oasis; and
- (3) educational and training services related to modern technology.

All land and buildings located in the DSO shall belong to the DSO. DAFZA may sell or lease out such property on such terms as it may determine. The Authority may also submit all manner of securities and guarantees as it may deem desirable, including mortgages of all or any part of the property located in the DSO, as security for the payment of any debt or the performance of any obligation.

All establishments, companies, individuals and employees in the DSO shall be exempt from all taxes in respect of their activities within the DSO and shall be exempt from any restrictions on transfer of capital and profits for a term of 50 years, renewable for a similar term by decree of the ruler of Dubai. Such 50 year term shall commence upon the start date of operations by any such establishment, company, individual or employee.

Companies in the DSO shall not be subject to the rules related to the Dubai Municipality, the Dubai Department of Economic Development or the Rent Committee with the exception of regulations pertaining to the environment.

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