

How IT is Changing Payroll Processing and HR Admin in China

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Introduction



Adam Livermore Partner Dezan Shira & Associates

It is no secret or surprise that technology is driving a revolution in the areas of payroll processing and HR administration. Global payroll processing companies have already produced sophisticated systems to meet the requirements of clients in their main markets, which are primarily the large, developed economies of the world. How are multinationals managing the administration of their employees in China? What are the complications? And how are payroll processing firms "upping their game" to meet the challenges that they and their clients face in this heavily populated and complex part of the world?

The challenges fall into two distinct parts. The first relates to payroll processing work, which can actually be handled remotely from anywhere in the world and is a specific, objective process. The chief difficulty for payroll processors is how to efficiently receive all the input data from their clients, which forms the basis of all the payroll calculations and reports.

The second part of the challenge relates to the HR administration support provided to clients. Employers in many Asian countries need to ensure that the employment relationships with their staff are properly documented and in compliance with local laws. Failure to do this can be expensive, and reliance on often inexperienced local staff can be dangerous. But China is big, and in particular the "last mile" – how to ensure original versions of documents are signed by employees and securely stored – can be difficult when the company is based in a relatively remote location.

IT is the main answer to both of these challenges. Solutions are not straightforward, and they need to be customized to the specific situation of each company. Nevertheless, more comprehensive solutions are appearing, and this edition of China Briefing aims to explain how foreign multinationals can take better advantage of IT in the gathering, storing, and analyzing of HR information across their entities in China.

With kind regards,



Adam Livermore



This Month's Cover Art 蕊 Jiang Meiyan (蒋美艳)

Chinese Painting, 38x38 CM
Wan Fung Art Gallery
wanfung@126.com.cn
+86 0760 8333 861
www.wanfung.com.cn

Reference

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