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# **FATCA Compliance**

FATCA compliance: Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act



FACTA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) has significantly reshaped the global financial landscape. Let's delve deeper into specific aspects of FATCA compliance.

### Key Components of FATCA Compliance

- Due Diligence: This involves identifying potential U.S. persons (individuals, entities) among a financial institution's customer base. There are two primary methods:
- Account Holder Due Diligence (AHDD): Focusing on existing accounts.
- New Account Due Diligence (NADD): For new accounts.
- Reporting: Once U.S. accounts are identified, FFIs must report specific information about these accounts to the IRS annually.
- Withholding: FFIs that fail to comply with FATCA are subject to a 30% withholding tax on certain U.S.-source payments.
- Recordkeeping: Maintaining accurate records of due diligence, reporting, and withholding activities.

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### **FATCA Models**

There are two primary models of FATCA agreements:

Model 1: Involves the automatic exchange of information between the U.S. and participating jurisdictions.

Model 2: Requires FFIs to report directly to the IRS.

# Challenges and Considerations

- Data Privacy: Balancing the need to share customer information with data protection regulations.
- Operational Costs: Implementing FATCA compliance can be expensive due to required systems and personnel.
- Penalties: Non-compliance can lead to significant penalties.
- Evolving Regulations: Keeping up with changes in FATCA regulations is crucial.

## Impact on Financial Institutions

FATCA has imposed substantial burdens on financial institutions worldwide. It has driven significant investments in technology, personnel, and processes. However, it has also led to increased transparency and cooperation between tax authorities.

Learn more about <u>FATCA compliance</u>.

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