Office of Regulatory Services

Business Names

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States, territories and the Australian government have worked together to introduce a program of new initiatives that will reduce red tape, save time and cut costs for business

A new online national business name registration service has replaced separate state and territory services so businesses only need to register or renew a business name nationally and pay a single fee.

The Office of Regulatory Services no longer has responsibility for administering business names in the Australian Capital Territory.

The new national register is administered by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. For information on how to register or renew a business name visit ASIC's new online registry service, ASIC Connect, at www.asic.gov.au.

Costs for registering or renewing a business have come down in most states and territories - businesses can choose to register their business name at a cost of $30 for one year or $70 for three years.

To help new businesses, there is also a linked process for registering for an Australian Business Number (ABN) and a national business name, the two most common registrations when starting a business. For further information visit www.abr.gov.au. Registering for an ABN remains free.

Over 1.6 million existing state and territory business name registrations have been automatically transferred to ASIC"s national register. ASIC will contact business name holders when it is time to renew their business name.

For further information on how the new national online service works, or to register, renew or search for a business name, visit www.asic.gov.au.

To search Historical Business Names please click on the Historical Business Names Search Request Form below.