## **BASICS OF A VARIABLE CAPITAL COMPANY**

Posted on August 28, 2019

**Category:** CNPupdates

Date Published: 28 August 2019

Authors: Bill Jamieson, Amit Dhume, Abel Ho and Neeti Relan.

This table provides you with a useful overview of the Variable Capital Company ("VCC"). It highlights the unique characteristics of the VCC and key requirements under the VCC regulatory framework.

A Variable Capital Company ("VCC") is a vehicle in Singapore to be used only for collective investment scheme(s).

Foreign corporate entities may redomicile into

VCCs may be used for open-ended and closed-ended funds and for retail and non-retail funds.

Rights to participate in profits, redemption or repurchase of shares, and vote, are required to be set out in the VCC's constitution.

VCC can be a standalone entity or have an umbrella structure that houses separate subfunds.

Assets and liabilities of each sub-fund are segregated through a cellular structure.

VCCs may freely redeem shares and pay dividends out of capital.

VARIABLE CAPITAL COMPANY

VCCs are required to maintain a register of members, which does not need to be made public but provided upon request to certain persons such as public authorities.

VCCs must have their accounts audited annually, and each sub-fund will be required to prepare separate financial statements in accordance with a single accounting standard across all sub-funds. VCCs shall be subject to anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism requirements.

VCC directors are required to be 'fit and proper' persons.

A VCC must have at least one (1)
Singapore resident director and at least one (1) director (who may be the same person as the Singapore resident director) who is either a director or qualified representative of the VCC's fund manager.

Authorised schemes must have a minimum of three (3) directors, including one (1) independent director.

A VCC must be managed by a permissible fund manager such as licensed or registered fund management company or certain entities exempted under the Securities and Futures Act.

## Use of the Variable Capital Company for types of funds in Singapore

A Variable Capital Company ("VCC") is a corporate investment structure that can have underlying cells that may be a mix of open-ended and closed-ended sub-funds.



	Authorised Scheme	Restricted Scheme
Form	A collective investment scheme	A collective investment scheme
	authorised by the Monetary Authority	notified to the MAS to be offered in
	of Singapore ("MAS") to be offered in	Singapore to accredited investors
	Singapore to retail investors.	and certain other persons under
		Section 305 of the Securities and
		Futures Act ("SFA").
Location	Singapore	
Inward re-domiciliation	Inward re-domiciliation of relevant foreign corporate entities to apply to be	
	registered in Singapore as a VCC is permitted.	
Regulatory	VCCs will be jointly regulated by the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory	
authority	Authority ("ACRA") and the MAS - ACRA will administer the VCC Act and its	
	subsidiary legislation and MAS will regulate the anti-money laundering and	
	countering of the financing of terrorism provisions.	
Fund Manager	A VCC must be managed by a permissible fund manager such as licensed	
	or registered fund management company or certain entities exempted	
	under the SFA. A fund manager can delegate its fund management and	
	operational duties in accordance with the MAS Guidelines on Outsourcing.	
Permitted	Shares deh	entures
securities	Shares, debentures	
Directors	A VCC must have at least one (1)	A VCC must have at least one (1)
	Singapore resident director and at	Singapore resident director and a
	least one (1) director (who may be the	least one (1) director (who may be
	same person as the Singapore resident	the same person as the Singapore
	director) who is either a director or	resident director) who is either a
	qualified representative of the VCC's	director or qualified representative
	fund manager. Authorised schemes must have a minimum of three (3)	of the VCC's fund manager.
	directors, including one (1)	VCC directors must be 'fit and
	independent director.	proper' persons.
	independent director.	proper persons.
	VCC directors must be 'fit and proper'	
	persons.	
Custodian	A VCC which is an authorised scheme	A VCC that is a restricted scheme
	must appoint a custodian that is an	must maintain its assets with a
	'approved trustee' under the SFA.	'prescribed entity' which include
		an 'approved trustee' and other
		prescribed entities. VCCs which
		are private equity or venture
		capital funds do not require a
		custodian to be appointed,
		subject to certain requirements.
Audit	Accounts of a VCC must be audited annually with the same accounting	
	standards, under the VCC Act and/or the CIS Code, across all sub-funds but	
	with separate financial statements for each sub-fund.	
AML/CFT	VCCs shall be subject to anti-money laundering and countering the	
Requirements	financing of terrorism ("AML/CFT") requirements. A VCC is required to out-	
	source its AML/CFT requirements to its fur	nd manager or a regulated financial
	institution.	
Segregation of assets	Any liabilities of a sub-fund must be discharged from the assets of that	
and	relevant sub-fund. Assets of any sub-fund must not be used to discharge	
liabilities	liabilities of other sub-funds.	
Tax incentives	Tax incentives pursuant to the 'Enhanced Tier Fund Scheme' under Section	
	13X of the Income Tax Act ("ITA") and the 'Singapore Resident Fund	
	Scheme' under Section 13R of the ITA for collective investments schemes in	
	Singapore shall also be available to the VCC. If the VCC is an umbrella VCC,	
	these tax incentives will be granted at th	e umbrella level.
Register	VCCs are required to maintain a register of members, which does not need	
	to be made public but provided upon request to certain persons. These	
	include any public authority, the VCC's manager, and an appointed	
	include any public authority, the VCC's r	nanager, ana an appointea
	include any public authority, the VCC's recustodian.	nanager, ana an appointea

