Agilent UK Group Tax Strategy

The publication of this strategy statement is regarded as satisfying the statutory obligation under Para 16(2), Schedule 19, Finance Act 2016.

This strategy applies to all Agilent entities organized in the UK (collectively the “Agilent UK Group”).

Approach to tax risk management and governance arrangements

Agilent (“we” or the “Company”) is committed to comply with the tax laws and practices in all the territories in which we operate, including the UK, which is the main place of business for the Agilent UK Group. Compliance for Agilent means paying the right amount of tax, in the right place, at the right time, and involves disclosing all relevant facts and circumstances to the tax authorities and claiming relief and incentives where available.

Agilent’s Standards of Business Conduct set out what is expected of every employee at Agilent and our approach to tax aligns with such Standards and is approved, owned and overseen by the Company’s Board of Directors.

Attitude toward tax planning

In structuring Agilent’s commercial activities, we will consider – among other factors – the tax laws of the countries within which we operate with a view to maximizing value on a sustainable basis for our shareholders. Any tax planning undertaken will have commercial and economic substance and will have regard to the potential impact on our reputation and broader goals. Agilent will not undertake planning that is contrived or artificial.

We conduct transactions between Agilent group companies on an arm’s length basis.

Level of tax risk accepted

Given the scale of our business and volume of tax obligations, risks will inevitably arise from time to time in relation to the interpretation of tax laws and the nature of our compliance arrangements. Agilent proactively seeks to identify, evaluate, manage and monitor these risks to ensure they remain in line with the Company’s risk appetite. Where there is significant uncertainty or complexity in relation to a risk, external advice may be sought.

Approach to dealing with tax authorities

We engage with tax authorities, including HMRC, with honesty, integrity, respect and fairness and in a spirit of cooperative compliance. Agilent is prepared to litigate where we disagree with a ruling or
decision of a tax authority but will first seek to resolve any disputed matters through pro-active and transparent discussion and negotiation.

Agilent’s aim is to have professional and constructive relationships and maintain transparent disclosure in our relationships with tax authorities, recognizing that early resolution of risks is in the best interests of the Company and such tax authorities.

Agilent makes its tax returns as clear as possible and we try to raise important issues proactively so that tax authorities can focus their resources effectively. From time to time, if it is unclear how a tax law should be applied, we may engage with tax authorities in advance of undertaking transactions to confirm the correct application of such tax law.