



TECH ADVANTAGE

THE COMPANY AT A GLANCE

Founded in Luxembourg in July 2000 by two experienced consultants in the field of computer technology for the finance and banking industry, Tech Advantage sàrl developed through time a unique professional environment for IT contractors. We specialize in technology research, development of prototypes, business networking and also, as consultants, we provide assistance to fellow freelancers seeking support in terms of local, professional and personal integration and operation.

OUR TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Currently Tech Advantage employs a small number of experienced consultants (analysts, developers, testers, project managers and production support) who are specialized in the financial sector, predominantly focused on Asset Servicing:

- Clearing and Settlement (Target 2 Securities)
- Custody (CSD and ICSD)
- Collateral Management
- Investment Funds

OUR SERVICES

A significant element to understand our original approach is that the company was founded by IT contractors for IT contractors, predominantly for the finance and bank industry.

To be able to focus and concentrate on our know-how, skill strengthening and contracts, we have established through the past fifteen years a strong network of relationships with key institutions and reputable local experts, all having authority in their field of expertise; this to help us to constantly validate our general approach, contracts and day-to-day decisions.

Typically Tech Advantage can rely on proven connections with:

- **Accountancy firm**

Employment contracts, payroll & salaries, tax & VAT returns, private tax returns, Social Security and Pensions benefits (state and private), fiscal, audit and advisory services, relationship with state administrations, certificates from government

bodies, business authorizations and attestations, company status, local practices & expertise.

- **Local state bank and private bank**

Business accounts, private accounts, business credit cards, private loans and mortgages, local investments, Internet banking conventions, corporate and personal advisory services from bank manager, bank guarantee for your rented accommodation, local practices & expertise.

- **Insurance broker**

Public liability insurance, business liability insurance, private insurances for home, vehicles and traveling, systematic review of current situation at regular intervals, corporate and personal advisory services, local practices & expertise.

- **Lawyers and solicitors firm**

Contract validations, adequacy between contract requirements, company setup and structure & insurance coverage, common business practices, assistance and handling of specific corporate or personal situations or concerns, corporate and personal advisory service, local contacts, practices & expertise.

- **Local Internet Service Provider and Telecom company**

Connections via optic fiber for business and home, smartphones, assistance, corporate and personal advisory service.

- **Local computer resellers and network & cabling companies**

Purchase of equipment, network design and installation, professional planning and cabling, latest industry standards, network security and integrity, local contacts & know-how, corporate prices.

- **Local car dealers**

To arrange the purchase or the lease of your company car if you need one, car servicing and maintenance, repairs, summer/winter tires.

- **Local leading estate agents**

For your temporary accommodation or long-term real-estate investments, information on local housing practices and prices.

As all of these professionals are located in Luxembourg-City, our consultants benefit from first-hand information directly from local and reputable experts and therefore have their own opportunity to develop further contacts and relationships whilst their statutory paperwork is prepared, validated and filed for them; this contributes to higher personalized services and unequalled performance.

Tech Advantage sàrl holds current:

- Employer's liability insurance,
- Professional & indemnity insurance,
- Public liability insurance

contracted with major local and international insurance companies.

LOCATION

Our offices are conveniently situated in the Kirchberg district, the new E.U. institutions and Banking quarter in Luxembourg-City.

Car park facilities include 24 spaces on the city-owned car park adjacent to our building and 4 dedicated spaces in our private underground car park.

Please refer to the "Contact" section on this site for your initial contact and additional information.

COSTS

As we are not agents as such, although we can act alike, our billing system is not based on fees, cuts, charges and other commissions but on a fair and equitable sharing of the actual structure and service costs built on transparency and accurate reporting. In most cases, the pay-as-you-use rule applies and a full recap of income and outgoings is provided monthly, at year end or on request.

Legitimately, some consultants prefer to know in advance how much their expenditures will be; in those cases, for a straight IT contract, a 5.00 % cost is normally expected.

In most cases, the expenditure incurred by a consultant to become part of Tech Advantage is essentially compensated by the amounts saved through a proper management of their business income and outgoings. In other instances, substantial savings are even realized, thus shifting the anticipated service costs into satisfying returns whilst the burden of tedious paperwork and legal administrative tasks is taken care of, professionally.

BENEFITS

The Benefits of Our Administrative Structure

Our administrative structure works hand-in-hand with our local, professional and reputable partners. We act as a facilitator for your business and business needs. Typically, whether you need a new smartphone overnight, a company car, your business expenses prepared, a business credit card, an opinion as how to handle a specific issue in your day-to-day business life or even assistance to find an accommodation in Luxembourg, we can direct you to the right company or, upon your instructions, handle the tedious and time-consuming tasks. You are never left alone and our structure provides you with a valuable reassuring effect and practical solutions.

As we are ourselves a community of freelancers and contractors, the majority of our consultants came to us because we both share the same challenges and constraints in terms of time management, routine paperwork preparation, administrative handling and local know-how. Through our network, your legal obligations are taken care of and your statutory returns prepared, validated and filed on time with the state administrations.

The Benefits of Our Technical Platform

In general terms, innovators and techy geeks, whether developing or already having a prototype software at hand for instance, find great interest in having some counterparts to discuss specific technology challenges, mutualize investment cost, design platform architecture and operating procedures, anticipate future characteristics and constraints, organize copyright and intellectual property administration and so on. Our technical platform, constantly being upgraded, redesigned or renewed altogether, is a no man's land if you are not an enthusiastic R&D technician.

During the initial years after the company formation, Tech Advantage qualified to join a partnership with the Henri Tudor Public Research Center in Luxembourg-Kirchberg and was hosted in their technology-oriented business incubator at the Technoport-Schlassgoart in Esch-sur-Alzette (south of Luxembourg state). As any other applicant, Tech Advantage produced a detailed business plan which was presented to a committee of large business institutions at the University Institute of Technology in Luxembourg-Kirchberg. Since, we have endeavored to maintain and develop good practices and standards in an ever-changing legal and technical environment. Due to this experience, we will be happy to help you preparing your own business plan and other required documents for your project.

And today?

Currently a new technical platform is being designed and built (mini datacenter) consisting of several servers networked together and working in parallel to process large number of transactions for testing purposes.

The technical platform will have:

- Linux operating systems
- Servers mounted on racks
- Low latency
- Mass data storage and backup

For instance, a new software prototype is in development which is:

- Scalable
- Fault tolerant
- High performance

The eventual aim is to deploy the new system into a cloud and offer software as a service (SaaS).

Further projects and ICT partnerships are presently being considered.

Technology partners we like to deal with:

- Atomic Software Sàrl, Luxembourg-Kirchberg (www.atomicsoftware.eu)

Questions You May Have

As a consultant, you probably have several queries about how to benefit from our services and network and also how, as a professional, your personal needs will be handled.

Here are some of the most common questions, please contact us for further information:

- Is Tech Advantage sàrl an agent for consultants and freelancers ?
- I am a consultant, can Tech Advantage be my umbrella company for my contracts, my business affairs ?
- I am a consultant, what are the benefits of being a member of Tech Advantage ?
- How is my income managed when an invoice is paid in, how are the funds monitored, what are the controls in place, who has the formal authority and the ultimate responsibility ?
- I am a consultant, where does Tech Advantage differentiate from agents or other umbrella companies ? What are the key benefits ?
- What will happen at the end of my contract in Luxembourg ?
- How big is Tech Advantage and how strong is it? What are the key proven factors which make Tech Advantage stable, reliable and trustworthy? Do you have proven track records of that?
- I am a consultant and recently arrived in Luxembourg, how can Tech Advantage assist me for my personal situation and integration in Luxembourg?
- I am a freelancer, what are the documents that I have to produce to join Tech Advantage's consultant's team?
- I do not want to join Tech Advantage at this stage but I am interested in one or more services offered by this company or their network of professionals. Can you still help?
- I am an experienced technician in the computer industry; what do I have to do to benefit from your technical platform and network of IT specialists?
- I have developed a piece of software or I have a technical concept that I would like to protect by a copyright before I can start the actual development. Can you assist me with the next steps to safeguard my intellectual property?
- As a freelancer, I am very busy working on my clients' projects and I need to be dedicated to my assignment. How can you assist me in making sure that my paperwork and statutory obligations are properly considered and my legal returns filed on time with the local authorities?
- I am a consultant and I do not need to draw out systematically, month after month, every cent/penny generated by my contract invoices; how and when will the remaining moneys be paid to me? What does the legislation say on this matter and what are the different possibilities? Who can provide me with professional and legal advisory service on this particular point?
- I am an international and experienced freelancer; I have several customers who know me very well and with who I have a long business relationship; as they value my work and know-how it happens from time to time that I have to work for several of them at the same time. Can you handle several different contracts for the same

consultant over a given period, this would significantly help me to satisfy my preferred customers?

- I am running an agency in Luxembourg, Luxembourg neighbor countries, the United Kingdom or elsewhere and I have several consultants working in Luxembourg, can you assist me with my payroll duties and also in helping them to handle their residency status, tax obligations, local paperwork, etc.?
- I have my own company in Luxembourg, in Luxembourg neighbor countries, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, can I still benefit from all or part of your services ? Can you look after my paperwork and expenses event if they are not filed through your company?
- I have my own company in Luxembourg, in Luxembourg neighbor countries, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, could I possibly have access to your network of professionals to ensure that I fulfill my legal obligations at all time?
- I am a project leader, a project manager or a director in a financial institution and I hire freelance consultants from various countries, how can you assist us so that the consultants' legal and administrative paperwork is properly handled and their status compliant with the current legislation, therefore helping the consultants to better concentrate on my projects?
- I am a project leader, a project manager or a director in a financial institution and I hire freelance consultants from various countries, how could you possibly assist us by providing evidences and legal certificates proving that all my consultants' statutory obligations are duly fulfilled and filed accordingly with Luxembourg authorities?
- I am a project leader, a project manager or a director in a financial institution and I hire freelance consultants from various countries, will there be a cost for me if I ask Tech Advantage to handle my consultants' paperwork and legal obligations?
- I am a freelance consultant coming every day to Luxembourg from a neighbor country (frontalier status), does it make any difference to you compared to other consultants? Shall I enjoy being assisted in the same fashion as any other consultants i.e. help with tax returns, social security payments, mandatory pension subscriptions, etc.?

Corporate Contact

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HOW TO COME TO OUR OFFICE

- Distance from/to Luxembourg Airport: 5.9 km, 7 minutes by car.
- Distance from/to motorway A1 (Germany / Belgium / France): 850 m, 2 minutes by car.
- Distance from/to Avenue John F. Kennedy, Auchan Shopping Centre & Utopolis Leisure Centre: 550 m, 8 mn by foot.

Public and private car park facilities right at the foot of our offices.

BUS STOPS

- Léon Thyès, Bus line 7
- Mathias Tresch, Bus line 7
- Alphonse Weicker, Bus line 18 & 25
- Carlo Hemmer, Bus line 18
- Poutty Stein, Bus line 1, 12, 18, 25 & CN4
- Luxexpo Entrée Sud, Bus line 1 & 12
- Parking Foire, Bus line 1, 7, 12, 18, 25 & CN 4
- John F. Kennedy (Auchan), Bus line 1 – Quay 1, Bus line CN4 – Quay 2, Bus line 18 – Quay 4