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V&G Trustee: Shared goals in the Trust Landscape.

V&G Trustee, a FINMA-authorized Swiss company, is built on a solid foundation of experienced trust experts and provides exceptional trust consultancy services for Swiss and international clients.

The concept stems from a desire to collectively enhance their expertise to deliver comprehensive advisory services to an increasingly sophisticated clientele in succession, protection, governance, and generational transition. They leverage the flexibility of the trust's legal institution and the benefits of a Swiss trustee.



In the photo:

Fabio Gaggini, Attorney at Law

of Counsel V&G Trustee

Founder and Managing Partner of the law firm Gaggini & Partners

Antonio Mandrà

Chairman, V&G Trustee

CEO and Managing Director of VECO Group

Antonio Mandrà remarks, "During a time of considerable change in the independent asset management and trustee company sector, driven by new FINMA regulations, we believe that merging skills and objectives is the best approach to provide our clients with increasingly sophisticated services for families and businesses."

Fabio Gaggini adds, "V&G Trustee's experience and expertise in the trust realm enable them to capitalize on the numerous applications of this Anglo-Saxon legal instrument, a crucial tool for personal and professional protection in an increasingly uncertain and complex future."

The trust, a distinctly "British" instrument originating from the flexible and pragmatic Anglo-Saxon common law system, has a rich history. It was used by rulers and noble to manage their estates during far-flung and perilous missions. The Hague Convention, concluded on July 1, 1985, marked the official introduction of trust institutions in non-Anglo-Saxon countries, including Italy in 1989 and Switzerland on July 1, 2007.

Swiss Law and Trusts: Although Switzerland currently lacks specific trust legislation, foreign trusts are commonly used and have been fully recognized in Switzerland since the implementation of the Hague Convention (2007). Although primarily it is a legal institution in common law countries, its origins trace back to Roman law, and many civil law countries have introduced similar instruments into their national legal systems over time (fiducie, Treuhand).

In January 2022, the Swiss Parliament initiated a preliminary project to explore the most effective method of incorporating trusts into the Swiss Code of Obligations. The project, still under discussion, involves two specialist working groups—one focused on civil law and the other on fiscal law—and a regulatory impact analysis to determine the economic ramifications of introducing Swiss-governed trusts. V&G Trustee experts are also participating in the process.

Swiss Trustees: Trustee activities in Switzerland are regulated by the FinIA (Financial Institutions Act), which took effect on January 1, 2020. According to the legislation, professional trustees must obtain a license and operate under FINMA (Financial Markets Supervisory Authority) supervision.

They must also maintain adequate capitalization, internal control systems, risk management, and employ qualified trust managers. Swiss trustees must also adhere to due diligence requirements under the Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA) and various supervisory bodies. These provisions align with European regulations and FATF recommendations, as well as international tax compliance regulations concerning the automatic exchange of information.

Advantages and Strengths of Swiss Trustees: Swiss trustees benefit from geographic proximity, Switzerland's multilingual and multicultural environment, and its central European location. The ability to draft trust deeds in the settlor's language offers significant benefits for current and future beneficiaries. Compared to international trustees located worldwide, Swiss trustees emphasize geographic proximity and contact with settlors, protectors, and beneficiaries as their strong suit, assisting them during both the trust's establishment and its lifespan to address any emerging needs for the settlor and beneficiaries.



Family wealth consists of
assets passed down over time.
Let's protect them.

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