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Company formation Fact Sheet – Germany (April 2012)

Types of company	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Offene Handelsgesellschaft (oHG) (partnership) 2. Kommanditgesellschaft (KG) (private limited partnership) – in particular GmbH & Co. KG 3. Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung (GmbH) / Unternehmergesellschaft (UG haftungsbeschränkt) 4. Aktiengesellschaft (AG) (stock company)
Formation requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registration in the companies register, signatures of all members of the company 2. Registration in the companies register, signatures of all members of the company 3. Registration in the companies register, filing of the shareholders' list, Enactment of the articles of association (required notarisation); appointment of the managing director; a document stating the capacity of the managing director, a document stating that the necessary capital has been paid 4. Registration in the companies register, signatures of founding members, board of directors and supervisory board; application of the articles of association (required notarisation), documents of the appointment of the board of directors and supervisory board, certificate of incorporation, reports of the examination of the members of the members of the board of directors and supervisory board and the statutory report and any relevant licences and permissions
Shareholders and capital	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on the articles of association 2. Depends on the articles of association 3. € 25.000,00 (minimum), minimum € 1 of each shareholder (traditional GmbH); € 1 minimum , after that profits will be retained up to the common nominal capital of € 25.000,00 (UG haftungsbeschränkt). 4. € 50.000,00
Duration of procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4 to 8 weeks 2. 4 to 8 weeks 3. 4 to 8 weeks 4. 4 to 8 weeks
Incorporation costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Depends on the capital/property of the articles of association 2. Depends on the capital/property of the articles of association 3. Depends on the share capital of the company 4. Depends on the capital of the company
Management requirements	One founder (natural or legal person) is sufficient; natural person has to be the managing director
Publicity requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publication of names and dates of the members, dates connected to the formation of the association 2. Publication of names and dates of the members, date of formation and limited partners' capital contribution 3. Shareholders, amount of shares, disclosure of annual balance sheet (further publication duties dependent on size of the company) 4. Publication of the founder, members of the board of directors and supervisory board (including name, profession, place of residence); disclosure of annual balance sheet

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