



The voice of freelancing

PCG MEMBERSHIP

Introduction

PCG is the trade association that represents the interests of freelancers and is a not-for-profit organisation run by freelancers for freelancers. It has evolved to become the freelancer's champion, campaigning on issues that matter to the freelancing community, irrespective of industry focus.

PCG's aim is to work for proper recognition of independent freelancers as a genuine and valuable sector of the economy, generating wealth and employment, providing industry with a flexible workforce. It is committed to promoting its members commercially and supporting their development. PCG represents UK freelancers on matters relating to regulations, taxation, economics, employment and other issues that affect owners of small and micro businesses and self-employed workers.

Reasons for joining

- PCG is the most comprehensive source of advice and tools to help freelancers cope with the implications of IR35 and S660A tax legislation.
- Under PCG's Professional Expenses Insurance scheme, Inland Revenue investigations involving over 400 members have so far been notified. To date, over 200 cases have been won, saving members an estimated £6 million in taxes and associated professional charges since its inception. Only one case has been rejected, one withdrawn by the claimant and the remainder are in progress.
- PCG has made submissions on a variety of topics that matter to freelancers, including Agency Regulations, E-Commerce Regulations, Regulation of Investigatory Powers (RIP) Bill and Security Clearances.
- PCG's membership fee is quickly recouped by most members thanks to discounts on professional advice and services.
- PCG and ATSCo meet regularly to explore and find common solutions to issues that matter to freelancers. A standard contract has been agreed that is available exclusively to PCG members dealing with ATSCo agencies.
- PCG is actively developing tools, services and relationships that will assist freelancers to develop commercially.

- PCG supports freelancers in the construction industry who are campaigning for a more equitable tax system that recognises freelancing as a valid business model.
- PCG was a key influence, in concert with other organisations and individual freelancers, in removing IT skills from the Skills Register used by Work Permits UK to issue so called Fast Track Visas.
- Similarly, PCG was a key influence in getting Agency Regulations modified to mitigate the impact on freelancers.
- PCG continues to campaign for the elimination of abuses of the Intra Company Transfer mechanism for granting work visas.

Full membership

Freelance contractors may join the PCG as full members, for an annual fee of just £120 plus VAT, which buys:

- Professional Expenses (tax investigation) insurance
- Access to free tax and legal help lines
- IR35 and S660A analysis and manuals
- Standard contract templates
- Discounted professional indemnity insurance
- Access to a wealth of technical and commercial advice via the forums
- A comprehensive range of member services and preferential rates from suppliers, including home office insurance, hotels and travel, business software, training and office space.

Apply online at www.pcg.org.uk.

Affiliate membership

PCG recognises the contribution of a wide range of stakeholders in the freelance marketplace, and invites them to join the PCG as Affiliate members for an annual fee of £250 plus VAT.

PCG publishes news and analysis covering all relevant legal, accounting and other areas.

Affiliates can communicate with members using the online discussion forums and by advertising in PCG's flagship publication, Freelancing Matters, and its weekly newsletters.

To apply, email mandie.bell@pcg.org.uk