

Legal Forms of Companies

English

a joint stock company a private limited company - Ltd a public limited company - PLC a public utility a subsidiary (ies) an affiliated company/affiliate a branch

German

Kapitalgesellschaft
Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung
Aktiengesellschaft
Versorgungssunterhemen
Tochterunternehmen
verbundenes Unternehmen
Filale

The Company Itself

English

- a business unit
- a division
- a department
- a works council
- a supervisory board

an executive board, a management board

- a merger
- an acquisition
- a joint venture

German

Geschäfseinheit
Bereich/Sparte
Abteilung
Betriebsrat
Aufsichtsrat
Vorstand, Geschäftsleitung
Fusion
Übernahme
Gemeinschaftsunternehmen

*Note

The term "board of directors" cannot be translated into German as there is no equivalent in the German corporate world.

This is an important point, because it reveals the basic difference between the "Rhineland" style of corporate governance in Germany which includes a two-tier board system and the Anglo-Saxon approach which includes executive and non-executive members on one board.