

Waystone strengthens UAE presence with launch of onshore Management Company and Distribution Company solutions

June 9, 2025

Waystone, a leading provider of specialist services to the global asset management industry, has today launched a new onshore, independent Management Company (ManCo) and Distribution Company in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), further strengthening its ability to support investment managers and sponsors navigating the rapidly evolving Gulf Cooperation Council market.

The launch comes amid significant regulatory changes reshaping the UAE's investment funds landscape. Since 2024, global asset managers have increasingly looked to establish UAE-based fund structures, driving demand for expert regulatory and operational support. Waystone's expanded offering ensures clients can seamlessly access both professional and retail investors within the region.

With nearly 20 years of experience in the UAE, Waystone was the first specialist compliance consultancy to establish itself in the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) in 2006, later opening offices in the Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) in 2017 and onshore UAE in 2019. This latest development solidifies its position as the leading provider of investment management solutions in the region.

The new ManCo will be led by Caoimhghin O'Donnell, who has relocated from Waystone's Dublin office, where he previously spearheaded the firm's third party ManCo operations in Ireland. With 50 compliance specialists already on the ground in the UAE, and having opened a third office in Dubai at the end of 2024, Waystone is uniquely positioned to provide unrivalled regulatory expertise, supported by its flexible technological infrastructure.

[Caoimhghin O'Donnell](#), CEO of Waystone Management Company Middle East, said: *"The UAE's evolving regulatory landscape is shaping a more transparent, secure, and dynamic investment environment. While this presents exciting opportunities, regulatory diligence remains critical. We are thrilled to expand our services in the region and look forward to helping our clients navigate this fast-growing market."*

[Nigel Pasea](#), Country Head of Middle East, added: *"The UAE is fast becoming one of the most attractive destinations for investment funds globally. Waystone has built a strong presence here, and this milestone enhances our ability to meet the increasing demand from international investment managers. I look forward to working with Caoimhghin to replicate our global ManCo success in the UAE."*

About Waystone

Waystone is a leading provider of institutional governance, administration, risk and compliance services to the asset management industry. Partnering with institutional investors, investment funds and asset managers, Waystone builds, supports and protects investment structures and strategies worldwide.

With over 25 years' experience and a comprehensive range of specialist services to its name, Waystone provides its clients with the guidance and tools that allows them to focus on managing their investment goals with confidence.

For More Information

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