

Director of Finance

Seasoned strategist, change agent, and recognised thought leader with unprecedented experience in directing financial operations and initiatives; demonstrated success in introducing new financial controls and systems in rapidly changing business environment; encouraged positive change.

Solutions-orientated financial executive with big picture perspective, hands-on leadership, and advanced project management aptitude; time-tested stellar record in instituting ground-breaking strategies and establishing governance structures.

Business champion with solid financial, operational, and commercial acumen; instrumental in pioneering value-added capital allocation models and implementing robust control environments as well as improving budget process, managing foreign exchange, and leading audit and innovative tax planning. Analytical problem solver credited with addressing financial challenges and revitalising inefficient processes; delivered oversight in corporate governance, risk management, and financial direction. Strategic partner, corporate financial advisor, sound decision-maker, savvy negotiator, and strong relationship builder credited with negotiating contracts, balancing stakeholder interests and cultivating profitable relationships; provided financial insight.

- Commercially astute with superior communication and interpersonal skills; grounded in spearheading internal controls, treasury functions, and financial metrics, identifying investment opportunities, and driving measurable business results.
- Team builder and mentor with sophisticated expertise in heading cross-functional and cross-cultural teams through hands-on talent development; adept at nurturing cooperative culture, empowering teams, and enhancing team morale.

Areas of Expertise

- Financial Planning
- Investments Analysis
- Budgets Monitor
- Disaster Recovery Policies
- Risk Management Infrastructure
- Client Satisfaction
- Foreign Exchange Markets
- Cost/Cash Management
- Processes Optimisation
- Merger/Acquisition
- New Business Development
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Tax Management
- Regulatory Compliance
- Financial Reporting
- Corporate Governance
- Portfolio Management
- Performance Enhancement
- Best Practice Implementation
- Financial Control
- Business Drivers/Risks

Signature Accomplishments

- Boosted team success and morale by revamping structure of financial teams.
- Generated Millions of Rand in cost savings through innovative tax plans and structures.
- Consolidated internal treasury management.
- Pioneered offshore structure by securing consent of South African Reserve Bank; supported offshore treasury function.
- Drove millions of Rand in value by transferring from no hedging policy for foreign currency cash flows to a hedging policy.
- Introduced strong control systems and control environments.
- Established capital allocation model and enabled appropriate reporting at group level to effectively oversee funds and investments, and returns.
- Rolled out risk management infrastructure and process; deployed risk reporting throughout all business divisions.
- Formulated disaster recovery policies and practices by collaborating with external DR advisors and IT auditors.

Career Experience

The FD & CFO Centre, South Africa

2017 – Present

Regional Director and President: Mpumalanga and Mozambique

Lead new business development efforts for new office. Develop highly competent team consisting of professional and experienced Chartered Accountants. Partner with small, medium, and micro-sized enterprises to deliver financial strategic and operational services.

- Rolled out new office in Mpumalanga province of South Africa; introduced brand in Mozambique.
- Drove 40% growth in 2020 (COVID year) and 30% in 2021.
- Secured clients across numerous industry sectors, including agriculture, civil engineering, motor industry, fuel stations, and retail grocery groups.

HL Hall & Sons, Nelspruit, Mpumalanga (5th generation family-owned conglomerate)

2008 – 2017

Group Chief Financial Officer (2014 – 2017)

Provided necessary support to carry out merger and acquisition activities. Made tactical financial decisions. Assessed investments and led treasury functions. Directed tax management and ensured secretarial and statutory compliances. Nurtured strong relationships with stakeholders, including Bankers, Brokers, Tax Authorities, and Group Insurance Advisors.

- Exhibited exceptional leadership and built group leadership team.
- Drove efficiency by revamping processes and systems.

Group Finance Director (2008 – 2014)

Spearheaded group finance function successfully. Instituted and led group external audit plan. Forecasted and monitored budgets for executive committee. Managed funds by following approved capital allocation structures. Cultivated relationships with banking professionals. Led group cash management. Implemented accounting policies. Displayed strength in negotiation and negotiated contracts.

- Delivered tax advisory and served as tax administrator.
- Oversaw group-wide insured risk portfolio and forex hedging.

Additional Experience

Contract Finance Executive, S&B Construction, Mozambique

Finance Director, Alliance ONE International Inc., Serbia

Finance Director, The U Joint & CV Joint (PTY) Limited, South Africa

Regional Projects Controller, Standard Commercial Tobacco Corporation Inc., Malawi

Finance Director, Association of Tanzania Tobacco Traders, Tanzania

Financial Controller, Standard Commercial Tobacco Corporation Inc., Tanzania

Audit Manager Tax Consultant, N.W. Stacey CA, South Africa

Articled Clerk, Deloitte & Touche, South Africa

Education

International Treasury Management Diploma

The Association of Corporate Treasurers, London, UK

Chartered Accountant (CA (SA))

University of South Africa, Pretoria

Bachelor of Accounting Science (Honours)

University of South Africa, Pretoria

Affiliations

Member

- South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA)
- South African Institute of Tax Professionals
- Institute of Directors (IOD)

Fellow

- Africa Board Fellowship (ACCION – Centre for Financial Inclusion)