

Robert NICHOLLS

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SENIOR MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONAL | CPA

Financial Management Robust Financial Controls Performance Analysis Financial Reporting & Compliance	Cash Flow Management Budgets & Forecasting Procurement Management Variance Analysis	Strategic Leadership Workforce Engagement Capability Development Performance Management
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VALUE OFFERED

- **Commercially astute, detail-focused senior financial management CPA professional** offering 18+ years' high-level experience with substantive national and international organisations which has equipped me with the skills to take on a broad suite of responsibilities to facilitate business decision making by way of managing cross functional operations including finance, human resource, administration and supply chain management.
- **Demonstrated expertise in managing and leading finance teams**, driving a high-performance culture, and developing financial and business strategies, systems and controls which contribute to increased revenue, business process improvement, and improved debtor control.
- **Effectiveness in any senior accounting management role** is enhanced by highly developed conceptual, analytical and problem-solving skills; exceptional interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to build positive relations across the organisation and key stakeholders.
- **Highly developed technical expertise (detailed below)** supplemented by specialised knowhow in areas including research and analysis, scripting and programming, statutory and legislative interpretation, complex problem solving, project management, and continuous improvement.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Financial Reporting and Analysis (FR&A): Budgets/Forecasting | Performance Evaluation | Variance Analysis | Financial Modeling | Data Visualization | Trend Analysis | Business Partnering | Business Reporting Packs | Risk Assessment | Key Performance Indicators | Compliance

Management Accounting: EOM/EOFY Reconciliations/Reporting | SG&A Budgeting/Forecasting | Portfolio/Overhead Accruals | Assets Management | Procurement Management | Inventory Accounting/Management | Project/Contract Costing | Strategic Advice

Technical Skills: Microsoft Office (advanced Excel including Pivot Tables, VLookups, Macros and advanced PowerPoint) | Business Intelligence | BI Tools (Qlik Sense, QlikView, Crystal Reports) | SAP | GOF (Orbis/AS400) | Pronto (ERP) | SAP | Great Plains

EDUCATION

Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) Accounting and Finance CPA Australia	2009 - 2014
Master of Professional Accounting The University of Sydney	2003 - 2005
Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting and Finance) The University of Sydney	1998 - 2001

EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Group Financial Controller	ABS Global Group – ABS Australia	01/2016 – Present
Senior FP&A Analyst/Controller	ABS Global Group – ABS Australia	10/2011 – 12/2015
Accountant	LNJ Capital Pty Ltd	05/2005 – 08/2011
Accountant	ABCD Chartered Accountants Pty Ltd	04/2002 – 05/2005

EXPERIENCE

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER – APAC REGION

01/2016 - Present

ABS GLOBAL GROUP – Australian Operations | North Sydney, NSW

Reporting to the USA-based Group Chief Financial Officer and as a member of the Senior Accounting Team, core activities include the following:

- Leading Financial Managers across APAC countries, re-enforcing the importance of business partnering and operational engagement including implementing process and profit improvement initiative.
- Delivering timely/accurate financial/operational analysis on a broad range of business issues to executive global management stakeholders.
- Preparing monthly and regional reporting packs with insightful commentary for presentations in review meetings with Global CFO.
- Coordinating/consolidating APAC regional budget, monthly rolling forecasts and actual results for the Wholesale and Retail financing business.
- Actively involving the review of pricing for countries within the APAC region, including validation of cost of funding, risk and overhead assumptions for approval by pricing committee.
- Preparing month-end required interest revenue/interest expense accruals, FX loss/gain calculations, Portfolio and Overhead accruals.
- Finalising country P&Ls, assisting with journals within the APAC region.

Key Contributions:

- Improved efficiencies in budget/forecast consolidation by automating Causal Deck preparation through links to the Global Hyperion Financial Management System.
- Added value to the business through insightful analysis involving identification of key drivers, historical, current and future, having an impact on business performance and position.
- Reduced reporting days from 15 to 3, developing financial literacy at management level, creating deeper engagement with budgeting process, formalising the accounts into a template and adding automation via SQL to minimise non-value add tasks.

SENIOR FP&A ANALYST/CONTROLLER

10/2011 – 12/2015

ABS GLOBAL GROUP – Australian Operations | North Sydney, NSW

In this earlier role with the Group, I performed a broad range of management accounting and financial analysis activities including:

- Preparing monthly consolidated Board and Executive management reports including variance analysis on revenue/expenditure, CAPEX spent/forecast, and cash flow analysis with rolling 12-month forecasts.
- Coordinating the completion of month-end financial reporting (including IT project management for R&D funding purpose, global supply chain cost variance analysis to budget).
- Preparing annual budgeting and three forecasts per year for the APAC region.
- Preparing monthly business reporting packages for local/Global management including but not limited to WD5, WD10 flash reports, Pricing & Portfolio Review decks.
- Business partnering, monthly financial results analysis and preparation of financial, analytical and interpretive reports for Business leaders.
- Analysing/reporting risk, strike rates, portfolio ageing and monthly origination.

Key Contributions:

- Assisted in the development and implementation of ALM Project (Asset/Liability Management) for annual budgeting/three forecasts per year for the APAC Financial services business.
- Analysis of opportunities in improving third party income through determination of historical portfolio yields and considering options and benefits provided by risk-based pricing.

ACCOUNTANT

05/2005 – 08/2011

LNJ CAPITAL PTY LTD | Leichhardt, Sydney, NSW

Reported to the Financial Controller accountable for the following core activities:

- Month-end reporting/analysis of P&L, GL reconciliations, Balance Sheet reconciliations through analysis of production schedules for revenue recognition/cost allocation and application of principles of accruals and deferrals.
- Completing statutory/regulatory requirements such as preparation of BAS, FBT and maintaining relevant internal controls.
- Fixed Assets management, bank reconciliations, credit cards/fuel cards accounting for expense accruals, lease contracts management.

Key Contributions:

- Led and coordinated Job Costing data-migration project to SAP.
- Developed APB specific P&L & B/S reports using financial report writing tool in Pronto.
- Reduced reporting days from 15 to 3, developing financial literacy at management level, creating deeper engagement with budgeting process.
- Constant Inventory Monitoring led to improvements in Bills of Materials/purchasing practices.

ACCOUNTANT

04/2002 – 05/2005

ABCD CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS | Macquarie Park, Sydney, NSW

- Providing client services (primarily for small-to-medium-sized-enterprises) such as:
 - Preparing income tax returns for Individuals, Partnerships, Trusts, and Companies;
 - Preparing BAS, Instalment Activity Statements, and reconciling GST provisions;
 - Preparing financial statements to final accounts stage;
 - Undertaking fixed asset register reconciliations and review of investment allowances;
 - Developing and communicating taxation strategies and tax planning;
 - Preparing and analysing budgets, forecasts, and performance indicators;
 - Providing bookkeeping services (using MYOB, QuickBooks, or APS General Ledger) and giving recommendations on improving their internal processing;
 - Advising clients on payroll areas including PAYG withholding, super guarantee, annual leave, long service leave calculation, and payroll tax implication; and
 - Liaising with third parties (ATO, lawyers, bankers etc.) on behalf of clients.

Key Contributions:

- Added a number of key client accounts through networking and direct marketing activities targeted at SME and new business start-ups.
- Developed various templates to assist clients with tracking revenue expenditure and monitoring cash flow.

REFEREES

1. **Mr Robert Jones** | Former Chief Executive Officer | ABS Global Group
P: 02 0000 0000 | M: 0400 000 000 | E: robert.jones@absglobal_australia.com
2. **Mr Thomas Smitherson** | Former Financial Controller – APAC Region | ABS Global Group
P: 02 0000 0000 | M: 0400 000 000 | E: thomas.smitherson@absglobal_australia.com
3. **Mr William Rogers** | Former Chairman | LNJ Capital Pty Ltd
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