



Accredited Chartered Accountant and senior management professional with more than 185 years of stellar experience in auditing, optimizing Internal Controls, implementing ERP system, financial reporting and structuring financial policies. Leverages exceptional auditing and financial acumen to achieve operational excellence & ensure organizational growth. Credible history of minimizing cost and enhancing profitability ratio with high value financial solutions. Demonstrated excellent analytical, technical, and auditing skills to effectively manage audit engagements across different sectors.

| Metal and Mining | Aviation | Investments | Oil and Gas | Banking | Construction |

MAHMOUD AL AZHAR – ACCOMPLISHED SENIOR INTERNAL AUDITOR (185+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE)

Contact Details

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SKILL SET

- Audit and assurance
- Financial Governance
- Internal Controls
- Risk Management
- Statutory Reporting & Regulatory Compliance
- Process automation
- Financial Data Mining
- Cost Reduction & Control
- Analytical Skills
- Budgeting & Forecasting
- IFRSs and GAAPs

EDUCATION

Chartered Accountant (CA) |
Institute of Chartered
Accountants of India

IT SKILLS

- SAP, Oracle, BPC and Tally
- MS Office / Windows

TRAINING & SEMINARS

- Leadership Program from University of Oxford (Said Business School)
- IFRSs regular trainings conducted by Big 4
- Soft skills, business communication and report writings

PERSONAL DOSSIER

DOB: 8th July, 1981

Languages: English, Arabic, German, Hindi & Urdu

Nationality: Indian

Passport No.: T5345152

CAREER GRAPH



PROFILE SUMMARY

- Extensive knowledge and expertise of Audit Professional Practices, Risk Management and Internal Controls required for performing risk-based audits.
- Highly proficient in evaluating efficiency of control environment, identifies control gaps and makes recommendations for process improvement, corrective actions, or remediation
- Strong knowledge and experience of ERP (SAP), Business Planning and consolidation (BPC), Governance, Risks and Compliance (GRC) module and Financial Data Analysis & Interpretation.
- Demonstrates autonomous decision making and critical thinking skills in performing analytical procedures, ensuring the effectiveness of the scope of the audit, expanding or decreasing testing to commensurate with the audit findings
- Hands on experience in introducing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes
- Deft in automating business processes to improve efficiency and productivity.
- Proficiency in IFRSs / GAAPs, financial Analysis, Management Reporting, Financial Statement Preparation and Reporting and Consolidations.
- Deft at designing & studying, a solid finance reporting structure by supporting and handling various processes in order to report accurate financial figures.
- Excel at developing and administering budgets, spearheading monthly and yearly financial closings, managing relationships with key stakeholders and business partners, leading teams, and achieving corporate goals.
- Extensive knowledge and expertise of financial reporting, M&A, Investment in Subsidiaries, Joint Ventures, Equity Accounted Investees.
- Equipped with excellent management, interpersonal, and communication skills to establish rapport with all levels of staff and management.

SIGNIFICANT HIGHLIGHTS

Key Initiatives

- Implementation of COSO compliant internal controls over financial reporting for compliance with regulatory requirements
- GRC execution (Governance, Risk & Compliance) for financial governance and segregation of duties
- Implementation of Central ERP (SAP) and consolidation tools (BPC) to align process
- Contributed as key team member in preparing the entity for anticipated public listing
- Developed roadmap for Artificial Intelligence implementation
- Effectively benchmarked financial policies with Peers (Regional & Global)
- Abridged month end closing process from 7 to 3 working days

Success by the Numbers

- Reduced FTE by more than 25% through centralization of reporting function for the Group
- Received appreciation certificate from CEO for input in financial close of \$4 billion bank facility
- Enhanced working capital by +\$200m through Securitization and Inventory management
- Contributed in annual profitability through developing hedging strategy for a foreign subsidiary
- Achieved cost savings by reducing the reliance on consultants for implementation of New IFRSs

Process Optimization & Audit Team Leadership

- Enhanced internal control system, reduced financial & operational ~~risk~~, ~~and~~ ~~risk~~, ~~and~~ aided clients to attain and maintain compliance with regulatory requirements
- Showcased leadership skills to guide staff for achievement of auditing goals

Audit & Internal Control Management

- Lead risk-based financial audits including risk assessments, audit planning, audit testing, control evaluation and drafting of audit reports that provide assurance to management, audit committee and the Board of Directors that the entity's operations, financial statements and reports comply with company policies, International Financial Reporting Standards and applicable laws and regulations.
- Analyzes effectiveness and efficiency of control environment, identifies control gaps and makes recommendations for process improvement, corrective actions, or remediation
- Manage and oversee the design and operating effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting and facilitate Control Self- Assessment (CSA) activities
- Prepare audit reports / presentation for Audit Committee and Board to accurately depict risk, exceptions, impact and deliver efficient solutions & recommendations
- Design and implement controls to provide reasonable assurance to management, the Audit Committee and external auditors that financial statements and reports comply with generally accepted accounting practices
- Understand the business implications of audit findings and coordinate with the appropriate management to develop practical and actionable business solutions in a timely, cost-effective manner
- Evaluate the adequacy of action taken by management to correct reported deficient conditions, accepting adequate corrective action and continuing reviews with appropriate management on action considered inadequate until satisfactory resolution

Financial Reporting & Analysis

- Provide overall leadership and direction to the team to ensure the entity is adhering to prudent financial and operational controls, managing significant risks, and complying with IFRSs and applicable laws and regulations.
- Responsible for the development, maintenance and benchmarking of the policies, procedures, and practices to safeguard assets as well as ensure compliance with GAAP and other applicable regulatory laws and rules for financial reporting
- Provide strategic financial support to management by providing analysis and appropriate financial and operational data in order to assist in performance measurement and decision making
- Manage Statutory & Government Audits for timely resolution of all compliance related matters
- Prepare and present to the management and the Board committees:
 - Consolidated financial statements as per IFRS
 - SOPs / position papers for technical matters
 - Reports & presentations to monitor KPIs
- Effectively manage intricate financial matters – Business combination, impairment assessments, developing hedging strategies, financial instrument valuations, Merger and acquisitions and investment accounting etc
- Review and align financial policies and procedures across all the Group of Subsidiaries and Joint Ventures
- Provide assistance to management in preparation & analysis of budgets and forecasts
- Build and maintain financial model to manage and report multi-billion Capex projects and produce assets register
- Spearhead month end closing, group consolidation and Shareholders reporting

People Coordination & Stakeholder

- Effectively monitor KPIs for team along with recruitment, on-boarding, training, development and performance evaluation
- Develop and maintain business networking and relationships with bankers, auditors, and regulatory authorities
- Deliver audit and finance related orientation to new team members and act as the focal point of contact to support team on technical issues
- Participate in strategic finance and business support meetings to ensure smooth running of audit and accounting functions