

Case Study

An experienced Accounting Director was sought by our client, a leading pharmaceuticals company, to develop a European Accounting function based in Switzerland.

Client profile

Leading pharmaceuticals company

Job name

Head of Accounting.

Job Role

The role was responsible for the development of the accounting function whilst providing financial, and strategic direction to support the growth and vision of the company.

Job Responsibilities

Develop the existing accounting team to support the business functions. Manage both local and US GAAP accounting across the region. Liaise and manage service providers for accounting and payroll services. Assist with the development of new legal entities. Develop accounting policies, procedures, processes, and systems. Manage audits including internal, US and local GAAP and SOX reviews. Assist with the procure to pay cycle. Drive system and business practice improvements. Mandatory recent experience in Pharmaceuticals or life sciences. 10 to 20 years' experience in accounting with a strong technical knowledge of US GAAP with a financial accounting background. Proven relevant accounting experience at senior management level and experience in establishing and building an accounting function. Experience with third party logistics, costing and transfer pricing. Excellent technical and analytical skills within financial accounting and an understanding of other business disciplines. Excellent interpersonal, leadership and communication skills. Autonomous, persistent and results orientated. Degree in finance, business, or a related subject. Expertise in SAP. Eligible to work in Switzerland.

Method & Result

We reviewed the market in Switzerland and internationally and from the longlist, 6 candidates were shortlisted and interviewed. Three of these were selected for a final round and from this 1 was offered the position. The process from commencement to conclusion took 6 weeks.