SARALYN SMITH

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Versatile and detail-oriented project manager with vast experience in leading multicultural and cross-functional teams in implementing strategic digital applications, managing the full product lifecycle from designing and prototyping to MVP, and deployment. Candidate for a Master of Computer Science degree at a top 20 worldwide university. Seeking an opportunity to leverage my business acumen and technical expertise, combined with my exceptional communication skills, in an IT Project Management role.

EXPERIENCE

MAY 2019 – PRESENT

DIGITAL PROJECT MANAGER – CORPORATE OPERATIONS, NESTLÉ (VEVEY, SWITZERLAND)

Leading a variety of large-scale digital and organizational transformation projects, with a budget of more than CHF 7 mio, impacting worldwide Nestlé headquarters and manufacturing operations, including the innovation and development of digital solutions and applications which enable process simplification, compliance, and operational efficiency. Highlights include:

Managing a cross-functional agile project to design and implement an IT compliance application used in over 400 internal and external manufacturing sites worldwide, as well as, in global R&D locations, used by 2,500+ users. Responsibilities entail leading the multicultural and cross-functional project team, coordinating and leading the external development supplier (Atos) using agile methodologies (scrum, Kanban, etc), budget and expense control, gathering of business requirements for translation into technical specifications / user stories and MVP definition, user experience design and testing, backlog definition and prioritization, application quality testing, deployment training for over 90 countries, issue escalation and management, and reporting to senior management and key stakeholders on project milestones and escalations.

Managing the global digital and compliance strategies for operations within Nestlé, including: managing the evolution of the ERP system (SAP-QM) used in Nestlé manufacturing sites; proposing new digital solutions and initiatives to improve operations and meet business needs.

Additional tasks: Performing ad hoc data driven analyses through ERP using analytic technologies (e.g. PowerBI, IDEA) in order to promote operational compliance, suggest relevant business improvements based on key data findings, Global reporting on top priority compliance KPIs; hosting live webinar and training sessions to market and factory employees worldwide.

JAN 2018 – APR 2019

INTERNATIONAL AUDIT – TEAM LEADER, NESTLÉ (VEVEY, SWITZERLAND)

Managing diverse and multicultural teams to execute internal compliance, financial, strategic, and advisory consulting reviews across the worldwide Nestlé organization, visiting 39 countries in the process; including business units, manufacturing sites, external suppliers, and R&D centers. I facilitated in-depth investigations with aim to offer relevant improvement actions, presenting recommendations to Nestlé senior management.

Specializations: manufacturing technical operations, financial reporting compliance, commercial operation efficiency, IT security and systems implementation, supply chain, procurement, and overall regulatory compliance in Nestlé's plants and offices.

Further tasks: Assisted in the personal development of worldwide junior auditors through coaching and mentoring. Assisted in the creation of internal audit expert groups, which developed and conveyed functional expertise, with the aim of increasing the knowledge of the audit team worldwide.

JAN 2016 – DEC 2017

INTERNATIONAL AUDIT – SENIOR AUDITOR, NESTLÉ (VEVEY, SWITZERLAND)

Main function is to support the Team Leaders in audit engagements and responsibilities. In addition, instrumental in enhancing internal data analytics methodologies by developing advanced 'data scripts' to rapidly identify areas of high risks in assurance reviews based on statistical patterns.

JAN 2015 – DEC 2015

REGIONAL INTERNAL AUDIT – SENIOR AUDITOR, NESTLÉ (NORTH AMERICA)

Similar duties to global role but in the scope of North America (USA, Mexico, Canada).

MAY 2014 – AUG 2014

REGIONAL INTERNAL AUDIT – INTERN, NESTLÉ (NORTH AMERICA)

Internship with the North America regional audit team; completed during final year of bachelor's degree.

OCT 2012 – APR 2014

ACCOUNTANT, AMERICAN STAR CORPORATION (TEXAS, USA)

Part-time position (while attending university) performing monthly accounting duties for a local petroleum company.

EDUCATION AND LANGUAGES

CURRENT (EXP. GRADUATION 2023)

MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE (MCIT ONLINE), UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, USA

Part-time, extracurricular study from a top 20 worldwide university; My goal is to increase my technical knowhow and learn new technologies for application to digital projects. (Link to degree curriculum)

DECEMBER 2014

BBA ACCOUNTING, WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, USA

GPA 3.8, Magna Cum Laude

CONTINUING EDUCATION 2021

PMP CERTIFICATION, PMI – APPLICATION APPROVED, EXPECTED CERTIFICATION BEFORE Y-E 2021

AGILE PROJECT MANAGEMENT, GOOGLE (**COURSERA**)

DATA ANALYSIS USING PYTHON, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (**COURSERA**)

ENGLISH (NATIVE); **FRENCH** (A1); **SPANISH** (A1)

SKILLS

- Experience in agile project management methodologies (scrum, Kanban, etc) and with well-known product management software (Jira, Azure DevOps, Asana, etc)
- Leading digital implementation and transformation projects impacting Nestlé operations in over 100 countries and 500 manufacturing sites
- Proficient in analytics (e.g. using PowerBI, Python, SQL, IDEA) and building dashboards used for evaluating and trending key global data
- Advanced knowledge of SAP (R/3, BW, QM, FICO, etc), as well as, affinity for learning new and complex systems and processes quickly
- Expert in analyzing and proposing relevant solutions / improvements for full spectrum of business processes (e.g. technical, finance, commercial)
- Excellent leadership, influencing, and coaching capabilities developed from managing large complexity projects and consulting engagements
- Stakeholder interaction and excellent communication abilities: including, vast experience presenting to senior management and collaborating with teams of all levels and cultures
- Detail-oriented, organized individual with ability to work independently in demanding situations with tight deadlines while dealing with ambiguity