



BIOGRAPHY: LES COETZEE

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: VUT

A Chartered Accountant (EE) with extensive experience across a broad spectrum of the financial and management accounting functions, in the head office and operating environments, of large organisations in diversified business sectors, including listed and multi-national companies.

Mr Coetzee obtained his Master of Commerce in International Finance from the University of Johannesburg, his B.Compt and B Compt Honours from the University of South Africa (UNISA). He won the national prize for top student in the final qualifying examination. Mr Coetzee also obtained his Bachelor of Education from the University of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

Mr Coetzee has had broad exposure to different facets of general business management, as Managing Director of a major milling operation which formed part of a diversified listed group.

Participation and experience in structuring of new entities and negotiating mergers, acquisitions and joint-ventures and securing of international funding for major infrastructural development in Africa. Familiar with trading conditions, modus operandi and business philosophies practised in the UK, France and several countries in Africa including Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, Zambia, Kenya and Uganda.

He is a lateral thinker, intuitive but analytical decision-maker, skilful negotiator and effective strategist. Successful in identifying problem areas, recommending and implementing effective systems and solutions. Track record for profit generation and cost containment, without compromising service levels and productivity.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Ability to present at all levels. Interacts well on a one-to-one basis and in a group situation, at peer, superior and subordinate levels, both as leader and in a key support function. Good staff management, motivational and mentoring abilities. Assertive but diplomatic in handling sensitive and controversial issues.

Enjoys a challenge. Flexible and innovative in applying knowledge and experience to different circumstances and environments. Focused, disciplined and goal orientated. Works well under pressure, in deadline situations, within time and budget parameters. Effectively handles several and diverse projects simultaneously.