PRIYA RAMAN

CPA | Finance Manager | Food Manufacturing, 4 entities, $185M revenue

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SUMMARY

CPA and finance manager for a privately owned food manufacturer: four entities, $185M revenue, three production sites and a finance team of seven. Closes the month in four working days, has taken the group through three audits with no findings, and prepares the numbers the board makes its decisions on.

Most useful where the books have fallen behind the business: a new system, an acquisition, or a reporting pack nobody trusts. Fixes the process first, then the pack.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Cut group month-end close from eleven working days to four across four entities by rebuilding the reconciliation calendar and moving consolidation into NetSuite, with no audit findings in the three years since.
- Brought an acquired bakery business into group reporting within one quarter of settlement, including payroll for 140 staff, and found $640K a year of duplicated supplier spend along the way.
- Tightened forecast accuracy at group EBITDA from plus or minus 9% to plus or minus 2.5% by building a driver-based budget and a monthly reforecast with the site managers.

EXPERIENCE

Finance Manager, Saltbush Food Group 2021 to now

Four entities, $185M revenue, three production sites, finance team of seven. Reports to the Chief Financial Officer and presents monthly to the audit and risk committee.

- Led the move from MYOB to NetSuite across all four entities, live on the planned date with opening balances reconciled to the cent.
- Used the new cash forecast to renegotiate the group's working capital facility, reducing the limit by $8M and saving $210K a year in fees and interest.
- Reduced debtor days from 52 to 38 by setting a credit limit for every customer and running a weekly collections meeting with the sales team.
- Built the first product-level margin report, which led the business to exit two product lines losing $1.1M a year between them.

Senior Financial Accountant, Corella Medical Supplies 2017 to 2021

National medical distributor, $70M revenue, two warehouses.

- Owned statutory reporting and the year-end audit for three years; each set of accounts signed with no audit adjustments.
- Cut accounts payable processing from nine days to three by moving 1,800 invoices a month onto automated three-way matching.
- Rebuilt the fixed asset register, writing off $420K of assets no longer in use and correcting depreciation from that year on.

Earlier career

Audit and accounting roles, including Audit Senior at Pryor Lund Chartered Accountants and Assistant Accountant at Fenwick Freight.

QUALIFICATIONS

CPA, CPA Australia
Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting)
Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics

SYSTEMS AND SKILLS

NetSuite, MYOB, Xero, Power BI, Excel modelling · Group consolidation · Statutory reporting · Cash flow forecasting · Banking facilities · Audit management · ERP implementation