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Senior Manager | KPMG Corporate Tax | KPMG SA



Q What does your current role entail, and tell us about your journey to this position?

A I had the privilege of commencing my career at KPMG, in the Corporate Tax business unit, as part of the tax graduate programme in 2016. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to learn core skills critical to being a well-rounded tax business advisor, while at the same time being involved in a wide range of corporate tax matters.

I have since progressed to a Senior Tax Manager position, providing a wide range of corporate tax advisory, including due diligence reviews and assistance, tax return reviews, share incentive schemes structuring advice, corporate tax structuring, implementation assistance, and dispute resolution matters.

Working at KPMG has exposed me to various clients across different industries and sectors, both locally and internationally, and continues to afford me the opportunity to operate across tax disciplines as I enhance my skills. Exposure to a diverse client portfolio means that I have been able to gain substantial knowledge in various industries, as well as a comprehensive understanding of both the taxation and financial aspects of businesses.

Q What advice would you give a young woman working on her first deal?

A Remember, every deal is an opportunity to learn and grow professionally. Trust in yourself, stay proactive, and approach the process with a positive mindset.

Q What was one of the most memorable transactions you worked on and why?

A I have had the opportunity to be involved in multiple transactions, but if I had to choose a single transaction, it would be a project relating to the acquisition of a local company by a German multinational. I played a leading role in the tax structuring and implementation of the transaction, and also collaborated with teams across various disciplines and across multiple advisory firms. The complexities of the transaction took me out of my comfort zone and stretched my abilities as a tax professional. This enabled me to grow as a person and professional, giving me more confidence to tackle complex transactions and scenarios.

I gained skills outside my technical focus area, which enabled me to contribute as a well-rounded professional and enhanced my trust as an advisor on subsequent deals.

Q What do you do to celebrate the closing of a big deal?

A The closing of a transaction represents weeks of hard work, and so is always a momentous occasion. In the immediate aftermath, I like to take a moment to reflect on what went well and what could be improved upon in the future, as well as taking the time to provide feedback to the junior staff to enable their development. Obviously, in the comfort of my own home, a glass of champagne is always welcomed and enjoyed.

Q What, in your opinion, is the hardest part of a transaction?

A Communicating complex tax issues and strategies to clients in an understandable way, and managing their expectations regarding outcomes and timelines, is always a welcomed challenge. Additionally, coordinating with

other advisors, such as legal, financial and business consultants, to ensure a cohesive and comprehensive approach to the transaction is another aspect that requires concerted effort in transactions.

Q What do you do to unwind and get away from the stress of work?

A I am an avid traveller. My girlfriends and I always have a trip or two planned. At the end of every trip, we make sure we choose the next destination and start planning. Travelling gives me the chance to break free from the corporate grind and take some time for much-needed self-care. My travels allow me to experience new cultures and obtain different perspectives on life.

In between my trips, I enjoy picking up a good book every now and then, which is usually from the long "To Be Read" list my friends and I have. This transports me to a different place and time, enabling me to unwind in the mystical streets of Marrakesh or the white beaches of Bora Bora.

FUN FACTS

Favourite colour:

Black.

Current book on your nightstand:

Verity by Colleen Hoover.

Three words your colleagues would use to describe you:

Considerate, reliable and hard-working.

Item on your bucket list: Doing the Amazing Race. Travelling the world is a big dream of mine and the best place to do that would be to take part in the Amazing Race. 📍