

Johannesburg

31 March 2016

NEW APPOINTMENT: GERHARD BARNARD BELIEVES “CHECKLISTS AND FRAMEWORKS DO WORK”

We are pleased to welcome Gerhard Barnard to our team of Lead Independent Consultants. Gerhard is a Chartered Accountant (SA) with a wealth of experience over the last three decades; ranging from board-level strategic insight to entrenched operational functions, both locally and internationally. His expertise is underpinned by being multi-skilled, furthermore adopting a cross-enterprise approach to the projects he works on.

Gerhard spent nine years as Chief Financial Officer in a well-known SHEQ (safety, health, environmental & quality) company, but since 2010 he has consulted independently for various companies, including open-cast mining in South Africa, Mozambique and Namibia.

He also gained extensive experience in Local Government over the last 24 months in the area of data analytics and data cleansing (i.e. revenue, supply chain management and payroll), IT General Control Review and VAT Reviews. Gerhard is a hands-on person and he has a deep understanding of the workings of an organisation, ranging from source entries of financial statements to board-level functions (and mostly everything in between).

Gerhard holds a B.Com (Hons) degree, and he qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1991. Given his quiet nature and enthusiasm for getting things done, Gerhard is at ease in a corporate working environment as much as what he is within small medium enterprises. Gerhard is “at his best” when he is tasked to design and implement business solutions, including controls and processes that facilitate good governance and improve the compliance environment for his clients.



Gerhard Barnard joins CGF, adding a new dimension to its corporate governance services

Gerhard's dictum is to simplify complex issues, and this he believes is greatly assisted through the use of robust frameworks and checklists. Whilst Gerhard is the first to avoid a typical “ticking of boxes” approach, he strives to unravel complex business processes to assist clients make sense of their business and associated risks. Through Gerhard's many years of business and operational process experience, he has discovered many organisations across various industry sectors -- both locally and abroad -- making similar mistakes and costing organisations vast sums of money, not least also potentially damaging their corporate reputations. With this experience, Gerhard believes most things that go wrong in organisations are caused mostly by a lack of documented processes and the failure of internal controls (i.e. preventative and detective).

Gerhard began his career doing articles through one of the large auditing firms. Hereafter, he joined a small audit firm in the southern Cape where he spent seven years as a partner, focusing on internal audit. Following this, he then spent nine years as the Chief Financial Officer of IRCA, another SHEQ consultancy firm with offices in South Africa and Dubai. Gerhard gained a great amount of international exposure, being involved in global projects covering Algeria, Romania, Czech Republic, Kazakhstan and Ukraine.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Through the shareholding of IRCA and DQS (Pty) Ltd, which are both ISO certification firms with vested interest in BSI (British Standard Institute); Gerhard was appointed as a board member on BSI's South African subsidiary for approximately three years.

Since Gerhard ventured the world of independent consulting in 2010, he has completed a number of complex assignments; these include a seven month stint on an opencast coal mine in Mozambique followed by another challenging four month assignment on an opencast gold mine in Namibia.

Having spent time in the mines, Gerhard then turned his attention to Local Government in South Africa for the next 18 months. Here he consulted for a software company, developing solutions to assist municipalities in the areas of data analytics, data cleansing and VAT reviews in the areas of billing, supply chain and payroll. Expectedly, Gerhard believes that the pillars of good service delivery in Local Government consist of a number of critical components; these all need to be in place and functioning in a proper manner and correct sequence. Typical of most CAs, he further believes when the financial reporting is awry, and when the processes behind compliance with laws and regulations are not underpinned; disaster strikes.

These are the type of projects Gerhard loves most, particularly when he is required to address the lack of proper controls and processes. With his firm knowledge in governance, risk and compliance (GRC), Gerhard is eager to assist his clients make sense of matters when they are in a mess. Indeed, Gerhard's specific interest in the application of CSA (Control Self Assessment) questionnaires makes the task of establishing organisational weaknesses, corrective actions and continuous improvement that much easier.

Accordingly, Gerhard's appointment to CGF adds yet a further dimension to CGF's corporate governance consulting services. The core of his business philosophy is to build strong and long lasting business relationships. His mantra is about partnering with clients in order to achieve their objectives, and providing value added consulting in order to achieve the best possible ROI for the client's monetary spend.

Should you wish to meet Gerhard to discuss these services, please contact him on +27 (0) 82 441 2504, or email gerhard@noblewest.com

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About CGF Research Institute (Pty) Ltd: Professional Services

CGF is a Proudly South African, Level 4 B-BBEE compliant company that specialises in conducting desktop research on Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) topics, amongst other related company secretariat, regulatory and compliance consulting services. The company has developed numerous products and services that cover GRC matters, all designed to create a high-level awareness and understanding of issues impacting a CEO through to all employees of the organisation.

Through CGF's Lead Independent Consultants, our professional consulting capabilities include the aggregation of local and international best of breed governance reporting services and extend to;

- strategic management consulting, business re-structuring, executive placements, executive coaching, board assessments and evaluation, out-sourced company secretarial functions, facilitation of Corporate Governance Awareness workshops, IT governance through to Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) consulting. All CGF's services cater for large corporates, small and medium sized businesses and state owned organisations.

To find out more about CGF, its Lead Independent Consultants and Patrons access www.cgf.co.za or www.corporate-governance.co.za or phone +27 (11) 476 8264/0