

Based in Mount Prospect, IL, Mizkan America is a subsidiary of the Mizkan Group, a global, family-owned company that has been Bringing Flavor to Life™ for more 220 years. As one of the leading makers of vinegars, condiments and sauces in the United States, Mizkan America maintains 12 manufacturing facilities that serve the retail, foodservice, specialty-Asian and food-ingredient trade channels. We are committed to continuously challenging the status quo and delivering only the finest products for our customers. Our leadership seeks out, embraces and implements ideas for improvement from all of its employees. Transparency and accountability are two key factors that drive our company's overall management approach.

We are looking for people who are seeking to deliver their best so that we can deliver ours. Above all, we're dedicated to maximizing the potential of our greatest assets—our team members. That's reflected in our ongoing commitment to recruit, develop, reward and retain our talented, multicultural workforce. We hope to see you as part of our team's future success!

Job Description Summary

- Shape the Finance support to the Industrial / Operation community
- Contribute to definition of the industrial strategy of Mizkan America
- Work closely with VP Finance / VP Operations / plant controllers to align goals, define priorities and decide on action plans
- Lead the operations budget and forecast processes as well as monthly P&L / KPI reporting
- Be a key contributor to harmonize costing tracking at plants and recording into our reporting system
- Standardize and simplify processes across the plants. Share best practices
- Control and improve working capital at plants (suppliers and stocks)
- Develop and train plant controllers
- Initiate actions in the areas of cost reduction, saving and optimization of resources
- Manage fixed asset accountant for all Capex budget items, including project submission, approvals and actual tracking of CIP/capitalization

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

Planning:

- Manages and organizes all planning processes (Strategic Plan, Operational Plan, Budget, Forecast) across total factory network and ensures that these processes are running smoothly
- Carries out necessary multifunctional coordination within the framework of these processes
- Performs analyses or arranges for analyses to be performed that are necessary to understand the financial position of the factories throughout the fiscal year
- Participates in planning and preparation, in the selection / prioritization of objectives for the operations controlling team
- Participates in the selection and prioritization of action plans in the factories
- Ensures plans, budgets and forecasts have been developed properly
- Controls the conversion costing and updating of standard cost prices based on the budget
- Ensures that controls are in place to ensure consistency between plans, budgets, forecasts and the reconciliation of them on an actual and forecast basis

- Consolidates plans, budgets and forecasts and has them validated at the total system level
- Communicates the results of plans, budgets and forecasts to all involved stakeholders

Optimisation of Capital and Assets:

- Organizes and supervises an active management of the main components of working capital requirements (stocks, suppliers): setting objectives, developing, prioritizing and monitoring action plans
- Supervises the smooth running of the financial management of operational investments (development and management of various consolidated asset track reporting systems, developing and validating investment projects, monitoring projects in progress (particularly with regard to financials), feedback and post mortem analysis of financial performance
- Prepare capital project requests for executive management approval
- Participates in the various stages of the process for the management of operational investments in accordance with Mizkan rules

Analysis and Interpretation:

- Ensures that the requirements for the management and analysis of operational staff are taken into account and adequately handled
- Conducts benchmarks on the economic performance of factories against industry benchmarks
- Proposes ideas to improve performance within their team and multifunctional operations Leadership Team
- Challenges proposals by operational staff
- Ensures that the economic impact, within the factories, of various operational levers is rigorously measured
- Supervises the performance of ad-hoc analyses, particularly from a methodological point of view
- Controls the quality of extracting information, the consistency and relevance of analyses, and the rigor of communication of the results
- Participates in the validation of the business conclusions and implementation of recommendations

Accounts and Reporting / Financial Control:

- Ensures that the accounting frameworks, tables, etc. are correctly maintained in the system
- Ensures that controls are in place to ensure the reliability financial reports
- Supervises the proper production / completion of operations reporting (KPIs)
- Supervises the proper production of gap analyses
- Supervises the proper production of appropriate management reports

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Risk Management:

- The identification and assessment of potential emerging risks
- The assessment of the quality of operational Internal Control processes

- Participation in internal and external audits, the validation and implementation of recommendations

Qualifications and Competencies

Minimum degree and experience required:

- Bachelor's Degree
- Must have 10-15 years of related work experience, significant management experience, with consumer packaged goods experience a PLUS
- Possess high level proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite; advanced Excel skills including experience creating pivot tables and V-look-up tables, are required
- Must be comfortable with ERP reporting systems (D365, SAP a plus)
- Exude a professional attitude; be courteous, friendly, exceptionally organized, and willing to take initiative
- Analytical with high level of detail orientation and experience working with spreadsheets, databases, and interpreting data for various reporting purposes
- Strong customer service (internal and external) orientation, ability to collaborate
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to influence without direct reporting line
- Result oriented and pragmatic
- Willing to challenge status quo and drive change

Performance Expectations: Confidentiality, quality, accuracy, timeliness, reliability, and thoroughness of work performed; IT savvy-ability to leverage systems, ability to gain the trust and respect of management and coworkers; maintain the integrity of confidential business and product information; ability to communicate effectively and develop good working relationships with other employees is essential to accomplish goals and objectives of the Department.