

## Mizkan America, Inc.

### Job Title: Sr. Procurement Strategy Analyst

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 than 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 following our two core principles: 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!

**SUMMARY:** Mizkan is seeking a highly skilled and detail-oriented individual to join our dynamic procurement team as a Sr. Procurement Strategic Analyst. Focused on risk management, optimal sourcing, and data analysis, this role plays a pivotal part in supporting the Senior Director, Procurement by actively contributing to the development and delivery of the team's strategy in alignment with the objectives and goals of the broader organization.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Develop and implement a comprehensive risk management strategy for ingredient and packaging commodities.
- Collect, monitor and manage market information, provide analysis and price forecasts.
- Utilize AI among other tools to complete data analysis and draw conclusions from the data.
- Conduct regular forecasting to identify potential risks and opportunities in the market, providing insights to the procurement team for informed decision-making.
- Support the business with accurate price forecasting. Prepares information on purchase prices and conditions to enable proper budgeting and cash forecasting.
- Collaborate with the procurement operations team to create and maintain should-cost models for key ingredients and packaging components.

- Analyze market trends, pricing structures, and industry benchmarks to establish accurate cost projections.
- Measure and oversee cost-savings initiatives and analysis, ensuring that targets are met and identifying areas for continuous improvement.
- Identify metrics, tools and process to optimize sourcing, supplier activities and efficiencies.
- Support RFI/P/Q execution, including scenario analysis and developing a supplier award recommendation.
- Develop a deep level of understanding of data under analysis, focusing on ensuring the right balance of accuracy and completeness with timely delivery of required information.
- Learn, effectively utilize, and act as a steward of the Mizkan Strategic Sourcing Process.
- Develop and maintain a procurement toolkit to enhance efficiency and standardization within the procurement processes and assist with training and on-boarding.
- Continuously improve ways of working and optimize procurement activities.
- Act as the Project Manager for certain high-spend initiatives, leading projects through the process.
- Evaluate supplier performance against established KPIs, providing feedback and working collaboratively with Procurement Operations to address any issues.
- Identify opportunities for supplier development and implement strategies to enhance overall supplier capabilities.

#### **EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Bachelor's degree in business, Supply Chain Management, Engineering or a related field.
- At least 3-5 plus years of experience in procurement, supply chain, or business analysis roles within the food manufacturing industry.
- Strong analytical and quantitative skills, with demonstrated expertise in technical applications (e.g., Excel, Power BI).
- Feels comfortable manipulating large data sets and can leverage analytical skills to drive and influence business decisions.
- Knowledge of commodity markets, pricing structures, and risk management strategies.
- Outstanding in idea generation, ideas that are forward thinking, and that contribute to creating sustained competitive advantage.
- Demonstrates effective problem-solving and project management skills and strives for continuous improvement.
- Demonstrates basic business financial knowledge.
- Demonstrates excellent written and verbal communication skills in creating presentations and other high-quality deliverables.

- Showcases maturity in being comfortable presenting to executive-level stakeholders and other cross-functional leadership.
- Manages constructive and collaborative working relationships, with the ability to work cross-functionally, and can function effectively on a team.
- Demonstrates self-confidence and integrity in a challenging work environment; can act as a self-starter.
- Shows initiative in taking ownership over new responsibilities, pushing boundaries, and challenging the status quo.

**PREFERRED SKILLS:**

- Familiarity with procurement software and tools (e.g. Microsoft Dynamics365, Coupa, Jaegger, Mintec).
- Certification in supply chain management or procurement (e.g., CSCP, CPSM) is a plus.