

Career Objective

A qualified internal auditor with more than 13 years of experience in financial, non-banking and professional sector companies who is seeking a challenging position in the corporate entity to contribute his accumulated knowledge & experience towards the achievement of entity's strategic objectives through risk-based assurance services and promote organizational improvement.

Career highlights

- Working as an internal auditor in the GCC region for the past eight years.
- Currently leading the internal audit function for a AED 200 million insurance company as Senior Internal Audit Manager, including the role of Audit Committee's Secretary.
- Major internal auditing experience in life and non-life insurance companies, financial institutions, contracting companies and hospitality industry.
- Completed annual and cyclic audit plans at various corporate entities within time and budget.
- Received appreciation from the Audit Committee and Head of Underwriting (Internal Audit) in two Insurance Companies for the audit work and identifying the major internal controls weaknesses and its impact on the Company's financials.
- Able to work independently as well as lead the internal audit team of a professional audit firm.
- Successfully managed the internal audit portfolio of 25+ clients, worth AED 2.5 million per annum.
- Plan and managed the audit resources for the achievement of audit plans at various internal audit clients and assignments.
- Review and recommend suggestions for various corporate-wide policies and procedures, compliance testing with local laws & regulations, and corporate governance procedures.
- Active collaboration with the 2nd line of defense functions like risk management, and compliance to improve the system of internal controls.
- Direct and uninterrupted access to the Senior executive Management and the Audit Committee to assess their expectations from the Internal Audit function.
- Communicate the audit results in easy to read & understand audit reports.

Usama Zulfiqar

Abu Dhabi-U.A.E

Email: usama@usamazulfiqar.com

Website: www.usamazulfiqar.com

Professional Experience

AXA Green Crescent Insurance Company PJSC

May 2017 till to date

(Listed on Abu Dhabi Stock Exchange-UAE)

Senior Internal Audit Manager

- Direct reporting to Audit Committee and Regional Head of Internal Audit-Middle East.
- Assigned as a Secretary of the Audit Committee and completed various secretarial practices as required by the Audit Committee's Terms of Reference, including minutes preparation, managing the meeting proceedings, and liaison with external auditors.
- Preparation of annual and multi-year risk and control assessment and audit plans.
- Independently plan and complete the internal audits as per the approved audit plan within agreed deadlines.
- Evaluate the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of internal controls and risk management processes and suggest recommendations for improvements.
- Reporting the audit results to the Audit Committee, Senior Management, and relevant stakeholders.
- Follow-up with the management for remediation of audit issues.
- To maintain the audit programs, evidence, correspondence, and other important information while adhering to the protocols of data confidentiality.
- Build and maintain a productive relationship with all tiers of management and their staff, Audit Committee members, external auditors, and regulators.
- To comply with the Company's risk-based audit methodology, audit manual, and use of audit tools.
- Act as a valuable consultative resource with the Compliance, Operations, Underwriting, and Finance functions on their risk remediation efforts.
- Audits performed include Strategy, Sales and Distribution, Product Development, Underwriting Governance, Claims Management, Customers Complaints, Corporate Governance, Legal & Compliance (including Anti-Money Laundering, Sanctions, and Data Privacy), Financial Management & Reporting and Investments, Assets & Liability Management.

Usama Zulfiqar

Abu Dhabi-U.A.E

Email: usama@usamazulfiqar.com

Website: www.usamazulfiqar.com

BDO Jawad Habib

January 2012 till October 2016

(Manama, Bahrain)

Internal Audit Manager

- Direct reporting to the Regional Advisory Partner while managing Bahrain's Internal audit portfolio of 25+ clients.
- Planning the internal audit, supervising the team of 8 members, and maintaining good relationships & repute with the clients.
- Develop internal audit proposals for business development purposes.
- Manage the budget, invoicing, and receivables for Bahrain's audit portfolio.
- Manage the allocation of audit resources, hiring, and other HR-related matters of the audit team.
- Perform risk assessments of financial and operational activities and processes.
- Manage and perform the audit fieldwork, prepare the audit reports, and get it reviewed by the Regional Advisory Partner.
- Present audit results to the Board & Audit Committee and clarify their queries.
- Perform special audits in line with the regulations of Central Bank of Bahrain for Insurance, Investment Banks, and Wholesale Banks.
- Plan and perform IT audits for financial institutions, contracting companies, manufacturing, and Technology related entities.
- Assigned to various sectors ranging from Insurance, Reinsurance, Financial Institutions, Contracting, Hospitality, and Technology Companies for internal audits.

Kohinoor Maple Leaf Group

March 2010 till November 2011

(Lahore, Pakistan)

Deputy Manager-Internal Audit

- Direct reporting to the Group Internal Audit Head.
- Completed financial and operational audits based on the approved audit plan within deadlines.
- Develop audit programs and perform risk-based audits to identify financial and operational risks and recommend pragmatic suggestions.
- Write internal audit reports and get it reviewed by the Group Internal Audit Head.

Usama Zulfiqar

Abu Dhabi-U.A.E

Email: usama@usamazulfiqar.com

Website: www.usamazulfiqar.com

KPMG

November 2008 till August 2009

(Lahore, Pakistan)

Senior Associate-Information Risk Management / IT Advisory

- Direct reporting to Senior Manager, Information Risk Management.
- Plan, manage, and perform the Information System audits for statutory clients.
- Business process reviews and GAP Analysis for internal audit assignments.
- Assigned to various sectors ranging from FMCG, Telecom, Public Health, Financial Institutions for Information Systems Audits.

Ernst & Young

July 2005 till August 2008

(Lahore, Pakistan)

Audit Senior

Completed the three-year apprenticeship with the audit firm and was part of the Business Risk Advisory Services and Audit Assurance Services.

Assigned to various sectors ranging from Real Estate, Manufacturing, Telecom, and Micro-finance for financial and business advisory assignments, due diligence, and statutory audits.

Qualifications

- Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)
- Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)

Languages

- Fluent in English
- Fluent in Urdu
- Fluent in reading Arabic.

Personal Information

- Year of Birth: Available on demand
- Martial Status: Married
- Nationality: Pakistan

References

Will be provided on request.