

# ROBERT MESCHER, The Solutionist

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## FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONAL

- **Analytically minded professional who identifies, streamlines, and resolves complex issues, capitalizing opportunities** that enhance and optimize finance and accounting processes.
- **Collaborative leader** with demonstrated success in contributing **multi-million-dollar savings**, managing up to \$120M organizations, and creating and maintaining positive and productive work environments.
- **Highly adaptable with record of exceptional performance in broad-based industries**, including hospitality, manufacturing, retail, non-profit, utilities, and local government.
- Hold an **MBA in Accounting**. Possess strong technical acumen and advanced Microsoft Excel skills.

## PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### Revenue & Cash Enhancements

- **Negotiated sale of company (\$30M) to a venture capital group.** [Imperial Technology, Inc.]
- **Restructured fees, previously not reviewed in decades.** Restructured fees after completing comprehensive study through utility consultant. **Rate increases for five years** adopted by City Council. [City of Avalon]

### Cost Control & Reduction

- Reviewed and audited hotel management contract and **identified \$500K overpayment.** [City of Montebello]
- **Saved \$3M for the community facilities district**, by refunding (refinancing) \$12M in bonds [Truckee Donner Public Utility District] and **\$1.4M** for the City by refunding \$10M in bonds. [City of Montebello]
- **Identified \$11,000 of qualified health plan expenses** as eligible credits on quarterly payroll tax return. [BHS]

### Leadership/Employee Management

- **Significantly improved employee morale** in the accounting office, while also creating positive and productive interdepartmental relationships, by clarifying policies and procedures and creating more involvement in decision making, as appropriate circumstances would allow. [Tahoe Donner Association & City of Montebello]
- **Created and successfully implemented a corrective action plan to increase internal controls** in response to a 2018 State Auditor Report. [City of Montebello]

### Technology Management

- **Successfully evaluated, implemented, and managed ERP systems.** [Implementation of Navision ERP at Imperial Technology, Inc. & evaluation of NISC ERP at Truckee Donner Public Utility District]
- **Seamlessly upgraded accounting software with zero downtime and without business interruptions.** [NISC ERP at Truckee Donner Public Utility District & New World ERP at City of Montebello]
- **Enabled greater productivity and accuracy by automating purchase orders, fixed asset tracking, and miscellaneous billing** through a seamless upgrade to software. [SunGard at City of Avalon & New World ERP at City of Montebello]
- **Created a semi-automated process**, uploading check records to bank's Positive Pay check protection service. [BHS]

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

ADP Payroll | IBM Cognos | Microsoft Navision | Microsoft Dynamics SL | Microsoft Office Suite | SAP Crystal Reports  
SAP Concur | Resort Technology Partners (RTP) | Abila / Sage MIP Fund Accounting | Tyler Technologies / New World ERP  
Micros Point of Sale | National Information Systems Coop (NISC) | QuickBooks | Superion/SunGard – eFinancePLUS

## EDUCATION

**MBA Degree** International Business; concentration in Business Finance and Accounting; including Cultural Diversity  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY DOMINGUEZ HILLS – Carson, CA

**BS Degree** Business Administration – Management Accounting (Graduated cum laude)  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY DOMINGUEZ HILLS – Carson, CA

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GIRL SCOUTS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles, CA	10/2020 – Present
<b>Interim Director of Finance &amp; Risk Management</b>	
Contracted through Solutionist Consulting, reported to the Chief Financial and Administrative Officer and managed an 11-person team while leading all finance and accounting activities including risk management, financial reporting, auditing, forecasting, and budgeting for this this nonprofit organization with a \$20M budget and 150 employees.	
SOLUTIONIST CONSULTING LLC – El Segundo, CA	04/2020 – Present
<b>Consultant</b>	
Provide small businesses with finance and administrative solutions so they can focus on their core products and services. Services include accounting, bookkeeping, financial statements, forecasts and budgets, cash flow projections, tax returns, system improvements, training, and negotiations.	
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES – Gardena, CA	06/2020 – 08/2020
<b>Consultant</b>	
Contracted through Robert Half to review processes, make recommendations for improvements including automation and technology adoption for this nonprofit organization with a \$40M budget and 450 employees.	
CITY OF MONTEBELLO – Montebello, CA	09/2018 – 01/2020
<b>Director of Finance</b>	
Started initially as an Interim Finance Administrator through MuniTemps, then hired directly by the City as a Finance Director. Reported directly to City Manager and supervised 20-person team while coordinating audits and managing all aspects of accounting and finance for this full-service city with a \$120M budget, 600 employees, and 65K residents.	
GIRL SCOUTS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles, CA	07/2018 – 08/2018
<b>Consultant</b>	
As a consultant through Vaco Management Consulting, reviewed and updated policies and procedures regarding employee credit cards, business expenses, and purchasing for this nationally recognized nonprofit organization.	
CITY of AVALON – Avalon, CA	07/2015 – 04/2018
<b>Finance Director</b>	
Reported directly to City Manager and supervised 5-person team while managing all aspects of accounting and finance for this vacation destination on Santa Catalina Island with a \$35M budget, 120 employees, 1M annual visitors, and 4K residents.	
TRUCKEE DONNER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT – Truckee, CA	11/2007 – 07/2015
<b>Treasurer and Administrative Services Manager</b>	
Reported to General Manager and directly managed 7-person staff, and indirectly managed 9-employees. Coordinated audits and led all aspects of customer service, billing, accounting, finance, inventory, investments, and strategic fiscal plans for this power and water public utility special district with \$35M in sales, 13.5K customers, and 70 employees.	
TAHOE DONNER ASSOCIATION – Truckee, CA	09/2005 – 10/2007
<b>Accounting Manager</b>	
Reported to General Manager and managed 5-person team, while coordinating audits and directing all aspects of inventory, accounting and finance for this non-profit homeowners association with \$15M revenue, 300 employees, 25K members, 7K properties, including a ski resort, golf course, tennis courts, equestrian center, marina, and health club.	

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)

LE BEACH CLUB TANNING SALON – Greater Los Angeles 01/2004 – 06/2005

### Controller

Reported to President while managing 3-person staff. Led all aspects of inventory, accounting, finance for this retail and service company with seven locations in LA area with 60 employees and annual sales of \$5M.

IMPERIAL TECHNOLOGY, INC. – El Segundo, CA 04/1990 – 12/2003

### Controller

Reported to President while managing 4-person staff. Led all aspects accounting, inventory management, tax returns, lender relationships, shareholder presentations, audit coordination, financial planning, and budgets for this solid-state disk drive manufacturer with 60 employees and \$15M annual revenue.

HILTON HOTELS CORPORATION – Los Angeles, CA 06/1983 – 03/1990

**Comptroller** – Hilton Pasadena 1989 – 1990

**Assistant Comptroller** – Hilton Los Angeles Airport 1987 – 1989

**Senior Accountant** – Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista 1985 – 1987

**Staff Accountant** – Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista 1984 – 1985

**Night Auditor** – Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista 1983 – 1984

## COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM

Lennox St. Margaret Center | Truckee Sales Tax Oversight Committee | Truckee Concern for the Poor Committee  
Avalon Rotary | Truckee Family Resource Center Treasurer | Truckee Paid Parking Committee  
Truckee Hospital District Ethnic Disparities Strategy Group