

PAUL FURNESS

Professional summary:

Dynamic, driven Business Systems/ Finance professional with a logical and strategic approach. 20 years' of senior management experience in Finance, and a further 10 years' experience of systems integration, development, and project/ programme management.

Proven leader with a reputation for problem solving and delivery. Honest, with excellent planning, and communication skills. Collaborative team player, with a "can do" attitude. Focused on systems/process change, driving efficiencies to customers whilst maintaining strong stakeholder and supplier management.

Depth of knowledge working in Financial Services, and Construction industries.

Work history:

Brown & Carroll (London) Limited

July-2019 – Current

Business Systems Director

- Managing day to day functions of Finance, Payroll, IT, Human Resources and Procurement.
- Directing organisational change based on risk and strategic priorities
- Project delivery, process reengineering, regulatory compliance (inc IR35, Right to work, CIS, DRVat) and process change.
- Application of systems design, governance and quality assurance.
- Maintaining strong stakeholder and supplier management.
- Strategic approach, driving for accountability.

Business Systems Change Consulting Ltd (U.K.)

July 2017 – August 2019

Director (Consultant)

- Stakeholder and supplier management. Business transformation, specialising in application development and delivery (SDLC).
- Project and programme management, process reengineering, offshoring and outsourcing via contract negotiation.
- Application of systems design, governance and quality assurance.
- Using combination of agile and waterfall technic's, directing scrums on priorities and project delivery.
- Logical and strategic approach, driving efficiency, and problem solving.

Contact:

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📍 Sevenoaks, Kent, U.K.

Skills:

- Finance delivery and strategy
- Systems design and process reengineering
- Governance, compliance and risk
- Communication strategy
- Change management
- Team management
- Process change

Education:

- Student member of Charter Institute of Certified Accountants
- PRINCE2
- HNC Business Studies
- Programming PASCAL
- ONC Computer Technology
- 8*GCSEs

Other:

Full clean U.K. driving licence

Interests: DIY, Photography, Gardening
Gym and Travel

Sungard/ Fidelity Information Systems (U.K./ U.S./ France)

July 2011 – July 2017

Financial Systems Director

- Accountable for systems architecture, strategy and planning of the SAP/Sun(Infor) and associated applications.
- Managed integration as result of mergers, including Workday (HR)/ Ariba (P2P)/ Oracle.
- Separation programmes (de-merger) via Transitional Service Agreements (TSA) with third parties.
- Monitor risk (inc RAID), and contingency planning. Ensuring controls (eg SOx/GDPR) over global processes.
- Managed a global team providing direction, coaching, annual reviews, and performance management.
- Supplier management, including contract negotiations, and on/off shoring opportunities.
- Programme management of Contract to Cash (C2C [AR])/ Revenue Recognition solutions.

Axa Group (U.K./ Germany/ France/ Portugal)

July 2006 – June 2011

Head of Finance Systems and Projects (expanded role)

- UK business lead for the European transformation project. Implementation of SAP Financials [FICO], providing cost efficiencies, and timely/accurate financial reporting. Target operating model to align with corporate strategy.
- Chair of the UK Change, Project Steering Committee, Strategic and Architectural boards.
- Management of SAP, finance End User Computing (EUC), Business Database modelling tools (Essbase, SQL and ABM), Actuarial modelling (SAS), and Service Delivery teams.
- Develop solutions using System Development Lifecycle (SDLC). Implementation of controls, testing, documentation, and procedures. Ensuring industry standards (eg DPA, FCA/FSA and audit).
- Driving continual improvement in performance for systems and processes. Manage relationships with customers and suppliers, via Service Level Agreements (SLA's).
- Provided direction to teams across multiple sites (32 FTE) to achieve personal, team and corporate objectives.

Barclays Group plc, UK Retail Banking (London, U.K.)

October 2000 – July 2006

Head of Finance Retail Banking Network and Financial Planning (UK Retail Bank)

- Responsible for operational cost (£0.7bn) providing strategic scenarios to drive business performance (KPI's).
- Ensured necessary controls were in place (inc SOx) enabling attestation to the accuracy of data.
- Consolidated Budget, Forecast, Risks and Opportunities for management/ statutory structures.
- Produced Management Accounts (Income £1bn, Cost £0.5bn), ensuring process, accountability and delivery.
- Managed integration project to transfer operational/ financial responsibility of Woolwich Bank functional areas into the Barclays Group. This resulted in synergistic benefits £0.5bn.

Financial Controller & Project Manager (SAP)

- Business representative for SAP R3/BW (FICO) implementation. Configuration (SAP R3/ECC6) .
- Projects - Integration between Insurance and Personal loans systems, KYC, and COA standardisation.
- Business support, including capital adequacy, cost benefit analysis (CBA), and cash-flow management.
- Responsible for AP/AR/Reconciliation and Analysis teams.
- Reporting interest and fee income, and developed Branch, Product and Surveyor's profitability systems.

SYSTEMS / APPLICATIONS

SAP Financial & Management Accounts Reporting (FI)

SAP Business Warehouse (BW)

Oracle Express

Microsoft Office (Inc Project/Planner)

HP Application Lifecycle Management

Master Data Management (MDM)

SAP Cost Management & Controlling (CO)

SAP Basics of Report Painter/Writer

Microsoft suite (inc Excel, WORD, Project)

Photoshop CS6

Kanban