

New Paths to CPA Proposed to Alleviate Accountant Shortage

Deloitte has joined KPMG in endorsing a proposed change in CPA licensure requirements allowing candidates to replace a fifth year of school with work experience. Companies, accounting firms, professional groups, and state accounting boards have been looking for ways to make the profession more appealing to students, as fewer students graduate with an accounting degree and more workers quit for higher paying, less stressful jobs. Many prospective accountants say they are daunted by the barrier to entry, including 150 college credit hours, which requires a Master's degree or additional college credits after a Bachelor's degree, to become a Certified Public Accountant.

Corporate Tax Departments: Mergers & Acquisitions

- Atlanta packaging industry leader Westrock merged with European competitor Smurfit Kappa to create a new corporation called Smurfit Westrock (NYSE: SW), based in Dublin, Ireland.
- Another European packaging company, DS Smith, based in London with U.S. headquarters in Atlanta, received shareholder approval to be acquired by International Paper of Memphis.
- Tampa-based Masonite International, a leading designer, manufacturer and distributor of interior and exterior doors, was acquired by Toledo-based Owens Corning for \$3.9 billion.
- Orlando-based Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, a 97-year-old upscale chain with over 100 units, was acquired by Darden Restaurants, also based in Orlando, which added Ruth's Chris to its portfolio of Olive Garden, Longhorn, Capital Grille, Bahama Breeze, Chuy's and Seasons 52.
- Atlanta-based NCR Corporation completed its split into two separate NYSE companies, one for its ATM business and another for its software, consulting and technology businesses. The ATM division, branded as NCR Atleos (NYSE: NATL) has a tax team led by VP Vladimir Samoylenko; the services company, NCR Voyix (NYSE: VYX) is managed by Tax VP Rich McKenzie.

Executive Tax Appointments in the Southeast Region:

The Weather Channel in Atlanta, a subsidiary of Allen Media Group, appointed Rita Wood as Senior Director, Tax; she came from Baby Einstein Videos ... Dentsply Sirona (dental supplies) in Charlotte hired Mir Nugmanov as International Tax Leader; from Jeld-Wen (windows and doors) ... Atlanta-based Wayne-Sanderson Farms (poultry processor) named Leslie Wright as Director of Tax Accounting; she previously worked for Inspire Brands (parent of Arby's, Dunkin') ... Ryder Systems in Miami appointed Trevor Hewlett as VP of Tax; he had been with Masonite ... United Parcel Service (UPS) in Atlanta hired Kim Truong as Director, Tax and Reporting; she came from Mohawk Industries (floor covering) ... Huntsville-based Adtran Telecommunications appointed Wontae Shin as Global Head of Tax; he had been at Icahn Automotive (Pep Boys) ... Cortland Partners (apartment developer) in Atlanta named Jeesun Kim Tax Director; came from Altisource (mortgage servicing) ... Deriva Energy in Charlotte named Ananya Chatterjee to Director-Tax; from PwC ... J.M. Huber (engineered materials) in Atlanta named Judson Bryant Senior Tax Director; was at Voya ... Acuity Brands (lighting manufacturer) in Atlanta hired Elisabeth Goodwin as VP/Tax Director; she was recruited from BDO ... King & Spalding, global law firm based in Atlanta, named Amelia Freeman as the firm's Tax Compliance Leader; was at GreenSky Financial ... Charlotte-based 3D Systems (printing technology) hired Deb Moeller as VP Tax; she came from Driven Brands ... she was replaced at Driven Brands (Midas and MAACO) by Jonathan Bruss, who was formerly with HP and DXC ... Mauser (container maker) in Atlanta named Eric Fratter Tax VP; he had held tax leadership roles at Pulte Homes and Westrock ... RXO (trucking) in Charlotte, a spin-off from XPO Logistics, hired Carolyn Johnson as Senior Tax Director; came from Sonic Automotive (car dealerships) ... DS Smith (paper & packaging) in Atlanta announced Eric Gullison as its Tax Director; he was recruited from Sharecare ... Tupperware in Orlando appointed Stephen Szucs as VP of Tax, after he had finished wrapping up the tax functions for Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, following its acquisition by Darden Group.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Paul Arens, Tax Recruiting Director

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770-845-0870 Call until 9pm