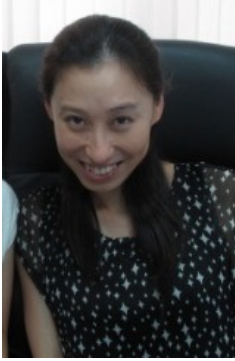


Employer in spotlight

AAT qualification keeps you ready for changes



Name: Jane Jim
Title: Finance manager
Company: R-Pac (Hong Kong) Limited

Accounting is an ever-changing profession. Jane Jim, finance manager of R-Pac (Hong Kong) Limited, talks about how important it is for accounting professionals to pursue further education and update their technical know-how, so as to adapt themselves to the changing needs of employers and the market.

Give us a brief introduction to your company. How does its structure relate to your accounting needs?

R-Pac (Hong Kong) Limited is one of the regional offices of a group with its headquarters in the US. The Hong Kong office has been running for over ten years, and mainly deals with trading of all kinds of packaging and trims for garments and accessories. Our main markets are in China, Europe and Central & South America. More recently we have shifted our role to become a manufacturer producing RFID (radio-frequency identification) and security labels.

When R-Pac was still a trading company, our accounting procedures were quite simple and straightforward. But in manufacturing industry, the accounting process is more diverse and complex and involves a variety of cost units, every one of which affects our financial and management decision making.

How long has Sally Yan been working with you? What qualities of hers impress you?

Sally has been working in R-Pac for about four years. I think she is a very meticulous person and the quality of her thought processes shows itself in her work. She is systematic, and she follows the company's instructions and policies to the letter.



How do you feel Sally performs in applying technical knowledge at work?

Sally handles the company's accounts and the task of providing accounting service to the company with great finesse. Her own considerable work experience coupled with the extra knowledge she has gained from taking the AAT Examination help her in bringing updated and useful accounting knowledge to her daily work.

What do you think of the AAT qualification and its benefits for accounting personnel?

AAT is a qualification designed for those who aspire to expand their career potential in accounting. The examination also provides an excellent bridge for accounting personnel who do not possess an accounting degree but who aim to ultimately obtain the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) qualification: the AAT qualification can serve as an important first step here.

Continuous professional education is an integral part of life for accounting professionals. It helps accounting personnel in performing daily tasks and assignments more efficiently. For instance, since Sally has completed the AAT Examination, she has demonstrated her ability in handling and analyzing financial reports – reports which have become more complicated as the business expands.

As an employer, what qualities do you look for in accounting personnel?

I hold qualities such as honesty and integrity of an employee in high regard. Technical knowledge and skills can always be improved through continuous education or training. But attitudes and qualities such as hard-working, honest and having an upright character are inherent. I therefore value these personal qualities highly when hiring new staff, while technical knowledge is the basic requirement that they should possess.

What in your opinion are the future opportunities for Sally?

Continued professional education is always an integral part of any accounting professional's career. In order to adapt to new accounting standards and the ever-changing economic environment, anyone interested in the accounting profession must be prepared to constantly update themselves through studying and by taking examinations. As Sally continues to develop her skills and experience over time, she will gradually be trusted to shoulder a wider range of responsibilities, and could be further promoted in the accounting profession, leading to a brighter future career.

