



Feature interview
By Zoë Byron

Route to success with QP

Name: Chris Lau
Position: Assistant Finance Manager
Company: Win Hanverky Holdings Limited

When and why did you decide to pursue a career as an accountant?

I became interested in accounting when I was studying at the secondary school. I enjoyed applying logical thinking in everyday life, such as analysing companies, their potential risks and ways to improve their business. I therefore decided to major in accounting at the City University of Hong Kong. I felt that a career in accounting could be very rewarding as I could help the companies to turnaround their businesses.



What experience did you gain in your previous job?

My first job was at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and my second employment was with Amoy Food (HK) Ltd.. The most valuable experience I gained at PwC was the opportunity to work with listed clients. I was exposed to varied areas such as compliance and internal control. As I had to deal with different levels of people at these big companies, both my technical and interpersonal skills were greatly enhanced. My next job was at Amoy Food (HK) Ltd. as the Assistant Business Planning Manager. In that capacity, I had to take up more responsibilities and to work independently, which enabled me to develop my experience and skills further.

How did you hear about QP?

I heard about QP while I was at university. The Hong Kong Institute of CPAs organized talks and exhibitions on campus and we were provided with detailed information about the programme.

What made you decide to enrol in QP?

I decided to enrol in QP as I found it a very comprehensive and practical programme. It covered training of both technical and generic skills, which I believed were essential for my career development in the accountancy profession.



What parts of QP did you find the most interesting or useful?

I found the workshops most useful. In each workshop, we were encouraged to think creatively, and to discuss and share views with other QP students. Through this interactive way of learning, our knowledge and skills were effectively reinforced. Another useful element of QP was the study materials - the candidate learning packs. They were tailor made and updated frequently, providing us with the most current standards and guidelines in the areas of financial reporting, auditing and taxation.

How did you find your current job with Win Hanverky Holdings Limited?

Win Hanverky Holdings Limited is a sportswear manufacturer and distributor. My current duties include financial reporting and accounts monitoring of its subsidiaries. I enjoy my current job and learn a lot from it. I find it very challenging and good for my professional development.

What skills do you use from QP in this job?

One of my job duties is financial reporting and QP helps me to apply the most up-to-date standards in my accounting work. Besides, QP has also enhanced my technical skills to enable me to perform competently in areas like taxation and compliance.

Where do you see your career going next?

I will probably stay with the company for the next two or three years to enrich my work experience. I hope that one day I will be a financial controller of a listed company where I could contribute and participate in the running of a successful business.

Have you got any advice for QP students?

I would recommend that QP students study the CLP thoroughly, as the information provided is very useful. Once they have a good understanding of the materials, they should have the success ingredients to excel in the examinations.