CURRICULUM VITAE

Gary John Thornton MA FCA

E: gary@druidsplace.com
T: 01424 892093
M: 07834 307746

Professional

September 2011 – present **Milltrust International Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd**
Chief Operating Officer

- Appointed to a global investment organisation which focuses exclusively on providing investment management expertise in both traditional and alternative investments across Emerging Markets.

  Milltrust delivers the industry's first dedicated Emerging Markets Managed Accounts Platform offering investor access to the developing world through carefully selected, transparent and cost-effective managed accounts with an initial focus on Asia, Africa and Latin America. Milltrust has a specific focus on agriculture, transport, energy, infrastructure, healthcare and retail.

September 2011 – present **The Lakes Distillery Company Limited**
Finance Director

- Appointed to a company established to produce whisky in Cumbria, combining industrial production with visitors' centre, café and retail outlet.

March 2011 – present **Druids Place Ltd**
Managing Director

- Established financial consultancy business providing interim, project-based or part-time support to FD level for owner-managed and emerging businesses

Jan 2010 – March 2011 **Close Asset Management**
Finance Director – Global Institutional Business

- Managed impact of acquisition of Fortune Group by Close, including office relocation and logistics, staff and system integration, client communications, regulatory approvals
- Provided operational input and detailed financial budgets for institutional business plan, liaising with group FD on specific issues

Dec 2000 – Sep 2010 **Fortune Group**
Chief Financial Officer

Offices held
- Served as CFO and executive director for Fortune Group companies: Fortune Asset Management Limited (hedge fund of funds manager) and Global Fund Analysis Limited (hedge fund advisor)
- Director of two Fortune-managed Cayman fund companies
- Non-executive Director of Lumen Global Advisors (Cayman hedge fund)
- Managing member of US (Delaware) LLC

Responsibilities
- Worked closely with CEO to assist in corporate development and provide financial and legal support to existing and proposed activities

- Supervision of and responsibility for all financial, compliance, legal, operational and regulatory functions

- Providing detailed monthly management information to Fortune board and parent company, including rolling forecasts (revenue, cash flow, and regulatory capital), variance analysis, operational risk reports, client and AUM data, breaches and errors

- Preparing detailed budgets (three-five year) with commentary for approval by board and parent company

- Supervising finance department – reviewing income and payments, bank reconciliations, journals, payroll, management accounts, dispute resolution

- Preparing and/or reviewing FSA and SEC regulatory reports, liaising with FSA / SEC on general and specific issues

- Managing operational function for up to 15 sub-funds and funds-of-funds, including investor relations, liaison with administrator and custodian, arranging portfolio purchases and sales, foreign currency hedging, reviewing and approving portfolio reconciliations and NAV calculations, investor reporting

- Assessing and recommending appointments of third party service providers, including auditors, insurers, administrators, custodians, banks, brokers and monitoring performance of all third party functions

- Preparing financial statements and liaising with auditors on UK GAAP and IFRS compliant accounting and auditing issues

- Reporting to four independent directors on Cayman boards as representative of the investment manager. Responsible for organising board meetings, providing agenda and documentation, minutes, resolutions, generally ensuring the board has sufficient information to fulfil its fiduciary duties

- Drafting all legal documentation (client advisory and management contracts, investment fund prospectuses and supplements, employment contracts, third party marketing agreements, corporate resolutions, investor communications) and liaising with external counsel on final versions

- Writing and updating operational and firm-wide compliance manuals, performing operational compliance reviews (following standards set down by parent company and AIMA) and reporting to parent company's compliance officer and boards as appropriate. Communicating compliance issues and developments to staff

- Oversight of IT design and function in respect of system security and integrity

1995 – Dec 2000 **HW Fisher & Company**

Training and Technical Manager

- Audit manager for a number of FSA-regulated and pension fund clients, as well as a large commodity trader, chemical, paper product and wine importers and insurance underwriter. Project work for corporate finance department analysing potential acquisition
- Developed charity and pension scheme financial statements reporting templates for external software developer
- Responsible for graduate recruitment and trainee development, reporting directly to training partner
- Developing, writing and delivering detailed in-house student training programme
- Providing technical assistance and opinion at all levels
- Liaising with external consultants on design and implementation of firm-wide change management programme

1990 – 1995 **Moore Stephens**
Training and Technical Supervisor (1993 – 1995)
Graduate Trainee to Audit Senior (1990 – 1993)

- Responsible for graduate recruitment and trainee development, reporting directly to training partner
- Developing, writing and delivering detailed in-house student training programme
- Developing, writing and delivering in-house and to associated firms (i) student training programme (ii) technical developments and updates to all levels (including partner) (iii) IT training for all levels, including Excel, accounting and tax software
- Providing technical assistance and opinion at all levels (including partner)
- Throughout training and qualification period exposed to wide range of clients, including solicitors, schools, shipping (brokers and charterers), financial services, antiques, manufacturing, and service charge audits. Six month secondment to insolvency department, project leading on book debt receiverships and liquidations

---

Education and Qualifications

FCA

Qualified ACA 2003

Trinity Hall, Cambridge **1987 - 1990**
MA in Modern & Mediaeval Languages (French & German) and History of Art

Languages
German (fluent); French (very good). Currently studying Modern Arabic

---

References

Available on request