



INFOCOMM @ ICPAS

keeping the finance professionals competent in this fast-changing world

Established in 1963, Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Singapore (ICPAS) is the national accountancy body that develops, supports and enhances the integrity, status and interests of the profession. ICPAS is the largest professional body in Singapore. The Continuing Professional Education (CPE) is the Training and Professional Development division of ICPAS. ICPAS CPE offers a wide variety of programs, including Infocomm-related courses.

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Christopher Leong, Managing Partner of Chris Consulting,

Christopher Leong is Managing Partner of Chris Consulting, an award winning executive search firm committed to performance, quality, discretion and a consistent record of successful placements. With more than 15 years of executive search experience, Christopher has completed numerous searches for senior management, directors and regional heads for the world's leading financial services companies in Asia and the Middle East.

INDUSTRY LEADERS

What is the one trait which you think has led to your career success?

Adaptability. Technology is ever improving. Market conditions are ever changing. The clients and candidates I meet every day are also different. Human resource is a job that is never monotonous. So being able to adapt to all these changes and challenges daily indeed requires skill, an open mind and sound judgement.

What do you like most about your job?

Meeting people from various backgrounds, at all levels, from all cultures. The ability to connect, understand the clients' needs and then identifying the candidates abilities and marrying these together, is really fulfilling.

Best career advice you've ever received?

Give yourself a chance. Believe in yourself. You never know the outcome until you have tried it. If it works out well, go for it. If it fails, never mind. Drop it and try something else. A man is not finished when he is defeated. He is finished when he quits. - Richard Nixon

How can employees make a lasting impression on you at work?

Employees who are dedicated and responsible. Those with the "Can-Do" attitude will definitely add value and contribute to the growth of the organization. Someone who is reliable, able to deliver results and can be trusted to get things done. An employee who expects to be spoon fed is a turn-off.

What do you look for in young leaders?

Leaders must be people with the right attitude and integrity. Someone who is also proactive and self-motivated to go and accomplish things and to do things. They must have the drive, big dreams and able to command respect from their followers.

How do you draw the best out of people?

Identify their strengths and weaknesses, then give them the opportunities. Let them have the empowerment to make decisions. Develop them further when they show keen interest to learn and excel.

What is the biggest business challenge you see in your industry now?

Hiring in many industries have slowed down considerably this year due to the global economic conditions. So it is really being able to ride through this economic crisis. And as all SMEs face, it is the challenge to attract and retain good people.

About Chris Consulting:

Chris Consulting is a leader in executive recruitment, offering established search firm capabilities with boutique firm industry specialization, flexibility and ability to respond expeditiously and with spot-on accuracy. Founded in 2003 and re-branded in 2009, Chris Consulting specialises in the following areas: accountancy and finance, banking, operations, legal, human resources, information technology, sales & marketing, supply chain, procurement & logistics.