Product Owner – Assurance Analytics

The Product Owner is accountable for ensuring delivery of software and content that creates meaningful value to users. The Product Owner has a shared responsibility to champion the investment into creating Products that delight customers, and ensuring Products are created in the most optimal way.

Job Title

Product Owner – Assurance Analytics

Reason for Vacancy

New position

Reporting to:

Direct Line Manager: Product Manager – Assurance

This individual works closely with respective Product/Content Managers, the Product Executive and other members of the business.

Main purpose of this position

The Product Owner is the bridge between business and product development teams. The Product Owner works closely with the Assurance Product Manager to understand the vision and requirements for the product, and develops the necessary agile oriented artefacts and software to ensure that these are met. A technical background in software development or accounting/auditing, is a prerequisite. A major focus is an understanding of data analytics and CAATs, the assurance industry, world-class user experiences, detailed client-collaboration and the ability to lead and deliver.

Key Deliverables and Weighting

- Research and development on the latest data analytical tools and methodologies.
- Management of the Assurance Analytics Software Product backlog to align with the business strategy and product roadmap.
- Documentation and development of Computer Assisted Audit Tools (CAATs) in data analytical software. This does not require coding skills.
- Delivery of working content using an agile approach in close conjunction with the Content Manager.
- Ownership and delivery of high-quality software product(s) using agile best practices of the Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe).
- Training to internal staff on data analytics such as Sales, Marketing, Consulting, Support, etc.
- Collaboration and Assistance with Support, Consulting and Training teams on data analysis related calls and questions.
- A continuous learning and incremental approach to personal development.

Management Level and Details of the Management Component of this role

This role will not manage direct reports but will collaborate and work closely with cross-functional teams.

Technical Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- An ability to address compliance issues in new, efficient and innovative ways using data analytics and presenting information in an understandable format.
- A passion and curiosity for understanding, using and combining financial datasets to create new insights and presenting results in a clear and concise manner.
- A technical inclination to understand how software works "under the hood" and how capabilities can be expanded and changed to drive desired business outcomes, especially by taking a data-driven approach.
- An understanding and ability to think strategically about client compliance needs by understanding client business operations and key risks and how data analytics can be used to surface those.
- Above average technical accounting ability (International Standards of Auditing, IFRS, IFRS for SME's, Companies Act, etc.) is highly desirable.
- Existing experience of using CaseWare Probe, Audit International, IDEA or equivalent assurance software and/or data analytics packages will be a plus.
- Excellent all-round communicator.
- Knowledge and exposure to working in an agile manner would be advantageous, but not essential.
- Ability to deal with a highly pressurised and constantly changing environment.

Behavioral / Soft Competencies, Skills and Abilities

- Strong focus on the value of delivery on commitments.
- Strong need for excellence and self-improvement – driving a continual growth in skills, learning new tools and techniques to manage both self and team.
- Maintaining the highest technical and professional standards.
- A high energy and results-focused "can do" attitude.
- Ability to take initiative and being proactive in driving appropriate outcomes.
- Strong organizational skills – self organized and helping to organize others.
- Diligent work ethic and a constructive, outcome-driven work approach.
- Strong interpersonal skills, problem solving and attention to detail.
- Assertive – must be able to ensure CaseWare values, concepts and principles are adhered to. Must be able to be a voice of reason and authority.
- Conflict resolution – must be able to facilitate discussion and facilitate alternatives or different approaches.
- Attitude of transparency – must desire to bring disclosure and transparency to the business about development and growing business trust.
- A strong personality – able to challenge the status quo and manage a complex environment with numerous and various stakeholders.
- Self-starter and a quick learner - capable of setting priorities and remaining efficient while multi-tasking.

Computer skills And knowledge

- Exceptional technical and data-analysis skills, with a demonstrated passion for technology.
- Good working knowledge and interest in Cloud-based software.
- Ideally, previous experience in the development and / or customization/configuration of assurance software.
- Previous usage and exposure to assurance software and systems will be a big plus.
- Experience with the below tools is not essential, but would be advantageous:
  - Jira
  - Confluence
  - Aha!
  - Slack/Teams

Details of Experience:

Essential requirements:
- 2 years' Experience in using data analytical software/databases such as IDEA, Arbutus, ACL, SQL etc.
- 2 years' experience as an Audit Manager or Audit Senior with audit experience and good knowledge of ISAs.

Desirable requirements:
- Experience working in cross-functional teams.
- 2 years' experience with CaseWare Working Papers, Probe Audit, Audit International or equivalent software.

Education and Qualification

Essential requirements:
- Post-graduate degree in Accounting Science (CTA) or equivalent

Desirable requirements:
- Chartered Accountant – CA(SA)
- CISA or CIA qualification

Working Environment & Travel

High paced environment working with dynamic professionals. Travelling for frequent and occasional client visits will be required.

Working Hours

CaseWare Standard hours, with the option of flexible working hours, as arranged with line manager and the team.

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact: Mandy Barret mandy.barret@adaptit.com

What will make the incumbent successful in this role?

A passion for problem solving, creating great software that helps users be more successful, building the analytical assurance capabilities of the future, coordinating teams across functions, driving transparent communication and delivering successful outcomes.

Equity Statement

We are committed to employment equity in our recruitment process. It is our company policy to promote within where ever possible. Therefore, priority will be given to our internal applicants if this enables us to achieve our Equity goals.