

Job Title: Cost Accountant

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

Reports to: Finance Manager

Company Overview: Solar-Saver is a leading innovator in the renewable energy sector, specializing in Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). Our mission is to drive the transition to sustainable energy through cutting-edge technology and exceptional customer service. We are seeking a diligent and experienced Cost Accountant to join our Finance team in Johannesburg, ensuring the highest standards of financial management and cost control.

Position Summary: The Cost Accountant will be responsible for managing and analyzing the costs associated with our Solar PV and BESS projects. This role involves cost estimation, budget management, financial analysis, and reporting. The ideal candidate will have strong analytical skills, a keen eye for detail, and experience in cost accounting within the renewable energy or construction sectors.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Cost Management:

- Develop and implement cost accounting systems and procedures.
- Analyze project costs and prepare detailed cost reports.
- Monitor and control project budgets to ensure financial efficiency and adherence to cost targets.
- Conduct variance analysis to compare budgeted costs to actual costs and investigate discrepancies.
- Management of the inventory valuation process including inventory reporting (eg key inventory items, ratios & days)

2. Budgeting and Forecasting:

- Assist in the preparation of annual budgets and financial forecasts.
- Provide detailed cost estimates for new projects and initiatives.
- Collaborate with project managers to develop accurate and realistic budgets.

3. Financial Analysis:

- Perform financial analysis to support decision-making and strategic planning.
- Analyze financial performance and provide insights into cost-saving opportunities.
- Prepare and present financial reports to senior management.
- Management of the WIP balances on an ongoing basis and ensuring the appropriate valuation and completeness of the WIP balances at month/reporting end.
- Preparation of Inventory and WIP reports for the monthly management accounts.

4. Reporting:

- Prepare regular financial reports, including cost reports and budget analyses.
- Ensure accurate and timely reporting of financial information.
- Maintain detailed records of all financial transactions and ensure compliance with accounting standards.
- Management of the inventory valuation process including inventory reporting (eg key inventory items, ratios & days)
- Working with the warehouse team to ensure appropriate stock count procedures are followed, input stock count results, follow up on variances and ensure the balance per the financial reporting system is recorded following the count (final sign off and responsibility of the valuation (PxQ) will lie with them)

5. Cost Control:

- Identify areas for cost reduction and implement cost-saving initiatives.
- Monitor and evaluate cost trends and provide recommendations for cost control measures.
- Ensure compliance with company policies and procedures related to cost management.
- Preparation of the budget recon (ops vs accounts vs budget) at project completion, following up on variances, running post project reviews, communicating key insights from the project review to finance and operational team heads.

6. Compliance and Auditing:

- Ensure compliance with local financial regulations and accounting standards.
- Assist with internal and external audits, providing necessary documentation and explanations.
- Maintain accurate and organized financial records for audit purposes.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, or a related field.
- Professional accounting qualification (e.g., CIMA, ACCA, CA) is preferred.
- Minimum of 3-5 years of experience in cost accounting, preferably within the renewable energy or construction sectors.
- Strong knowledge of accounting principles and financial analysis.
- Proficiency in using accounting software and Microsoft Office Suite, particularly Excel.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Strong attention to detail and organizational skills.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.



Skills and Competencies:

- Detail-oriented with strong analytical and numerical skills.
- Ability to interpret and analyze financial data.
- Strong organizational and time management skills.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and prioritize effectively.

Application Process: Interested candidates are invited to submit their resume and a cover letter outlining their qualifications and experience to careers@solar-saver.net.