Case study: Group Chief Data Officer, Maersk

Harvey Nash appointed a Group Chief Data Officer to provide the global vision and strategy for all data management and exploitation activities across this business spanning 130 countries.



The challenge

A.P. Moller – Maersk is the global leader in shipping services operating across 130 countries and employing c. 88,000. An integrated container logistics company, Maersk aims to connect and simplify its customers' supply chains.

Whilst logistics companies are very much rooted in the physical world, Maersk recognised the key to its expansion and growth lay in the digital world, especially around its use of data and Internet of Things. They needed to appoint a Chief Data Officer (CDO) who could realise this potential, working with a diverse set of senior stakeholders and customers across the Maersk Group's multiple brands and operations. In addition, the role involved leading a large, globally dispersed, team and acting as the custodian and champion for global data management, governance, quality and vendor relationships.

How Harvey Nash helped

Harvey Nash were tasked with identifying a global CDO who would be considered world class in their international peer group. In particular Maersk wanted the candidate shortlist to be rich in diversity.

Harvey Nash used its extensive global network, include working with networks developed through our CIO Survey events, Inclusion networks and Tech leadership communities, to engage with the top 20% of leaders across the market. This was supplemented by international advertising and targeted use of social media and personal connections.

To meet Maersk's exacting cultural and person requirements, shortlisted candidates underwent extensive interviewing as well as a full Hogan Psychometric.

The result

Maersk appointed a female Group CDO who came from the Ford Motor Company in the US. The appointed candidate relocated herself and her family over from California to Copenhagen, so it was a complete life— as well as career— change for her. Maersk was delighted with the result and equally pleased to be able to appoint a senior female candidate into the Group's global executive team. The CDO is currently in post driving a global data strategy, maximising the commercial and customer return.

Find out more

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"Harvey Nash stood above other suppliers due to their proactive approach to diversity. We have been pleased with the collaborative nature of the partnership and feel they have really understood what behaviours and attitudes it takes for prospective employees to fit excellently into Maersk's culture." Jaafar El Ahmar, Head of HR, IT & Finance, A.P.

Moller – Maersk.

Harvey Nash.