

Tax Hiring Newsletter

Researched and Published by:

Southeast TAX Connection
Specialized Recruiting Consultants

770-845-0870
southeasttaxconnection.com

- Direct Hire Placement
- Temporary Staffing
- Project Consulting

WestRock Expands Tax Department Following Merger, Relocates Atlanta HQ

WestRock, the global paper and packaging company that resulted from the merger of Atlanta's Rock-Tenn Co. and Richmond-based MeadWestvaco, continues to hire tax professionals at its headquarters in Atlanta. Only one member of MeadWestvaco's Tax Department relocated from Richmond to Atlanta. The acquisition of Multi-Packaging Solutions resulted in another tax executive moving to Atlanta from Michigan. All other tax professionals hired to build up the 45-person Tax Department were recruited locally in Atlanta.

The company completed the relocation of its headquarters with 800 employees from an industrial location in the Atlanta suburb of Norcross to occupy seven floors of NorthPark Town Center, a Class-A office complex in Sandy Springs, a suburb closer to Atlanta. "This office will provide additional space for growth and enable us to enhance collaboration by co-locating key functions," WestRock CEO Steve Voorhees said in a news release. "Access to MARTA [light rail] and key transportation hubs will also benefit our employees."

Coach and Kate Spade Stores Merge to form Tapestry, Inc., with a new Tax Department Established in Jacksonville

Coach handbag and accessory stores, based in New York City, announced that a portion of its distribution center near the Jacksonville Airport would be converted to a Shared Services Center, to include the tax function. The VP of Tax relocated from New York to Jacksonville. While the indirect tax director continues to work remotely from New York, the remainder of the 12-person Tax Department was recruited locally in Jacksonville.

Coach completed the acquisition of Kate Spade in July 2017, which followed the 2015 purchase of upscale shoe brand Stuart Weitzman. In October 2017, Coach was re-named as Tapestry, Inc. (NYSE: TPR). This new name was intended to reflect the multiple brands in the company's portfolio. Tapestry now operates over 1,000 retail stores with \$6 billion in revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018.

Largest Tax Departments in Southeast Region

1. AT&T in Dallas, San Antonio and Atlanta
2. Exxon Mobil Corporation in Houston
3. Wal-Mart Stores in Northwest Arkansas
4. Bank of America Corporation in Charlotte
5. BP plc (British Petroleum) in Houston
6. Koch Industries + Georgia-Pacific in Atlanta
7. Shell Oil Company in Houston
8. Schlumberger Ltd. Oil Services in Houston
9. Florida Power + NextEra Energy in Juno Beach
10. Cox Enterprises + Cox Communications in Atlanta
11. United Parcel Service (UPS) in Atlanta
12. Federal Express (FedEx) in Memphis
13. The Home Depot Stores in Atlanta
14. Kinder Morgan Pipelines in Houston
15. Dell Computers in Austin
16. Hospital Corp. of America (HCA) in Nashville
17. Wells Fargo & Company in Charlotte
18. Coca-Cola Company and Affiliates in Atlanta

Southeast Region Tax Department News

BB&T Corporation in Winston-Salem announced a merger with SunTrust, Georgia's largest bank, with a new headquarters to be established in Charlotte ... NCR Corporation completed its office tower in Midtown Atlanta, relocating its HQ from the suburb of Duluth ... HealthSouth in Birmingham is now called Encompass Health ... INC Research in Raleigh merged with InVentiv, now Syneos Health ... ARRIS in Atlanta to be acquired by CommScope ... Quintiles IMS in Durham is now known as IQVIA ... Southern Company in Atlanta completed its integration of AGL Resources, which is now called Southern Company Gas ... Healthways in Nashville is now Tivity Health ... Caraustar Industries in Atlanta was acquired by Greif ... Arby's Group combined with Buffalo Wild Wings to form Inspire Brands, based in Atlanta ... Sealed Air in Charlotte spun off its food packaging to Diversey ... Halyard Health in Atlanta now called Avanos Health ... Red Hat in Raleigh to be acquired by IBM ... Icahn Automotive Group created a new Tax Department in Atlanta for its roll-up of Pep Boys and Auto Plus.

Tax Department Hiring - by Metro Area

Dallas/Fort Worth	14.1%
Atlanta	13.4%
Houston	12.6%
Miami/South Florida	6.0%
Charlotte	4.7%
Tampa/Sarasota	4.1%
Austin	3.9%
D.C. Metro	3.4%
Nashville	3.0%
Raleigh ("The Triangle")	2.9%
Orlando	2.8%
San Antonio	2.5%
Memphis	2.2%
Jacksonville	2.0%
Richmond	1.9%
Greensboro ("The Triad")	1.7%
Norfolk/Virginia Beach	1.6%
Northwest Arkansas	1.4%