

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (COO)

Global Agricultural Asset Management – Farmland Investment

THE COMPANY:

Westchester Group of Australia (WGA) manages the investment and asset management activities in Australia for its US based parent company (which is owned by TIAA). TIAA is one of the largest global institutional investors in Agriculture, with a global portfolio of over 2 million acres.

The WGA business, based in Wagga Wagga (regional NSW), manages one of the largest institutional owned portfolios of agriculture or farmland assets in Australia, spanning across NSW, QLD, VIC and WA. During the past 10 years, this portfolio has grown by over ~ 500%, and the business has plans to continue to grow this portfolio in Australia in the next 10 years. This requires further expansion of the local management team in Australia, with the recruitment of the following key position:

THE POSITION:

This newly created executive management role will provide operational leadership of the support functions within WGA, which includes Portfolio Management, Legal & Risk, and Finance & Accounting. The COO will also oversee part of the Asset Management function including accountability for regional investment returns, capital expenditure, and operational support with regards to negotiation and management of transactions and agreements.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES:

This senior role will be jointly responsible (with the General Managers of Asset Management) for the operations of the Investment Entities (portfolios) in Australia, whilst also working closely with the CEO to implement strategy, set and monitor business goals, allowing the CEO to focus on other business initiatives in Australia.

As a proven leader the COO will be responsible for the implementation of operational plans, whilst managing and prioritising the workflow associated with a large and growing portfolio, and will oversee the day-to-day operations, systems, and practices of the business. From a corporate governance perspective, this position would be a key member of internal committees within the business.

THE REQUIREMENTS:

- Demonstrated commercial acumen, attention to detail, and analytical skills.
- Experienced negotiator with excellent interpersonal, presentation and report writing skills.
- Ability to manage cross-functional teams incorporating Finance, Risk, Legal and I.T.
- Ideally experience in product development, compliance, governance, and regulatory reporting.
- Funds Management, agriculture and/or property investment experience would be beneficial.
- Tertiary qualifications in Business, Agriculture, Accounting or Law with relevant professional accreditation including CA/CPA, CFA and/or post-graduate qualifications such as MBA, are highly regarded.

APPLICATIONS:

Please phone David Compton at Agricultural Appointments on 02 9223 9944 for a confidential discussion or submit your CV and Cover Letter to resume@agri.com.au. **Applications close 31 March 2021.**

