

**Name:**

Mariëtte Nieuwoudt

**Country:**

South Africa

**Company:**

Redsun Dried Fruit &amp; Nuts (Pty) Ltd

**Job Title:**

Compliance Officer

**What is your current role?**

I am currently working as a Compliance Officer at Redsun Dried Fruit & Nuts (Pty) Ltd, in Keimoes, Northern Cape, South Africa.

My main responsibilities include maintaining and ensuring on-going compliance of the company's food safety system; assisting with certification and supplier audits; keeping up to date with industry norms, standards together with local- and export legislation and internal and external training requirements.

**Why did you join the BRCGS Professional Programme?**

To ensure Redsun gain a competitive advantage towards improvement and maintaining of the standard and to be able to deliver the necessary trust to our customers. I also joined the Program to stay up-to-date with food safety best practices and to grow my career

**What value do you personally feel the BRCGS Professional certification brings to you?**

It also allows me to learn and grow as a Food Safety Officer and gives me the necessary confidence in knowing that I am leading REDSUN in the right direction when it comes to Food Safety.

**How has/will the recognition programme impacted your work?**

REDSUN is a BRCGS certificated site for 5 years in a row and I plan to use this knowledge to continue to improve our current food safety program.

**How did you get to your current role?**

As part of my National Diploma I complete a six-month practical assessment course which I did at Helmeringhausen Hotel and Guest Farm in Namibia. I continued working as an Assistant Manager and Front Office Manager in the hospitality industry for another 2 years. Then I took a gap year and worked as a General Manager at GLASSFIT Upington where after I got back in hospitality business as a Restaurant Manager for 5 years at The Karsten Group which is well known in the Fruit and Tree Nut Farming Industry. I got married and took an administration role at a company that supply agrochemicals and fertilizers to local grape growers. That is where I first got involved with product safety requirements. This all provided me with the experience needed to obtain the role I am in today.

**What is your educational background?**

I matriculated from Duineveld High School in 2002 were after I completed a National Diploma in Tourism & Hospitality Management during 2003 - 2005.)

**What are your career ambitions/aims?**

My goal is to build on my knowledge of product Safety through learning and networking in the industry. The BRCGS Professional Program contributes greatly towards this aim.