

# SUCCESS STORY

**BRCGS**   
**PROFESSIONAL**



Name: **Pauleze Oberholzer**

Job title: **Ceres Fruit Growers**

Country: **South Africa**

## **Tell us about your background / you / role / education / outside of work.**

I currently work at a pome fruit packhouse in South Africa, where my background and training are in Health and Safety. Upon moving into my current role, my responsibilities broadened to include BRCGS, Tesco, CoC, and other food safety standards. Although this transition brought new challenges, it ignited a strong drive to grow and further develop within the food safety field.

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

Being part of a wider community of BRCGS Professionals is incredibly meaningful. It reassures me that there are like-minded individuals who genuinely care about the products we place on the market, the safety of the consumer, and the protection of the brands we represent. This community demonstrates true commitment, as Professional status requires ongoing learning and the continuous maintenance of the Professional Progress Programme (PPP).

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

The flexibility of the programme is another key strength. The wide range of training options allows you to tailor your learning to best suit your role and experience. Auditing forms a significant part of my daily responsibilities, and I was able to complement this with additional courses that aligned closely with my professional needs.

## **How has the training helped improve operations at your site/company?**

The training provided a far better understanding of what BRCGS requires and how the clauses should be practically implemented. This deeper insight allowed us to fine-tune and strengthen our existing systems to ensure full compliance with the standard.

## **What did you most enjoy about the training?**

What I enjoyed most about the training was that, although one naturally values face-to-face interaction, the web-based format was highly engaging and interactive. Bringing professionals together from all over the world into one virtual classroom added tremendous value. It created an opportunity to learn not only from the course content, but also from other industries – gaining insight into their challenges, practical solutions, and different approaches to overcoming obstacles.

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## **What are you most looking forward to within the Professional community?**

I am particularly looking forward to attending networking events, where I can learn from the broader BRCGS community and exchange knowledge with fellow Professionals.

## **How do you plan to keep your skills up to date?**

The EdApp platform has already proven to be an excellent tool for expanding my understanding of related topics, and I have gained valuable insights from the courses I have completed so far.

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

Above all, I am passionate about applying what I have learned, educating and motivating my team, and leading by example. Together, we strive to be world-class champions in food safety excellence.