

# CONTINUED GROWTH FOR GMCG CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

GMCG practice expands through acquisition of well-known accountancy firm.



GMCG Managing Director Susan Dunlop with Michael McCarter and Bryan Friar.



The acquisition of Jackson Andrews Chartered Accountants marks another significant milestone in the evolution of GMCG Chartered Accountants. The eight Director Firm is one of Northern Ireland's leading independent accountancy firms and now boasts an employee count of over 100 across its Belfast, Lisburn and Portadown locations.

The acquisition, which took effect on 16 October 2023, is a hugely positive development for GMCG where developing the practice and growing market share remain key areas of focus for its management team.

With the acquisition of the Jackson Andrews practice, there can be very little doubt regarding the quality of what has been gained by GMCG. Jackson Andrews Chartered Accountants was created in 1970 by the merger of two local firms. The Firm and its client base continued to grow, seeing further expansion through the 1994 purchase of Magee Todd & Vaughan, an established

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Portadown practice. With this growth came a reputation for delivering quality compliance and business advisory services to clients across a range of industry sectors in Belfast and Portadown.

Commenting on the acquisition, GMCG Managing Director Susan Dunlop said:

“For quite some time, we have been considering a range of options to accelerate the growth and profile of the GMCG firm.

Jackson Andrews was a long-established practice with the reputation, service offerings and client base that we felt really suited our own business model and growth aspirations. As well as having suitable geographic

locations, the Jackson Andrews management team share many core values with the GMCG firm in relation to their ethos, their people and their commitment to delivering the highest standards of client service.”

The employees of Jackson Andrews have joined GMCG's Belfast and Portadown offices. Bryan Friar and Michael McCarter, who headed up the Jackson Andrews practice, have taken up Associate Director positions at GMCG. Explaining more about the background to the development, Bryan Friar commented:

“In recent years, Michael and I have explored a number of possible scenarios related to the future of the Jackson Andrews practice. Having met the Directors at GMCG we could immediately see the synergies between both firms, the shared ethos in relation to values and client service, and the opportunity to secure long term plans regarding the interests of our clients and employees across both locations.

Being part of GMCG Chartered

three locations. Whether it relates to compliance services or tailored expertise to help clients grow their business, GMCG continues to invest in its people and ensure clients benefit from experience and skills that are directly relevant to their unique circumstances.

Jackson Andrews' client base will also benefit from the availability of new expertise and resources from across the GMCG Group. Additional to Audit, Accounts and Taxation services, GMCG offers specialist services in the areas of Corporate Finance, Forensic Accounting & Investigation and international liaison through the Firm's membership of The International Accounting Group (TIAG®). Through TIAG, GMCG clients with international interests can access independent accounting and legal expertise across more than 70 countries worldwide.

Susan Dunlop adds: “This acquisition will bring new personnel, experience and expertise across many of our client service teams. Our people are our biggest asset and we are in no doubt that we have the right talent across all our departments to help our Firm continue to grow.

It is an exciting new era for GMCG and I look forward to working with Bryan, Michael and the team in developing new opportunities for our business, our clients and our employees.”

Accountants represents an exciting new opportunity for all of us. I have no doubt our employees will quickly adapt to their new working environments and will look forward to developing their careers with GMCG.”

As GMCG's growth continues, its commitment to delivering added value services to clients amid ongoing political and economic uncertainty remains resolute. Ensuring the management team remains accessible and available to offer clients the right advice, when they need it, has been a longstanding mantra of the GMCG practice, across all

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