PRAFFUL BHATTER

Deputy Manager, Finance & Accounts | US Accounting, Payroll & Tax | B. Com, CA Inter

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Surat, Gujarat, India
(Current Location – Vadodara, Gujarat)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Finance & Accounts professional with 3+ years of specialized experience in US accounting, multi-entity bookkeeping, payroll processing (UKG/Kronos) and US corporate tax return preparation (Intuit ProConnect). Currently run the end-to-end finance function for a portfolio of 10 affiliated US entities across trucking and logistics, towing, auto repair, real estate and payroll services — leading a multi-year books clean-up spanning FY2017–2026, inter-company reconciliation, semi-monthly payroll for 100+ employees, and preparation of 50+ entity-year federal/state corporate tax filings. Strong track record of resolving complex reconciliation backlogs, maintaining payroll and tax compliance, and training junior staff — well suited to foreign accounting, finance and payroll roles requiring US GAAP bookkeeping, multi-state payroll and tax-return exposure.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Prepared, reviewed and revised 50+ entity-year US federal/state corporate tax returns on Intuit ProConnect across 7 affiliated entities (2017–2025), including full depreciation and amortization schedules.
- Led a multi-year books clean-up (FY2017–2026) across a US portfolio of 10 entities in trucking and logistics, towing, auto repair, real estate and payroll services, reconciling bank accounts across Chase, Amex, Citibank and Wells Fargo.
- Identified and resolved receivable settlement variances of $260,000+ with major national carriers, including $180,000+ with a single carrier, spanning 2017–2025.
- Identified, reconciled and negotiated settlement of $80,000+ in historical excess payments to a wage-advance provider, covering 2017–2019.
- Process semi-monthly UKG (Kronos) payroll for 100+ employees across 5 divisions, maintaining multi-state minimum-wage compliance and on-time quarterly payroll-tax closings.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- US Bookkeeping & Multi-Entity Accounting (QuickBooks)
- US Corporate Tax Return Preparation (Intuit ProConnect)
- US Payroll Processing & Compliance (UKG / Kronos)
- Multi-Year Books Clean-up & Bank Reconciliation
- Inter-Company Accounting & Reconciliation
- Depreciation & Loan Amortization Scheduling
- Accounts Receivable & Payable Management
- Multi-State Minimum Wage & Payroll Tax Compliance
- Freight Billing & Invoicing (Fleet Manager, Velocity)
- Advanced MS Excel (XLOOKUP, Power Query, Macros)
- Team Training, Mentoring & SOP Development
- US Stakeholder & Vendor Coordination

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Deputy Manager, Finance & Accounts — Jul 2023 – Present

USA Employer Services, Vadodara

Bookkeeping, Reconciliation & US Tax Compliance

- Manage end-to-end QuickBooks bookkeeping for 10 affiliated US entities across trucking and logistics, towing, payroll services, auto repair and real estate, and lead a multi-year books clean-up (FY2017–2026).
- Prepare, review and revise US federal/state corporate tax returns on Intuit ProConnect, with 50+ entity-year filings completed across 7 affiliated entities (2017–2025), including full depreciation and amortization schedules.
- Reconcile QuickBooks financial statements against previously filed tax returns to identify and correct multi-year variances, keeping books and tax filings aligned across the entity portfolio.
- Own bank reconciliation across Chase, Amex, Citibank and Wells Fargo accounts for the entity portfolio, and manage inter-company accounting — truck-lease income/expense, shared credit-card allocations and payroll cost recharges between related entities.
- Own accounts receivable reconciliation with major national carriers and brokers; identified and resolved settlement variances totalling $260,000+ across 2017–2025 (including $180,000+ with a single carrier).

Payroll, Compliance & Team Leadership

- Process semi-monthly payroll on UKG (Kronos) for 100+ employees across 5 divisions, including timesheet audits, piecework and non-piece-hours (NPH) calculations, leave-related deductions, and multi-state minimum-wage compliance (California and Los Angeles rate updates).
- Close and sign off quarterly payroll tax periods on UKG across multiple entities each quarter, and manage payroll tax-jurisdiction changes for employees relocating between states.
- Audit, index, invoice and upload freight orders on Fleet Manager and Velocity; maintain fuel-surcharge rates and carrier rate quotes, and resolve short-paid/unpaid claims directly with carrier contacts.
- Train and mentor junior accounting staff on QuickBooks reconciliation, UKG payroll processing, ProConnect tax entry and advanced Excel (PivotTables, XLOOKUP, Power Query, Solver, Macros, Dashboards); authored the team's Payroll Processing SOP.
- Coordinate directly with US-based management through daily calls and email on reconciliation status, tax filings and payroll sign-off, including IIF-based payroll-to-accounting integration between UKG and QuickBooks.

Senior Accountant — Jul 2022 – Jun 2023

Gee Impex Pvt. Ltd., Surat

- Handled TDS and GST return filing and regulatory compliance for the organization.
- Managed vendor payables, payment reconciliation and dispute resolution.
- Supported monthly accounts closing and year-end balance sheet finalization.
- Maintained internal accounting records in Tally ERP and Konto ERP and coordinated external audit deliverables.

Subject Matter Expert – Accounting (Freelance) — Feb 2021 – Feb 2023

Chegg India Pvt. Ltd.

- Wrote step-by-step solutions to accounting, auditing, costing, finance and taxation questions across US GAAP and international accounting curricula on Chegg's online academic platform.
- Broke complex accounting concepts into clear, structured methods that students could apply to similar problems.

Article Assistant — Feb 2017 – Feb 2020

Rekhani & Saraogi, Chartered Accountants, Surat

- Assisted with statutory audits, tax audits and compliance filings across a diverse client base at a mid-sized CA firm.
- Gained hands-on exposure to accounting, auditing, taxation, professional ethics and client handling.
- Conducted substantive voucher testing, internal control evaluations and draft financial statement reviews.

EDUCATION

Chartered Accountancy – CA Final (Group 2 Cleared, Group 1 Pending) — **2018 – Present**
Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

Chartered Accountancy – CA Inter — **2015 – 2018**
Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

Bachelor of Commerce (B. Com) — **2015 – 2018**
Veer Narmad South Gujarat University

Chartered Accountancy – CPT (Common Proficiency Test) — **2014 – 2015**
Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

Higher Secondary Education (CBSE) — **2012 – 2014**
Kendriya Vidyalaya

CERTIFICATIONS & TECHNICAL SKILLS

- 100-Hour Advanced Integrated Course on Information Technology (ICITSS) – ICAI – MS Office Suite, Tally and Internal Controls.

Accounting & Payroll Systems: QuickBooks | Intuit ProConnect | UKG (Kronos) | Fleet Manager | Tally ERP | Konto ERP

Productivity & Reporting Tools: MS Excel (PivotTables, XLOOKUP, Power Query, Solver, Macros) | MS Word | PowerPoint

Languages: English | Hindi | Gujarati