# TAYLOR C. SMITH

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#### **PROFILE**

Senior retail and consumer products executive with progressive and diverse leadership experience across major brands in retail (Walmart), beverages (Diageo/Phillips) and restaurants (Brinker), and public service.

- Exceptional record of enhancing long-term growth and profitability, by establishing clear strategic direction and effective partnership with manufacturers, building and motivating cross-functional teams, and enhancing operational efficiency.
- Experience across merchandising in consumables, apparel, hardlines, operational, financial, and private label brand management, including ownership of \$8 billion P&L.
- Expertise leading procurement and pricing strategies, establishing relationships with national suppliers, importers and franchised food/service organizations, and managing international franchise operations.
- Brings deep insight and the ability to create common ground for success between retailers and manufacturers.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Indian River Select, Fort Pierce, FL

2019 - Present

**Board Member** 

Phillips Distilling Company, Minneapolis, MN

<u> 2018 – Present</u>

# Customer Vice President - North America

Lead retail sales and marketing for National Accounts, Canada and Control States. Direct accountability for channel and commercial strategies, and ownership of a \$325 million P&L. Key customers include Walmart, Target, Meijer, Kroger, Safeway, Publix, Costco, Sam's and Total Wine & More.

### Innocor, Inc., Red Bank, NJ

2017 - 2018

### SVP - GM Retail

Led retail sales, marketing, product development and operations planning for Innocor Comfort, a category leading foam technology company. Direct accountability for channel, commercial and private label strategies, and ownership of a \$350 million P&L. Key customers include Amazon, Walmart, Sam's, Costco and Kohl's.

# Simpactful, LLC, San Ramon, CA

2016 - 2017

### **Senior Consultant**

Consulting with leading CPG/retail companies on commercial strategy, revenue management, organizational development, supply chain, and joint business planning. Clients included Bayer, GSK, GP, and Duracell.

## Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Bentonville, AR

2006 - 2016

World's largest retailer, with 11,700+ stores, 260 million customers, and revenues exceeding \$500 billion.

### Senior Vice President, Merchandise Operations - U.S. Merchandising

(2013 - 2016)

Led strategic direction and operational performance for U.S. Merchandise Operations, including replenishment, pricing, planning and merchandise strategic roadmap, covering 4,500 stores and multiple formats through team of 75.

- Delivered new operating structure aligned to key stakeholders in merchandising and operations for strategic and geographical business units.
- Established Activity Management Office to coordinate merchandising programs, maximizing operational efficiency and reducing labor hours at the store level.

 Developed feature management tool to drive execution and flow of strategic inventory, improving storelevel feature execution by 10% and managing space effectively.

### Vice President, Baby - U.S. Merchandising

(2010 - 2013)

Led strategic direction planning, pricing, replenishment, marketing, merchandising, e-commerce and store operations for \$8 billion baby consumables, hardlines, and apparel business. Managed a team of 25, including category directors and senior buyers, in a cross-functional, matrixed environment.

- Restructured and centralized all baby products teams and operations, transforming from negative/flat to growing in excess of 6% annually.
- Established private label category strategy, exceeding annual sales targets and growing private label by over 10%.

## Vice President, U.S. Real Estate

(2009 - 2010)

## Vice President, Business Development

(2006 - 2009)

Transformed space leasing program for the 4,500 national stores and manage \$500 million profit center/P&L. Role expanded to include the procurement and management of store build-out.

- Established long-term leasing relationships with large national suppliers, including McDonald's, Subway, and Regis Hair Salons, enhancing predictability and profitability.
- Efficiently managed \$2 billion procurement function within budget.

#### **Brinker International,** Dallas, TX

2005 - 2006

Largest global casual dining restaurant company (Chili's, Romano's, On The Border, and Maggiano's).

### Vice President, Global Markets

Managed business infrastructure for \$300 million international expansion strategy.

- Key player in achieving significant international franchise growth, delivered FYo6 growth target of 23%.
- Worked with international investors to establish franchise, including real estate, physical build-out, human resources, marketing, culinary, training, and procurement.

State of Florida, Tallahassee, FL

<u> 2003 – 2005</u>

### **Deputy Secretary, Department of Management Services**

Appointed executive for a 500-person agency, managing State policy, operations, legislative, and administrative functions for Human Resource Management, the Florida Retirement System, and the Division of State Group Insurance.

• Led consolidation of Human Resource systems for 23 agencies and seven universities, reducing workforce 15% and saving more than \$150 million annually.

#### Diageo PLC, London, England

1991 – 2003

Largest global premium wine and spirits company.

**Sales and Marketing Executive,** San Francisco, CA; Nashville, TN; Minneapolis, MN; and Miami, FL Led brand management initiatives for several lines of business and subsequently moved into a series of regional sales management/leadership positions. P&L responsibility for multimillion - dollar operations.

#### **EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**University of Chicago, Graduate School of Business,** Chicago, IL **Executive Finance Program** 

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA Bachelor of Arts