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Suzanne Ravenall

By **Martin Zhuwakinyu**  
Published 15 Aug 08 - 0 00

**Full Name:** Suzanne Ravenall

**Position:** CEO, Beyond Outsourcing

**Main Activity of the Company:** Beyond Outsourcing works with clients to transform the operational execution of their organisation in order to achieve strategic goals, through its generic scalable processes and creative organisational outsourcing solutions

**Date and Place of Birth:** August 7, 1968, Welwyn Garden City, UK

**Education:** Stratton Upper School, seven 'O' Level subjects, 1981 to 1984; Bedford College of Higher Education, business studies certificate, 1984 to 1985

**First Job:** Invoice clerk

**Career History Prior to Current Position:** Worked as an invoice clerk, personal assistant, area sales manager, national training and key accounts manager, account director, and consultant and contractor before setting up her own business,

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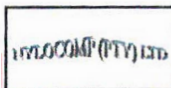
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**Beyond Outsourcing, formerly called IDCS, in 1997**

**Size of First Pay Packet:** About R1 500 a month

**First Job with Present Group:** Owner and CEO

**Value of Assets under Your Control:** R150-million

**Number of People under Your Leadership:** 300

**Management style:** Looking for the best talent, and pushing and driving that talent as hard as possible to unleash the real potential that lies beneath; mentoring

**Personal Best Achievement:** Building Beyond Outsourcing from scratch, while balancing and building a family as well as wonderful friendships

**Professional Best Achievement:** Being identified, with ten other women worldwide, as one of the Leading Women Entrepreneurs of the World in 2007

**Person Who Has Had the Biggest Influence on Your Career:** There have been many people along my journey so far who have helped to shape my thinking, life and career

**Person You Would Most Like to Meet:** Nelson Mandela

**Businessperson Who Has Impressed You Most:** My management team

**Philosophy of Life:** Do the absolute best that you can, learn from every event that happens in your life – the good and bad – and work hard at all areas of your life to become a better person

**Biggest Ever Opportunity:** Starting up Beyond Outsourcing

**Biggest Ever Disappointment:** Realising when I was very young that not everyone was as honest as I expected them to be and that they don't always have the best interests of the collective

**Hope for the Future:** That we have leaders of countries around the world who learn to make money peacefully and honestly and who run countries with the best interests of the people in mind

**Favourite Reading:** Fiction, John Grisham; spiritual, Paramahansa Yogananda; nonfiction, great business books like

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those written by Jim Collins

**Favourite TV Programme:** Boston Legal

**Favourite Food/Drink:** Thai food, any food that's spicy but healthy

**Favourite Music:** Soul, jazz

**Favourite Sport:** Formula1

**Favourite Website:** I don't have a favourite website, but love searching the Internet for information and knowledge

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**Hobbies:** Gardening, cooking and keeping fit

**Car:** Porsche 911 Carrera 4

**Pets:** Three dogs

**Miscellaneous Dislikes:** Dishonest and greedy people

**Favourite other South African Company:** Edcon and Espial Consulting

**Favourite Foreign Company:** Virgin Atlantic

**Married:** Jacques Linden

**Children:** Jenny, 12; Robert, 14; Karl, 22; Natalie, 24

**Clubs:** Young Presidents Organisation, Institute of Directors, Business Women's Association



Edited by: **Martin Zhuwakinyu**

Coupon No.: MW0139851

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