

Position: Senior Strategist

CRI Communications, headquartered in Atlanta, GA, is a growing corporate communications firm serving many Fortune 500 clients in the development of their ESG communications. Our clients represent some of the most well-known corporate names and brands in the U.S. Our core business centers around customized ESG/sustainability reports, but we are focused on growing adjacent practice areas such as ESG strategy development, materiality, ESG investor outreach (including ESG ratings and rankings) and other advisory services.

The Position & Role

We are seeking a strategic, highly experienced communications professional to join our team as a Senior Strategist. This senior role has comprehensive responsibility for providing our clients with counsel regarding all ESG disclosure practices with an emphasis on, but not limited to, reporting.

This position will “quarterback” the front-end development of annual ESG/sustainability reports by:

- Working with clients to close disclosure gaps,
- Advising clients on ESG trends,
- Providing counsel on continuous improvement for reporting and other disclosures,
- Aligning report content with ESG frameworks (GRI, SASB, TCFD, etc.),
- Developing key communication messages,
- Helping to shape the editorial architecture of reports,
- Coordinating all engagement with all internal stakeholders, such as senior leadership and subject matter experts,
- Writing or copyediting report content,
- Directing the creative approach to the report by collaborating with CRI’s graphic design team.

Beyond reporting projects, the Senior Strategist will identify and execute other ESG consulting services based on client needs. This could range from conducting a materiality assessment to developing an ESG strategy framework to helping to identify and set ESG targets/goals to advising on ESG ratings and rankings.

This position will be a key contributor to the CRI strategy team and serve as a thought leader for the firm on the rapidly evolving dynamics of corporate ESG disclosure and strategy.

The Right Person

If you are the ideal candidate, you are a passionate and effective communicator who is well versed in today's ESG landscape. You relish your talent for storytelling to transform disparate input into both compelling reports and/or motivational strategy. You have a knack for finding creative ways to craft complex and often technical themes into clear communication. You also enjoy putting on a marketing hat to help clients amplify their ESG communications.

In this client-facing role you are skilled at interacting with and providing guidance to a range of clients, from corporate communications, IR and sustainability professionals to members of senior management, including CEOs. You know how to ask intelligent, detailed questions of C-suite leadership and/or subject matter experts and identify the most relevant and compelling information they provide. You are resourceful and can devise effective solutions when faced with insufficient information or uncertain client direction. Working in conjunction with our client service team, your strong presentation skills will be used to present recommendations around disclosure and strategy.

You possess a strong working knowledge of all aspects of ESG/sustainability reporting and communications, including reporting principles, such as materiality, ESG topics and reporting frameworks, such as GRI, SASB and TCFD. You have a strong interest in staying abreast of evolving ESG trends and enjoy providing counsel to clients on these matters.

You also have a strong interest in business strategy and enjoy learning the unique dynamics of companies and their industries. You are thoughtful and articulate, with the ability to counsel clients confidently, work well in a team environment and thrive in a deadline-driven setting.

Requirements

- A passion to understand, interpret and communicate business/financial/ESG strategy
- A strategic mindset capable of shaping initiatives into an actionable course of action for clients
- Insight and creativity to develop a compelling narrative aligned with unique client needs
- 7 to 10+ years of communications experience in an agency or corporate setting
- Excellent and proven writing skills as demonstrated by previous business writing experience in a corporate or agency setting
- Strong organizational skills, with the ability to design and customize a project deliverable to meet the needs of a client
- Skilled at engaging and interviewing stakeholders as well as interacting with clients at all levels, including C-suite executives

- Comfortable with deadlines and fast turnaround assignments, and with managing projects that extend over many months
- General knowledge of business strategy, financial reporting and/or ESG topics (climate change, environmental strategy, workforce diversity, labor rights, ethics, governance, etc.)
- Previous experience with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and/or Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) and other sustainability disclosures extremely helpful
- Client-focused with a passion to exceed expectations
- Team-oriented, with the ability to work both collaboratively and independently in a fast-paced agency setting.

This is a full-time position with attractive benefits. While the majority of CRI's team works out of Atlanta, we also have full-time staff who work remotely throughout the country. Depending on current pandemic guidelines and dynamics, you will be expected to travel periodically to Atlanta as well as to client meetings around the country.

Candidates should provide a resume and at least three relevant samples of work.

###