# Ben Swartz benrswartz@hotmail.com +447766546995

## PROFILE/ SUMMARY

An experienced Risk leader with extensive applied technical and quantitative expertise and a track record of driving enhanced risk management in complex environments. Strengths include a proven ability to identify and develop risk solutions; lead effective collaboration at all levels across business functions; a highly analytical mind-set combined with an ability to communicate complex concepts; and an ability to create, manage and develop new teams.

## CAREER HISTORY

**NatWest Markets Jan 2011 to Nov 2019**

Senior SME: Technical Trading & Market Risk: Internal Audit (2014-2019)

* Led a small team of ex-trader/PhD technical SMEs engaging directly with senior stakeholders across Front Office, Market Risk and Valuation functions. Responsible for delivering effective risk management review, challenge and assurance for derivative trading and Market Risk spanning Rates, Credit, Currencies and XVA.
* Responsible for leading audit engagements, business risk monitoring and conducting risk assessments for Audit Entities owned by the SME Team; Fostering extensive knowledge of each business function, its products, processes and associated risks and maintaining a network of productive senior stakeholder relationships across the First and Second Line functions.
* Determined and negotiated resource allocations for SME team engagements; Managed and developed team members; Contributed to the quarterly Audit Opinion; Conducted independent analysis on emerging risk issues for management briefings.
* Initiated a targeted training and coaching program to ensure sufficient level of technical knowledge among the wider IA team and enhance engagement across the audit plan.
* Key achievements include:
	+ Overseeing successful audit engagements into areas such as Market Risk Stress Testing, XVA, Front Office Scenario Analysis and P&L Risk Attribution from which risk issues involving multiple stakeholders and £100’s millions of risk were raised and management plans agreed and subsequently validated;
	+ Developing Internal Audit’s co-ordinated approach to auditing Market Risk delineating prescriptive regulatory requirements, data quality, risk measurement completeness, risk appetite/ limit setting / monitoring and effectiveness of desk-level challenge/oversight.
	+ Leading development and successful implementation of the SME Team operating model within Internal Audit (IA), resulting in efficient utilisation of SME resource across the risk-based audit plan.
	+ Establishing and co-ordinating IA’s centralized collection, distribution and analysis of business data, resulting in greatly improved risk monitoring and a two-thirds reduction in time charged.

Head of Risk Decision Support, Portfolio Risk: Market Risk (2012-2014)

* Engaged directly with the Head of Portfolio Risk, Senior Risk Managers and Front Office stakeholders to identify and co-ordinate responses risk concentrations and stressed market conditions.
* Established a new team tasked with co-ordinating risk management strategy based on portfolio-level risk views constructed by the team.
* Other achievements include:
	+ Collaboration across Finance and Market Risk to deliver the first combined risk, P&L and markets analysis, communicating key risk drivers of P&L and emerging areas of concern to senior management;
	+ Successfully leading a cross-Risk working group resulting in regular concise analysis for senior stakeholders combining business and risk information and generated insights covering Market, Credit and Operational Risk.

**Group CRO Office: Senior Analyst (2011-2012)**

* Provided regular analysis and advice for Group CRO focused mainly on Market Risk.
* Represented CRO on various remediation projects covering areas such as Rogue Trading and the Libor submission process.
* Contributed to and drafted Board papers and other senior briefings.

**NatWest Markets, Product Engineer Sep 2009 to Dec 2010**

* Contract role coding valuation models in C for the Exotic Equity Derivative business.

**CQS (UK) LLP, Senior Quantitative Credit Trading Strategist Sep 2002 to Dec 2008**

***CQS is a global alternative asset management group.***

* Instrumental in establishing CQS’s original credit correlation trading business; proactive formulation of internal pricing models (copula-based CDO tranche and basket models); identification of trading opportunities; creation of risk management platform and trading hedges to manage delta, gamma and correlation risk across the portfolio.
* Broader responsibilities encompassed all aspects of credit trading strategy: generating relative value trading ideas, development and coding of quantitative pricing models (bonds, CDS, loans, convertibles, synthetic CDO, CDS Options) and econometric analysis for application across the then $2bn Credit fund.

##### EARLIER CAREER

* Credit Suisse (London), Quantitative Credit Analyst Jul 2000 to Jan 2002
* National Australia Bank (Melbourne), Economist/Econometrician Feb 1999-Jan 2000
* Merrill Lynch (Australia) Pty Ltd. (Sydney), Associate Analyst Dec 1997 to Oct 1998

**ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS**

* Master of Commerce (Financial Econometrics),1st Class Hon: University of Melbourne
* Bachelor of Commerce (Hon), Upper 2nd Class Hon: University of Melbourne

##### OTHER INFORMATION

* Citizenship: Australian and British
* IT: Advanced MS Excel & VBA, Python, C#, SQL Server, MS Office, Bloomberg API