

[BUSINESS FILES] □

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(CEO, Stewards Investment Capital and president of the Mauritius South Africa Chamber of Commerce)

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Can you tell us about the origin of your company?

Stewards Investment Capital is part of the Steward affiliation of companies which was founded by our chairman, Glen Stewart. The first Stewards company was set up in Isle of Man and the business really took off and started to grow in South Africa. It was one of the first licences in South Africa under FSP licence number 748 which is even before many of the big banks in South Africa and over the last 25 years, the Stewards affiliation of companies has grown into Mauritius and the US as well and across various financial services.

We specialize in tailoring niche investment solutions with optimized risk adjusted returns for high-net-worth individuals, pension funds and institutional investors.

Why did you choose to collaborate with Mauritius?

The collaboration with Mauritius was a strategic decision based on several compelling factors. Firstly, the proximity to South Africa offered logistical advantages and facilitated seamless operations between the two regions. The familiarity with Mauritius, coupled with its renowned

hospitality and exceptional service, made it an attractive choice for collaboration. The island's reputation for safety, its ease of doing business further solidified the decision. Importantly, the absence of exchange control in Mauritius was an important factor, allowing for the free transfer of funds—a significant advantage for international trade. For South Africans, exchange control regulations can often pose challenges in moving capital and conducting business transactions efficiently. By operating from Mauritius, we could overcome these hurdles, ensuring smoother, faster, and more cost-effective international business operations.

What enables you to establish your presence in the Mauritian market and distinguish yourself from the competition?

We offer innovative investment solutions that not only differentiate us from the competition but also set new industry standards. Our solutions are avant-garde, niche and ahead of the curve, catering to a diverse range of investors. What truly sets us apart is our focus on providing attractive risk-adjusted returns while maintaining a diversified portfolio, ensuring stability and growth for our investors. As an example, our strategies in private credit tap into a growing multi-trillion-dollar market, demonstrating our foresight and expertise.

Besides offering capital secured solutions to our investors,

we also cater for investors with higher risk appetite. One of our standout achievements is our early entry into the regulated digital asset investment space. As pioneers and thought leaders in this rapidly evolving sector, we have demonstrated our ability to identify and capitalize on emerging market trends. This foresight has not only given us a competitive edge but has also allowed our investors to maximize their returns through early adoption, especially in the current peak of the crypto market.

Furthermore, our strategic positioning in markets such as defence and luxury goods has proven highly advantageous for our investors, showcasing our ability to navigate diverse sectors and capitalize on timely opportunities.

What are the future prospects for your company?

Our company's future prospects are incredibly promising as we embark on an ambitious expansion journey. We are strategically expanding our footprint from Mauritius to key locations like New York, Miami, and the Dominican Republic. With a significant shareholding in the US-listed entity FAVO Capital, we are poised for substantial growth and success in the American market. Our expansion efforts are not just geographical; we are also investing in our team, bringing on board top talent to drive innovation and excellence across all aspects of our operations.

“EXCHANGE CONTROL REGULATIONS CAN OFTEN POSE CHALLENGES IN MOVING CAPITAL AND CONDUCTING BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS EFFICIENTLY”