

Senior Material Developer Croydon, UK.

Overview

We are D3O, a fast growth engineering, design and technology company based in the UK, with offices in China and US.

We're a collective of engineers, chemists, product designers and industry experts who work to find and solve the problems that matter.

Since our days as a start-up, we've been making pioneering protective products used worldwide by soldiers, professional athletes, industrial workers and people like us.

We enable and empower people who use our products to take risks, challenge their limits and stay safe.

For the world-class brands we're proud to partner with (including *Gear4*, *Triumph*, *Scott Sports* and *Furygan*) we create market-defining products that add value and create an advantage.

So, whether it's light-weight aerodynamic protection for skiers and motorcyclists, precision safety equipment for oil rig workers or the everyday magic that keeps your smartphone in one piece, it's all part of a proven formula of how we do things.

The Role

We are looking for talented and experienced Senior Material Developer.

Reporting to the company's Material Development Leader, the successful candidate will be responsible for delivering commercial material development projects from research phase to final production implementation.

This is a great opportunity to work in a fast-paced business that develops innovative and market defining materials for protective products.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead technical activities of assigned Stage-Gate material development projects from initial research & feasibility studies through lab-scale development to final production implementation.
- Lead assigned R&D projects, showing tangible progress month after month, working closely with other company departments, external partners, and customers.
- Accountable for ensuring project milestones are met on time and completing project phase reviews as well as keeping stakeholders well informed of project updates and progress
- Maintain close awareness of scientific literature, polymer science, raw materials, new technologies trends, and competitors' innovation required to create exciting and relevant product innovations.

- Responsible for technical troubleshooting, data analysis, and implementation of the identified actions.
- Work with the Program Management team and line manager to ensure projects are kept on time and to budget, assessing and overcoming project risks and other potential causes of delay or cost overrun. Utilise available tools (Gantt charts, action plans, risk tools, etc) to manage tasks in an effective manner.
- Work closely with Product Development, Quality, and Testing teams to ensure projects, Pitching Support requests, and other technical activities are coordinated and accomplished in line with objectives.
- Provide technical support is to all areas of the business such as Marketing, Sales and Operations to ensure that the commercial goals of the business are met.
- Build and maintain relationships with suppliers, universities, consultants, 3rd party test houses, and customers always ensuring a high level of professionalism.
- Ensure policies, procedures, and documentation relating to material development are prepared and maintained at the level necessary to satisfy ISO 9001 and customer standards.
- Actively seek continuous improvement in the team including process', quality, and testing capabilities necessary to maintain D3O's position as the industry leader.
- Safety Commitment - Ensuring the Safety of Self and Others, ensure compliance with H&S, and good housekeeping practices within laboratories and office areas

Qualities and Experience

- Relevant degree in Chemistry, Material Science, Polymer Science, or very closely related subject is essential.
- 3+ years' demonstrated knowledge and industry experience of polymer chemistry
- Previous experience in an R&D environment in a polymer-related field: managed and coordination experience highly valued.
- Manufacturing experience in polymer processing or injection moulding.
- Familiar with technical risk assessment tools (i.e., FMEA)
- Strong understanding of polymer and materials chemistry: mechanical properties, characterization, structure, and formulation.
- Practical experience working mainly with thermoplastics and thermoplastic elastomers. Also, polyurethane, foams, and elastomers are to be considered.
- Able to apply a high level of scientific rigor to the analysis of data and results, and use this to draw & present conclusions to other scientists and non-technical people.
- Demonstrate strong organisational skills to sure integrity of trials, data, and timely/accurate provision of results.

- Quick learner, able to adapt to a rapidly changing, innovative environment
- Comfortable working on own initiative
- Proven experience in co-developments with third parties
- Troubleshooting skills to resolve problems across the new materials development and manufacturing.
- Passionate about exploring new types of materials and applications, outside of the candidate's technical comfort zone.
- Ability to translate customer, sales, and product team requirements into technical properties that deliver solutions.
- Confident communicator able to present and translate technical information to non-technical parties
- Working knowledge of Health and Safety (nice to have)
- Competent with MS Office packages (Word, Outlook, Excel & PowerPoint). Minitab is a plus.



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