Job Description

Oort Energy Limited - Laboratory Technologist

Salary: dependant on experience, £28,000 - £34,000

The position:

- Oort Energy is an electrolyser technology start-up, within its first few years of formation. We expect the company to develop and evolve quickly and are a small, dynamic team with a fast-paced working environment.
- The laboratory technologist role will involve performing research experiments, supporting the research team, component manufacturing, electrochemical testing, and the day-to-day upkeep of the laboratory space.

Duties & responsibilities

Research and manufacturing

- Plan for and prepare materials/equipment for research activities and manufacturing.
- Assist research staff with experiments and perform routine experiments.
- Carry out scientific and engineering processes, such as making ink formulations and hotpressing of key components.
- Perform component manufacturing tasks when required, being flexible and responsive based on need.
- Maintain, monitor and setup electrochemical test systems.

Laboratory support

- Sourcing and maintaining stocks of lab materials and consumables, as well as input into larger and more specialist purchases, liaising with relevant contacts and suppliers to ensure cost effectiveness.
- Ensuring instrumentation and equipment are maintained and in good repair, with the associated paperwork audit/certification kept up to date.
- Provide inductions and training to staff in the safe use and basic operation of equipment.
- Deal with both foreseen and unforeseen problems relating to the laboratory spaces, which may affect the achievement of the overall research objectives by applying initiative, insight, and creativity.

Safety and hazards

- Share their knowledge and understanding of area of expertise within the team by proactively engaging with and contributing to discussions during team meetings.
- Audits of assets, materials, and storage arrangements of higher risk hazards and/or parts associated with equipment/instrumentation.
- Drafting original risk assessments and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for area of responsibility, including for new processes.
- Carry out risk assessments and ensure that all research is performed safely, in accordance with current Health and Safety Regulations.
- Maintaining up to date knowledge of health and safety practice/legislation to provide a safe and effective technical service.

Job Hazards/Safety Critical Duties (Pre-employment health screening)
The following duties are an intrinsic part of the role:

- Working with hazardous chemicals that may cause skin corrosion, irritation or allergic reaction or respiratory irritation.
- Regular use of nitrile gloves.
- Regular manual handling responsibilities, e.g., unpacking of delivered consumables and their storage.
- Occasional use of masks in laboratory spaces

Person specification - Knowledge, Skills, and Experience

Candidate requires experience in similar position, or university degree (BSc) in appropriate subject (e.g. Chemistry, Biology, etc), or equivalent diploma.

Attributes	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Knowledge	• Knowledge of risk assessments, their standard formats, requirements, and implementation	
Knowledge	• Chemical lab safety, including chemical usage, storage and disposal	
Knowledge		• Knowledge of electrolyser working principles
Knowledge		• Knowledge of electrochemical testing
Skills	• Able to work autonomously or as part of a team, and to modify practice as appropriate.	
Skills	• Ability to apply relevant scientific and technical knowledge to all aspects of	

	their work, including, but not limited to, problem solving and evaluation	
Skills	• Able to work collaboratively with colleagues and students from diverse scientific and personal backgrounds.	
Skills	• Actively participate as a member of a research team	
Skills		• Demonstrable ability to examine, understand and assess relevant scientific and technology information, concepts and ideas and to suggest solutions to problems
Experience	• Experience of being responsible for safe working practices whilst contributing to their evaluation and improvement	
Experience	• Experience and understanding of chemical risks and their management	
Experience	• Experience in handling hazardous chemical and their use in scientific experiments	
Experience		• Experience in research science laboratory
Experience		• Experience in technical laboratory space