Engineering Project Manager

by Christine Bobst | Nov 16, 2020

Job Purpose

The Engineering Project Manager will be responsible for leadership and management of internal and external project teams to facilitate delivery of products and bring designs from small scale prototypes to large scale production environments.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Collaborate with a team of Engineers, Planners, and Technicians in performing and coordinating the design and preparation of projects that evolve from proof of concept/prototype to production in a high-technology production agriculture setting.
- Support the Request for Proposal (RFP) and procurement processes, tracking current and future jobs, reviewing contracts and drawings, and specifications.
- Coordinate procurement, assist with scheduling and the development of scope of work with subcontractors, and assisting in the preparation of monthly financial reporting related to engineering efforts.
- Support timely, controlled, and compliant design changes. Participate in multi-disciplinary collaboration with equipment designers, fabricators and soft/hardware engineers, and others to pursue and achieve business objectives, on time, at cost with optimal quality.
- Assist in establishing protocols and participate in product qualification, contract negotiation, manufacturing processes, and production-based support documentation.
- Execute high priority projects to meet functional specifications, timelines, and budget while identifying, tracking, managing, and resolving project issues.
• Identify and monitor project goal(s), status, and risks.
• Manages the development, implementation, and completion of complex design projects
• Defines and maintains project scope, budget, timelines, schedule based on strategic plans
• Coordination of internal and external resources/team members to execute projects
• Manage expectations through the life of the project with documentation and communication to all stakeholders.
• Provide guidance to team members and establish clear roles and responsibilities
• Facilitate overall systems design, development and integration of mechanical and structural systems. Progress designs all the way through detailed design, drawing generation, parts procurement, and hands-on assembly, integration and test.
• Develop schedules to meet delivery milestones.
• Coordinate implementation of new designs and develop transition plans to bridge between design revisions
• Design and analyze mechanical systems and equipment. Conducts feasibility studies and testing on new and modified designs. Ensure the designs have been validated and thoroughly documented prior to production release.
• Assures design planning, mechanical innovation, rapid prototyping, development of test plans for design validation, systems & sub-systems testing for design validation, documenting design with state-of-the-art technology.
• Effectively assure understandable and continuous technical communication with internal and external stakeholders. Present material in a concise and professional manner to a wide variety of individuals including customers, leadership team, co-workers, other internal or external stakeholders as needed
• Assess and effectively understand the opportunities and challenges for technical success in new environments and facilities and help estimate timeline and cost while working to customize design solutions for specific field and/or customer situations and conditions.
• Gather information and data from equipment and field processes to pass along to the Operations and Biology Research/Development teams.
• Work collaboratively with strategic equipment partners, other strategic engineering partners and with customers and their technical field teams.
• Lead efforts for customization, technology selection, or design of systems to support specific customer equipment needs.
• Lead projects involving internal and external engineering, fabrication, and installation teams:
• Lead relationships with external fabricators, general contractors, and vendors to ensure equipment is built, installed, and maintained on time and to PowerPollen standards.
Understand and conform to relevant industry, customer and PowerPollen safety standards.

Develop project value propositions and document engineering results in white papers, engineering reports, trade magazine articles, and conference papers

Stay up-to-date regarding your field of engineering and technology relative to agriculture, the production seed industry and PowerPollen

**Required Skills, Knowledge**

- Experience leading or participating in large scale agricultural/industrial projects.
- Experience with SCRUM and Agile methodologies.
- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical, Electrical or Agricultural engineering.
- 5 – 7+ years experience in a technical or engineering related role, preferably in agriculture or agricultural services industry.
- Engineering aptitude with solid hands-on mechanical skills, a commercial focus and knowledge of production agriculture systems.
- Demonstrated prior project management experience.
- Working knowledge of mechanical and/or hydraulic and/or electrical systems (including software).
- Experience developing, simulating and validating systems for agriculture or construction machinery.
- Aptitude for innovation and trouble-shooting.
- Ability to organize and prioritize work assignments to complete assignments/tasks on time.
- Ability to apply creative approaches and ideas to solve problems, maximizing the effective use of resources.
- Action-oriented, flexible, objective and an excellent communicator able to work effectively in both a team setting and individually with limited oversight.
- Available to travel approximately 40% of time including domestic and international travel.
- Ability to learn data systems and work remotely using mobile devices.
- Can lift 50 lbs. or more on an intermittent basis.

**Working Conditions**

Primarily a field or fabrication shop based role with frequent interactions occurring in, stationary and mobile labs, outdoor agricultural field environments and office settings.
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