

Research and Development Associate

Our client is an environmental project development firm located in Chicago, Illinois. Their projects are all designed to have a dual mission – fight climate change and make a profit. They believe companies with this dual mission are better positioned for growth and success in a changing economy. And they are proving it year over year.

Our client places value on questioning existing service lines, pushing the boundaries of innovation and producing beneficial solutions for the company. The Research and Development (R&D) Associate will be responsible for contributing to a culture of collaboration to ensure the efficiency of the innovation process. This is an innovation delivery role.

This role is an ideal fit if you have proven research skills, can synthesize data, prepare reports quickly, and are up for anything when it comes to getting to the bottom of any question.

Responsibilities:

- Play a key role in delivering on development stretch areas as outlined in annual plans
- Conduct research as needed to identify opportunities to maximize performance of existing business lines as well as to explore new business opportunities.
- Examine the technical and regulatory context of innovation concepts in order to identify constraints and opportunities.
- Utilize a “fatal flaw” approach to achieve a green light for implementation of innovation projects
- Define and collaboratively pursue project ideas with respect to process efficiencies, risk profiles and financial investment outlines to allow decision making and prioritization of opportunity areas to progress.
- Work with key partners such as operations and marketing to realize connected innovation opportunities
- Create and develop strong working relationships with peers and management

Position Requirements:

- Support of pollution reduction and environmental sustainability mission
- Experience in product development – from conception to launch
- An understanding of the R&D development process for a service business and the key challenges and hurdles to be overcome in development and delivery of new service lines
- Scientific mind and curiosity, capacity to critically analyze market information
- Competency to create a feasible working plan – Develop well-performing and long-term solutions
- Demonstrated success in anticipating customers’ needs and trends
- Creative and open attitude
- Delivery and action-focused
- Ability to influence key stakeholders e.g. R&D management



- Must embrace ambiguity and create clarity for decision making when a diverse range of options are available
- A willingness to focus on how something might work and not be deterred by the many reasons it might not
- Experience in planning, priority setting and management of projects across multi-functional teams is essential.
- Bachelor's degree

This job description is designed to indicate the general nature and level of work performed by employees within this classification. It is not designed to contain or be interpreted as a comprehensive inventory of all duties and responsibilities required of employees assigned to this job.

Our Client is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate based on race, religion, gender, age, sexuality, or gender identification. Our Client is an Equal Opportunity Employer.