SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT & PERFORMANCE ENGINEERS
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INTRODUCTION

Our client’s products are required to meet a range of stringent standards for quality and safety. Increasingly, their consumers also expect our client’s products to come from socially, environmentally and ethically responsible sources.

As brand owners, our clients work hard to comply with these standards to define and adhere to their own ethical values and company vision. However, it is also essential that they manage their suppliers to ensure that they also meet all these critical requirements.

As a recognized leader of global supplier management and quality assurance services, our clients hire Infinite Sum to build and manage large supplier networks on their behalf all over the world.

We are regularly seeking Supplier Development and Performance Engineers, who are looking for an exciting and challenging career with Infinite Sum—an employer that enables you to work in a flexible environment both in terms of geography and time.

As part of Infinite Sum’s Supplier Development & Performance Management (SD&PM) teams based internationally, the role of a Supplier Development Engineer is to work primarily on-site at the manufacturing sites of our client’s global suppliers, and liaise closely with the Infinite Sum client-facing teams in North America and Europe.

The role of the (SD&PM) team is to develop new supply sources for our clients, and to improve the quality and cost-competitiveness of those suppliers.

Responsibilities will include:

1. Cross-functional program management to qualify new product, supporting issues with current production, developing new suppliers to reduce cost, increase capacity, and to assist Infinite Sum auditing teams to ensure supplier process conformance.

2. Manage the customer specific requirements and offer technical support.

3. Work on multiple phases or sub-tasks of projects or entire projects of moderate complexity, with results impacting on project completion.

We seek individuals with the relevant industry experience in the following industries:

- Food (finished packaged goods)
- Ingredients
- Packaging (flexible and rigid)
- Consumer Packaged Goods (primarily electronics)
- Personal Care
- Health & Beauty
- and general manufacturing
Geographical Locations

Infinite Sum currently manage our clients' manufacturing supply networks in more than 30 countries worldwide. Our vacancies in many of these countries are covered by our consultants based in neighboring countries and not necessarily from the specific supplier country. Irrespective of your country of residency, we encourage applicants from any country recognized as a key manufacturing hub within the industries listed on Page 1.

Key Responsibilities

General and Task Management

- Interface with component teams to prioritize supplier development needs by component to improve cost competitiveness or supply constraints
- Assist Infinite Sum sourcing teams with the technical support needed to drive supplier selection through robust qualification processes
- Assess new and existing supplier capabilities to meet product, cost, quality, capacity and fulfillment ensuring suppliers are able to meet our client requirements for performance, quality, cost and delivery of product and requirements for relevant international standards and other applicable customer and internal system and reputation requirements
- Based on screening and other variables, prioritize preferred suppliers
- Drive improvement utilizing Lean methodologies, supplier scorecards and support Infinite Sum supplier audit process, ensuring supplier compliance, whilst driving systematic problem solving and process improvement plans to deliver value
- Track the suppliers performance indicators, based on their scorecards and rankings, to facilitate and develop the supply bases ability to consistently meet or exceed defined expectations
- Develop positive relationships and work closely with Infinite Sum and sourcing leaders to manage, implement and track supplier/engineering, design changes, capacity studies and New Product Introductions, and transfers
- Deliver results as measured by key metrics, such as supplier yield, field cost, field defect rate, supplier quality plan engagement and effectiveness, and corrective and preventative action closure
- Specify, develop, and validate advanced technology, quality information and test equipment
- Specify and develop product acceptance/test procedures that relate to a complex process (state-of-the-art) or highly complex product
- Provide correlation with company facilities
- Act as consultant to communicate and coach the supplier's Quality, Manufacturing, Engineering and procurement organizations, to drive cost-effective improvements to Quality and Manufacturing processes, minimize waste, introduce new products and improve product design
Provide technical expertise and leadership to sourcing and development of suppliers with respect to technology, performance, quality, cost, logistics and delivery

Provide leadership during investigations of major problems and or special projects focusing on developing working relationships with suppliers and the supply chain with regard to product development and procurement of parts

Responsible for leading the solution for supplier component concerns, driving Advanced Product Quality Planning (APQP), Production Part Approval Process (PPAP), customer interaction, supplier interaction, Value Analysis/Value Engineering (VA/VE) support, supplier component development and approval and supplier cost improvements

Carry out new supplier validation audits, along with supplier support, and supplier Advanced Product Quality Planning (APQP)

Assist with new product launch by working with suppliers to ensure that key milestones are achieved

Work with the supplier Engineering (Design and Manufacturing Engineers) team to define process parameters and criteria to ensure supplier process capability is effective to meet product and process requirements

Keep up with current and developing manufacturing and engineering trends that concern product quality

Contribute to continuous improvement activities

Provide technical expertise to client suppliers in solving technical problems associated with product supply and test facilities

Write reports and present progress at project meetings and to clients

Achieve goals within budget

Conduct benchmarking studies to determine best practices/designs and future trends

Undertake personal continuous training and development

Perform root cause analysis and resolve problems

Independently determine approach and assigned tasks

Relationship Management

Develop and maintain strong relationships with internal and external stakeholders to ensure optimal performance

Communicate efficiently throughout procurement and directly with customers/suppliers management

Diplomatic approach to relationships
Skills and Attributes

- Experience in Sourcing, Engineering, Quality, Manufacturing and program management
- Experience in developing and implementing vendor qualification
- Knowledge of quality and business systems
- Commercial and financial acumen
- Strong knowledge of Advanced Product Quality Planning (APQP)
- Production Part Approval Process (PPAP)
- Failure Mode and Effect Analysis (FMEA)
- Extensive experience with cross-functional management
- Report and Procedure writing with excellent presentation skills
- Understanding and interpretation of engineering drawings
- Understanding manufacturing processes
- Ability to work in a diverse and very dynamic environment
- Planning and prioritizing activities
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Strong negotiation and influential skills
- Ability to present data effectively
- Numerically astute with strong problem-solving skills and expertise, to develop and execute objectives for self and others, and the ability to effect short-term, and some long-term, business goals

Qualifications and Experience Levels

- Must be fluent in local language and English
- Working knowledge of a third language would be a distinct advantage
- Relevant manufacturing/engineering degree preferred but not necessary with the relevant amount of experience
- Substantial experience in a fast-paced, high volume manufacturing environment
- Substantial experience in supplier development
- Experience of dealing with customers and suppliers
- Example roles this description may cover within Infinite Sum:
  - Supplier Development Engineer
  - Supplier Performance Engineer
  - Senior Supplier Engineer

Applicants for employment in any country must have work authorization that does not now or in the future require sponsorship of a visa for employment authorization in the specific country with Infinite Sum. Candidates who are currently employed by a client of Infinite Sum or an affiliated Infinite Sum partner business may not be eligible for consideration.
WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

We will work with you to ensure you get an opportunity to work on project assignments that suit your personal and professional goals. Opportunity to work from home if wish, within a daily commute of a client location, or if you are adventurous we can post you to an international assignment working in multicultural and dynamic teams both internally and at our client sites. Career development opportunities are offered at all of our international offices.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

If this sounds like the ideal role, career and company for you, please apply through the Infinite Sum website www.infinitiesum.com or email us directly at careers@infinitiesum.com.
ABOUT INFINITE SUM

Infinite Sum is a global management consulting firm, made up of experienced business executives and consultants that deliver immediate and long-term solutions and real profit to our clients. Since 1993, we have been retained as consultants and trusted partners to many clients ranging from Fortune 500s to some with revenues of less than $100m.

Combining deep industry knowledge with specialized expertise in global sourcing, operations consulting and international market development and sales solutions we advise our clients on their most critical issues and opportunities relating to their global initiatives. We provide this advice and support across numerous industries and geographies, with particular emphasis on emerging markets.

Infinite Sum is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of society and does not discriminate on grounds of race, religion or belief, ethnic or national origin, disability, age, citizenship, marital, domestic or civil partnership status, sexual orientation, or gender identity or any other basis as protected by applicable law.