

Dragonfly Insulation

RECRUITMENT PACK

Manufacturing Technician - Chemical Production

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Welcome to Dragonfly

Thank you for your interest in the role of Manufacturing Technician here at Dragonfly.

Dragonfly Insulation Ltd is an advanced materials manufacturer specialising in the development and production of silica aerogels. It is a spin-out company from Newcastle University and holds patented technology that revolutionises the manufacturing process of silica aerogels.

Dragonfly is currently the sole manufacturer of silica aerogels in the UK. We have a clear vision to be a leading provider of advanced materials in the UK and across the world by enabling more companies in more sectors than ever previously imagined to access the full potential of next generation silica aerogels, recognising the increasing demand for efficient and safer materials to support the drive towards NetZero.

As our new Manufacturing Technician, you will be joining us at an exciting time, as our Business embarks on a period of manufacturing scale up and growth. With the full support from our team and technical leadership from our CTO, Dr Xiao Han, the successful applicant will be a key contributor to our future success.

We hope that having read through the information provided, you too will feel inspired to become part of our Team.

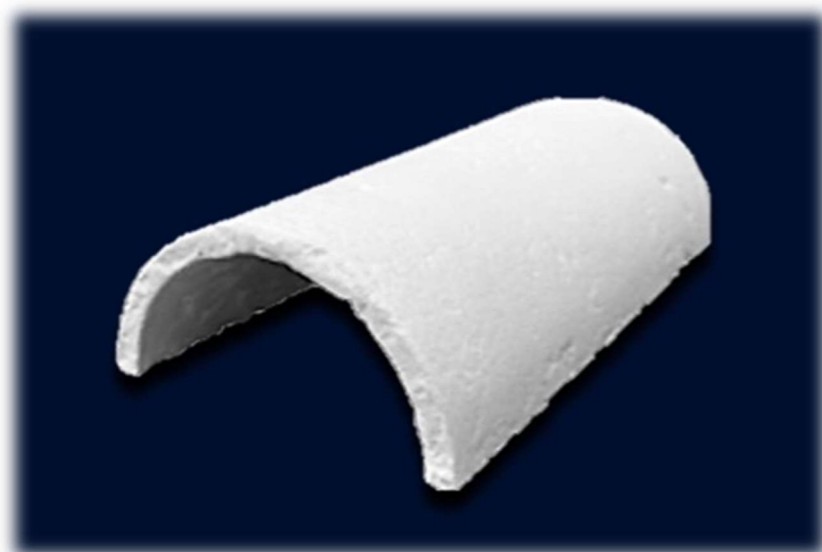
John Baines
Executive Chair

About Silica Aerogels

Silica Aerogel is an advanced, nano-porous, material with the potential to make a material contribution to fighting climate change. Its extreme properties including lightweight, thermal insulation, fire retardancy and water repulsion have the potential to cut energy consumption, reduce carbon emissions, enable emerging and future technologies and enhance environmental performance.

First conceived in the 1930s for highly specialist uses by NASA, silica aerogel has been proven in the most testing conditions. But despite its remarkable properties, fundamental challenges in formulation and manufacture have restricted its use to niche applications.

These challenges include inflexible chemical formulations that limit the product set; high levels of capital and operational costs associated with manufacturing; the damaging environmental impact of energy and chemical-intensive processes; and fixed, industrial-scale infrastructure necessary for production.



Dragonfly's Purpose & Core Strength

Dragonfly's advanced technology and production processes have been created to address these challenges. By enabling the widespread application of silica aerogel, we will make an enduring contribution to the fight against climate change. We will bring to the world the full potential of silica aerogel.

From formulation to application, Dragonfly's technology is uniquely versatile. From the manufacture of finished products to modular, distributed manufacturing, we create the aerogel solutions customers need while minimising the environmental and financial cost.

We are scaling up to maximise the versatility of our technology to bring to customers the benefits of a **flexible, integrated, sustainable and affordable** advanced material.

Job Description

Dragonfly Insulation Ltd is in search of a reliable, highly organised and diligent Manufacturing Technician to become part of our growing chemical production team.

The ideal candidate will be capable of playing a crucial role in maintaining our production processes and standards, contributing to the creation of top-tier chemical products, and ensuring adherence to all health, safety, and environmental regulations in accordance with UK laws. You should also be able to follow instructions and work collaboratively in a team.

To be successful you should demonstrate passion and enthusiasm for advanced material production and chemical manufacturing processes and have practical problem-solving skills. Outstanding candidates may also have an in-depth knowledge of chemistry, and superb observational and analytical skills.



Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Understanding and following instructions, guidance, procedures and specifications of the CTO and Manufacturing Lead.
- Following and maintaining compliance to all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- Operating and monitoring production equipment, ensuring optimal functionality and resolving minor technical issues.
- Accurately selecting, preparing, measuring, and mixing of raw materials for production.
- Monitoring and adjusting production processes to meet quality, product, safety and productivity standards.
- Contributing to the improvement and development of new production methods, including working with the team to develop improved production processes.
- Undertaking routine maintenance of production equipment to maximise operational efficiency.
- Keeping precise records related to production performance indicators, test results and maintenance and safety requirements and compiling reports as required.
- Undertaking training and development relevant to your role.
- Provide training, developing and monitoring of other workers involved in the manufacturing and production process, as required.
- Regularly inspecting material stocks and reporting reordering requirements to the Manufacturing Lead in a timely manner.
- Keeping up to date with field advancements and sharing new knowledge with colleagues.

Health and Safety

- Strict adherence to health and safety protocols, including the correct use of protective equipment and timely reporting of any hazards.
- Ensuring compliance with all UK environmental policies and procedures, handling waste and hazardous substances.
- Keeping the production facility clean, safe and tidy.

Person Specification

Evidence of the criteria below will be sought during the application and interview processes.

Essential

- Analytical mindset and problem-solving abilities.
- Exceptional attention to detail and precision.
- A positive, flexible and adaptable approach.
- Capacity to work under pressure, in a fast-paced setting and to tight deadlines.
- Effective communication skills, both oral and written.
- A positive customer centred focus.
- The ability to work effectively both independently, and collaboratively within a team.
- Physical resilience for demanding tasks, including lifting, prolonged standing, bending and operating machinery.
- Promote and contribute to a positive culture and working environment, valuing individual differences and encouraging and supporting diversity, equality and inclusion.
- Flexibility to work varying shifts, including weekends or public holidays, if necessary.

Contract and Benefits

Job Title: Manufacturing Technician – Chemical Production

Reports to: Manufacturing Lead

Contract: Permanent, full time: 37.5 hours a week.

Pension: Dragonfly operates a Contributory Pension Scheme to which the business contributes 6% of salary. Personal contributions of minimum 4% through a salary sacrifice arrangement can be requested.

Work Base: Dragonfly Production facility, Prudhoe, Northumberland, NE42 6PJ

Salary: £26,000-29,000.

Annual Leave: 25 days plus bank holidays.

Qualifications and Experience

Required Qualifications and Experience:

- GCSE or equivalent; further education in chemical technology, manufacturing, or related field is advantageous (such as HND, or degree).
- Hands-on experience in a manufacturing setting, with a preference for chemical production experience.
- Comprehensive understanding of chemical handling, production processes, and safety procedures.
- Technical ability in operating standard and specialised manufacturing machinery.

Desirable Qualifications and Experience:

- Vocational qualification or certification in a related discipline.
- 3+ years' experience in a high-volume or specialised manufacturing setting.
- Knowledge of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), ISO standards, and UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) regulations.
- Familiarity with quality assurance protocols and standards.
- Manual handling training.

How to Apply

If you wish to be considered for this role, **please email your curriculum vitae, together with a covering statement** which should address your motivation for wanting to undertake the role of Manufacturing Technician with Dragonfly. Please include specific examples of what you have personally been responsible for and achieved and how that demonstrates you meet the requirements of the role and person specification. Please include your address and contact details.

To confidentially discuss the role in further detail please contact: recruitment@dragonflyinsulation.com with your name, contact details and a brief message and we will arrange a call.

To support our Equal Opportunities in Employment Policy you may be required to complete our Recruitment Monitoring Form. All information will be treated in confidence.

Closing date for applications: Monday 6th May 2024

Interview date: To be confirmed.

Interview location: Dragonfly, Prudhoe, Northumberland, NE42 6PJ

Data Protection Act 2022

Information provided by you as part of your application will be used in the recruitment process. Any data about you will be held securely with access restricted to those directly involved in dealing with your application and in the recruitment process. Once this process is completed the data relating to unsuccessful applicants will be stored for a maximum of one year and then confidentially destroyed.

If you are successful, your application form will be retained and form the basis of your personal record.

Information provided by you in the Recruitment Monitoring Form will be used to monitor Dragonfly Insulation's policy on equal opportunities in employment.