

Knowledge Transfer Network

Job Description

Knowledge Transfer Manager – Advanced Materials

Job Purpose

We are looking for a determined, bright, analytical and goal-orientated individual with current and relevant knowledge and experience in advanced materials to join our Materials team in providing business support to companies developing and/or using advanced materials, particularly for polymeric, ceramics, glass or lightweight metals applications.

This post will focus on supporting KTN activities relating to the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF) priorities targeted at the materials producing and user industries. The role will include helping to drive knowledge transfer between the science and technology base and industry, promoting networking and stimulating innovation relevant to industrial applications of advanced materials and identifying opportunities to expand KTN's reach and services to facilitate business growth.

The post will be varied, working with businesses across multitude of sectors, providing technical capability to help UK industry to create economic value by innovating with advanced materials with a focus on opportunities driven by the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF). An analytical mind, understanding of how supply chains work, experience of specifying advanced materials for industrial applications or the ability to put together compelling business cases for growth are essential.

The suitable candidate will be required to address KTN KPIs with particular attention to business interaction, Innovate UK support and engagement with relevant Research Councils and universities conducting research in the field of advanced materials.

Reporting to: Head of Materials.

Grade: Knowledge Transfer Manager (KTM2)

Salary: £37,000pa-£45,000pa (depending on experience)

Location: Home or office based (London, Edinburgh) working, with considerable UK travel expected.

Key accountabilities

- Assist in gathering and analysing evidence from companies and industry bodies to inform industrial challenge priorities relating to advanced materials.
- Prepare future work programmes for advanced materials in agreement with stakeholders and team members, working with industry to identify their needs.
- Identify and monitor trends, drivers and opportunities for innovation in the

industrial application of advanced materials through interaction with business and the technology base.

- Ensure that industry is aware of the funding opportunities available for research and innovation involving advanced materials.
- Facilitate networking opportunities for industry to meet with peers and potential collaborators through the organisation of workshops and other meetings, etc.
- Actively promote opportunities and relevant activities in advanced materials through various media.
- Visit companies, research institutions and universities, mainly within the UK, to understand their R&D needs and innovation capabilities.
- Identify and develop growth opportunities for KTN, working with advanced materials stakeholders and industry leaders.

Job responsibilities

- Work within the Materials team to understand the materials technology needs of UK Industry and the scientific capabilities of the research base, facilitating the transfer of knowledge within and between these groups and the establishment of collaborations.
- Help understand and facilitate access to Knowledge Transfer support mechanisms for businesses and to help develop funding and investment applications.
- Assist in promoting the use of advanced materials to manufacturing and product application sectors in the UK. This will include visiting companies and identifying how innovations involving advanced materials can help their specific business.
- Promote KTN and innovation within a business context to advanced materials development and user companies, including the preparation of proposals for growth opportunities for KTN.
- Display and maintain a good scientific and technical knowledge in a broad range of topics relating to advanced materials, in particular polymeric, ceramics, glass or lightweight metals applications.
- Work within the KTN structure in a flexible manner, e.g. take part in joint activities with colleagues in other teams.
- Liaise closely with KTN staff in all disciplines to ensure a good understanding of other sector activities to facilitate flexibility and ease of working on other KTN sector opportunities.
- Contribute to the writing of articles for newsletters and blogs of interest to KTN members.

- Design, plan and deliver events and workshops. Author reports where applicable.
- Track outcomes resulting from KTN interventions, seeking case studies and metrics capture.
- Support KPI delivery and provide regular reporting of activity and outcomes.

Experience and qualifications

- The post is to be based in the Materials team focussed on industrial challenges, so a background or strong interest in materials technology/engineering or related discipline is required.
- A degree in materials science /engineering or related area is required. A postgraduate qualification in a similar field is also preferred.
- Practical experience in using analytical tools to gather and analyse supply chain and market data is desirable. Need to demonstrate good understanding of market drivers and trends.
- Experience in the private sector is desirable.
- Awareness of knowledge transfer or business analysis and development processes would be beneficial.

Competencies

- This role requires a highly motivated, self-starting and results oriented individual with a good understanding of commercial issues or a desire and the ability to learn on the job.
- Must be a good communicator with well developed written and verbal skills, able to translate complex topics for a broad audience.
- Must be a good listener - able to interact with and understand the needs and capabilities of a wide variety of clients.
- Flexible, reliable and adaptable with good interpersonal and time management skills.
- Comfortable working autonomously with little supervision or as a team member as required.
- Must be proficient in normal office software tools with excellent administrative and organisational skills.
- Sound scientific knowledge across a range of disciplines, highly numerate.

- Holder of a driving licence, a willingness to travel by public transport or by own car is required as post involves considerable travel including overnight at times.