

Senior Quality Engineer – Signal Plastics

Signal Plastics are recruiting a **Senior Quality Engineer** for our site at Washington. The key responsibilities are:

- Responsible for the application of the operational quality processes across the business to ensure parts are manufactured in line with customer expectations and agreed quality standards.
- Assist in new component & process (moulding & assembly) introduction and associated validation.

You will report to our Quality Manager and other colleagues to deliver continuous improvement across our group.

The role comes with a salary from £30,000 per year (depending on qualifications, skills and experience), 25 days annual leave (plus bank/public holidays), Company Sick Pay, Company Pension Scheme, Death in Service, Employee Assistance Program, Cycle to Work scheme, free hot drinks and other benefits. It is a permanent, full-time role based at our site on Team Valley.

All candidates must be currently eligible to live and work in the UK.

To apply for this role, please send a **covering letter setting out why you are suitable for this role** together with a **CV setting out qualifications and experience** to careers@omega-plastics.co.uk

A little bit about us...

The Omega Plastics Group comprises two businesses – Omega Plastics and Signal Plastics. We provide high quality plastic injection mould tooling, components, assembly and technical solutions on time and with exceptional customer service.

We assist customers from product conception through the development cycle and into serial production. Our flexibility and value-add approach means we can be a strategic partner to customers and strive to develop long-term relationships.

Signal Plastics specialises in high volume plastic injection moulding and assembly, with 14 injection moulding presses ranging from 100 to 1,300 tonnes, some with robot demoulding and packing capability. In addition, we integrate plastic mouldings into more complex assemblies which we manage on behalf of our customers. Our customers include some of the biggest names in the automotive and industrial and technical products sectors. We are based in a 43,500 sq. ft facility on Bentall Business Park in Washington.

Our sister company, Omega Plastics operates across four main sectors: industrial and technical, consumer, automotive and medical. It specialises in low to high volume plastic injection moulding using 15 injection moulding presses, ranging from 40 to 330 tonnes. It is based in a 45,000 sq. ft facility on Team Valley Trading Estate in Gateshead, which is also our group head office.

The group is growing, with a workforce of over 150 colleagues across both businesses and we continue to invest in our people, infrastructure and facilities. Our people are key to the success of the business. We offer a competitive salary and benefits package and invest in the training and development our colleagues.

Find out more about us here: <http://www.omegaplasticsgroup.co.uk/>

Main duties and responsibilities include:

- Always work in a safe manner, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all personnel in your working area, including colleagues, visitors and contractors. Maintain the highest standards of housekeeping, use of PPE, behaviour and adherence to procedures, instructions and agreed working practices.
- Work collaboratively with the Engineering, Production and Logistics teams to ensure that parts and tools are manufactured and delivered to customer on time and “right first time” (i.e., in line with customer expectations, agreed standards and following the processes set out in the quality management system)
- Assist in the pre-production preparation required to introduce new products and tools in a controlled manner. Complete PPAP documentation within timelines and support production and NPI/Engineering teams in creating quality control plans that accurately reflect the process in an achievable and repeatable manner (e.g. AQPQ, PPAP, etc). Support this activity with a capacity plan that identifies key milestone for PPAP/QCP completion and any bottlenecks.
- Provide day-to-day production support, prepare quality documentation to ensure all information is present and correct to drawing prior to being released into production, take an active interest on how manufacturing processes are running, monitor the 4M status, challenge peer groups, escalate issues where required and take action to help resolve any issues in production relating to workplace organisation.
- Ensure internal in-process inspection systems are adhered to across the production processes and that non-conformances are identified and processed in line with the QMS system (ISO/IATF).
- Ensure results of regular containment activities are recorded in an accurate and timely manner and circulated to the appropriate colleagues. Work with Production team to Pareto fault types into an action plan/trend analysis and support root cause analysis and countermeasures.
- Investigate root cause of NCMR with QRQC and support customer concerns along with related 8D replies to customer within specified timeframes, ensuring countermeasures are horizontally deployed and lessons learned are shared with key stakeholders across the group.
- Build strong working relationships with customers and suppliers, using knowledge of customer needs and products to ensure we have the right quality processes and requirements to deliver customer expectations and meet our business objectives.
- Conduct and Coordinate internal audits in-line with the company internal audit schedule.
- Populate specifications and requirements to International Material Data System (IMDS).
- Raise any issues to suppliers via concern database, follow up with supplier to understand root cause and countermeasure. Monitor suppliers on-going performance. Escalate repeat under-performers.

- Support training of on-shift Quality Technicians and other colleagues in quality objectives.
- Support continuous improvement activity within all departments in the business. Champion continuous improvement activity within Quality department.
- Report as required on KPIs including customer concerns, supplier concerns, containment concerns, PPM. Attend and contribute to regular quality and operations meetings and wider group meetings as required.
- Support customer and certification audits, work proactively and positively to close out open items or concerns.
- Work in line with the Group's guiding principles, policies and procedures as set out in the company hand book and various standard operating procedures at all times.
- Maintain and develop the company's quality and management system documentation, including control and supervision of all amendments and revisions.
- Control and the distribution of all the company's quality and environmental system related documentation.
- Work with cross-functional teams to drive system quality improvements through the business as required.
- Support business initiatives to improve systems & quality / environmental awareness through all levels of the organisation.

The ideal candidate

We are looking for someone with the right experience, skills and attitude to join our team. These include:

- An experienced quality engineer with practical experience of operational quality issues and quality management systems, preferably in a manufacturing environment.
- Completion of Production Part Approval Process (PPAP) documentation.
- Experience of working as part of APQP processes.
- Experience in conducting audits and inspections.
- Experience of using International Material Data System (IMDS).
- Ability to analyse data and identify root cause analysis of NCMR.
- Knowledge of recognised problem-solving techniques (eg: FMEA, 8D, 5Whys).
- Experience of managing in-process inspections.
- Ability to establish Quality Criteria/specification.
- A good understanding of safe working policies and practices and a track record of always working in a safety conscious manner.

- Excellent communication skills (both verbal and written), with the ability to communicate effectively and respectfully with customers and suppliers and at all levels within the business.
- Proficient in reading and interpreting technical drawings, specifications, and engineering documents.
- Good personal organisational and time management skills.
- Hold relevant quality/engineering qualification(s).
- Knowledge of plastic injection moulding preferred.
- Experience of ISO 9001, IATF 16949 or similar quality management systems and certifications would be advantageous.
- Previous experience of Quality-related roles.
- Effective communication skills (written & oral).
- Ability to work on own as well as part of a Team.