



Job Description

Copperhead Industries provides end-to-end solutions for precise location of underground utilities. Innovation, high quality and superior service make Copperhead the supplier of choice among utilities, municipalities and engineers specifying tracer wire systems in the natural gas/oil, water/sewer, and telecommunications markets. Copperhead Industries is an equal opportunity employer offering a comprehensive benefit package including health, dental and life insurance, 401K, profit sharing, and tuition reimbursement.

Job Title: Product Development Engineer

Location: Monticello, MN

Job Overview: This position will play a key role in driving new product innovation for the company, leading the design and development of utility locating and tracer wire related products and processes. Responsible for ideation, design, development, testing, and implementation of new products and product enhancements for the water/sewer, natural gas, and telecommunications utility construction markets. This position will also assist with the design and flow of manufacturing processes that support production as needed. This position will be the technical expert for the Copperhead product portfolio. These efforts will be critical to enable Copperhead to meet the needs of its customers and to create new differentiation.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Work with a cross-functional team through the product innovation process as the technical product expert, with ownership of the design and development phases
- Assess the market, competitive, and customer needs to drive both the development of commercial product requirements and product solutions
- Perform comprehensive assessment of competing technologies and new product concepts
- Intelligently drive a manufacturing plan including identifying component supply chain, internal/external fabrication assessment, and cost of goods optimization
- Select third party vendors, manufacturers, engineers, and suppliers for the design, engineering, development, and production of prototypes and new commercial products as part of the development process
- Assess performance through product testing and customer feedback to understand product related issues, then coordinate improvements through root-cause analysis and corrective action activities
- Optimize new products to optimize margins using sales forecasts to inform the product design and manufacturing plan





- Participate in technical issues reviews and provide recommendations
- Use 3D modeling software to create and maintain updated CAD drawings for all products and to create illustrations for the manufacturing processes
- Create and maintain user instructions
- Participate in design and process evaluations for existing products
- Create test plans and coordinate product testing using internal and external resources
- Create reports from the test data that demonstrate the design meets the established functional and performance requirements
- Communicate with stakeholders about project status including technical updates, cost estimates, timing, and schedule
- Direct the creation of intellectual property based on analysis of potential value
- Support manufacturing by performing process assessments, participating in cross-functional problem solving, and optimization of processes for efficiency

Qualifications & Skills:

- B.S. Engineering or related technical experience
- 5+ years development/engineering experience (underground utility industry experience is a plus)
- Demonstrated proficiency of 3D modeling software such as SolidWorks
- Proficient in product quality, new product development, and process improvement
- Creativity, critical-thinking, and listening skills
- Extensive technical/mechanical expertise required
- Excellent project management skills with ability to handle multiple projects at once
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills with ability to effectively explain design concepts, process improvement, and instructions with varying levels of internal employees and external partners
- Demonstrated drive for continuous improvement
- Good business sense
- Proficient with Microsoft Office applications

To apply, please send cover letter and resume to jobs@copperheadwire.com or mail to Copperhead Industries, ATTN: HR, P.O. Box 1081, Monticello, MN 55362.

