



Make products so good that problems just won't stick!

WHITFORD is one of the largest producers of fluoropolymer (nonstick) coatings in the world. Privately owned, Whitford has grown its manufacturing operations to 8 production sites in three continents, supplying to customers in over 50 countries around the world. We have significantly increased our turn over following the recent acquisition of Akzo Nobel Non-Stick coatings division. To support our continuous growth, we are expanding our workforce and have an immediate vacancy in our China plant located in Jiangmen, Guangdong Province.

PURCHASING & MATERIAL PLANNING MANAGER

Jiangmen, Guangdong Province

The role:

You report to the General Manager of the China plant. As the head of the department, you undertake full responsibility for material planning and purchasing of all materials to meet the quantitative and qualitative requirements of the production of the China plant. Leveraging on Whitford's global market reach, you and your team have the objective of negotiating the best pricing and terms to deliver timely, cost effective, quality materials from both overseas and local suppliers.

Key responsibilities

- Timely and cost effective purchase of materials for China plant through close consultation with Production and Customer Service Manager
- Efficient inventory management, meeting optimal levels which balance inventory cost with optimal delivery of finished goods
- Using the existing infrastructure and tools such as the Batchmaster/Platinum, you coordinate your departmental activities (purchasing, material planning, inventory management) and interface with the existing processes of the China plant
- Through frequent liaison with your colleagues in Singapore, you streamline purchasing activities in the China plant in order to standardize with the rest of the region and develop a best practice

- To control strategic raw materials liaising closely with Singapore and other global locations in view of the ongoing global contracts which are already in place.

The person

You are an experienced manager who enjoys the dynamics and interaction of a manufacturing environment in China. Your previous purchasing and planning experience dealing with both local and international suppliers in a related industry (specialty chemicals, pigments, paint, glue, solvent, ink, adhesives, etc.) involving a 'make to order', batch manufacturing process, gives you a head start into understanding the varying demands and constraints of the business and in particular the supply of raw materials for production activities. You are a seasoned negotiator, with ability to negotiate with both overseas and local Chinese suppliers, making reasonable demands without compromising quality with a strong focus on savings for the company. You thrive in a self-motivated environment with less structure offering constant challenges and new situations. You believe in self-management and performance through targets for yourself and the team. You take pride in nurturing and upgrading the skills of your team members through continuous coaching and mentoring on the job.

Requirements

- Relevant experience combining an advanced education in chemistry and/or logistics
- Purchasing experience in the relevant manufacturing industry such as paint or coatings, especially chemicals with batch manufacturing operations (fine chemicals, petrochemicals, additives, specialty chemicals, etc.), performance coatings or related processes and materials;
- Minimum 5 - 7 years of experience in a purchasing role comprising of material planning and inventory management, with purchasing volumes in the range of USD 5 – 10 million in varying quantities (familiar with customized, specialty chemicals made to order and not bulk commodities)
- At least 2 years experience in a managerial role with supervisory responsibility
- Experience & understanding of MNC culture
- Recruitment, training and development of a young ground-breaking team
- Operate with transparency, high inclination to corporate integrity and procedural compliance with high sensitivity to cost
- Proficiency in English and Mandarin is mandatory

(HK Residents are encouraged to apply for this role)

As the market leader with a global perspective, we are expected to have similar structures in every location around the world. The company invests as much in its people as it does in its products. The strong family spirit wants everyone to be successful. The Whitford Ethos merits talent and welcomes motivated individuals to join our family. On top of a competitive salary scheme and great employee benefits, the position offers attractive allowances and incentives. If our proposition interests you, please send your English application (CV, expected salary and availability), by email only to: hresource@whitfordww.com quoting reference number (Ref: 002-CSM-WJIA-e), addressed to the Hiring Manager. All applications will be treated strictly confidential. For other open positions, please visit our website www.whitfordww.com under Vacancies.

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