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Siemens recruits for key roles to shape Hull operations

Siemens today (February 25) began the next phase of its recruitment in Hull, by advertising specialist roles which will shape its operations at the city's Alexandra Dock.

The world's largest engineering company has advertised key technical roles focused on learning from and developing manufacturing processes used at Siemens' wind turbine blade factory in Aalborg, Denmark.

The Hull manufacturing and assembly operations are due to become fully operational in early 2017, but the jobs of Lean Specialist and five Process Improvement Engineers are being advertised now so the successful candidates can become fully conversant with manufacturing and operational processes at the Danish facility.

They are expected to spend the majority of the first year of employment in Denmark, learning from the Danish operation and how processes there can be adapted and developed to ensure the new Hull facilities set industry-leading standards of efficiency and productivity.

The Lean Specialist position is focused on maximising performance through the "lean" business model, which prioritises the elimination of non-value added activities in manufacturing processes to deliver continuous improvement in efficiency, cost reduction, productivity and quality.

The Lean Specialist will lead and support continuous improvement projects within the Hull blade factory to achieve productivity gains, as well as benchmarking performance and sharing best practice. The successful candidate will have a manufacturing or engineering qualification at degree level or equivalent and significant experience of working with lean business systems and tools in a manufacturing environment, such as the automotive industry.

The Process Improvement Engineers will be responsible for providing solutions to process-related issues to maximise manufacturing performance. They will be part of a department with responsibility for developing and optimising production methods and equipment.

Candidates for these roles should have a production/mechanical engineering degree or equivalent qualification and formal training in lean and/or Six Sigma, another methodology for

driving process improvement. They will have significant experience of managing engineering projects and designing and improving work processes in a manufacturing environment.

Also advertised today are the positions of Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Manager and Marine Operations Manager.

The EHS Manager is an early appointment to ensure environmental and health and safety policies, standards and procedures are fully implemented in the planning, construction, fit-out and commissioning of the blade factory and that Siemens' zero harm policy and culture is embedded as the facility becomes operational.

Candidates for this role will require extensive environmental, health and safety experience, ideally within a manufacturing or engineering environment. The successful candidate is also likely to spend time working in Aalborg.

The Marine Operations Manager will manage incoming and outgoing vessels, including inward components and the shipping out of turbines to offshore wind farms, from the new harbour at Alexandra Dock, which is due to become operational in late 2016, in advance of the blade factory.

Carolyn Woolway, Siemens' Head of Human Resources for the Hull project, said: "These are absolutely key positions, as they will be the first wave of people who will be instrumental in getting our blade factory and harbour operations at Alexandra Dock up and running.

"They will play a key role in establishing our new business and have the opportunity to shape world-class facilities which will set new standards for an industry of the future."

Siemens received almost 1,000 applications for the first 14 operational roles as part of the Hull project, which were advertised before Christmas. Job offers for all but one of those roles are imminent. Interviews are pending for the other position.

Mrs Woolway added: "The quality of applications for those positions was excellent, with many more suitable candidates than available roles.

"We don't anticipate the same volume of applications for these latest positions as they are niche, specialist roles, but we're confident we can get the experience and expertise we require. Ideally, we would like to fill these roles locally, although we acknowledge there may be a smaller field of qualified local candidates."

Mrs Woolway was born and brought up in the Hull area, studying at South Holderness School and Hull College. She joined Siemens on the Hull project last month, from energy giant RWE where she was a Human Resources Programme Manager, leading a team of HR change professionals working across various sectors, including renewables.

She added: "The job was advertised and a friend sent it to me, saying they thought it had my name on it.

“I wasn’t looking to move, but as soon as I saw the job I knew I wanted to be part of it, because it was working for Siemens on such a huge and exciting project that will benefit my home city.

“That was what attracted me and I’m sure it will be one of the factors for people applying for these positions and other opportunities that will follow as the project develops.”

In addition to the operational roles, Siemens has also advertised a Project Planner position to join the 10-strong project team based at Humber Quays on Hull Marina. The role requires candidates with solid project planning experience and qualifications at HNC, HND or degree level or equivalent.

All the positions are advertised in today’s Hull Daily Mail, on the Siemens website and internally within Siemens. The positions will be available for two weeks, with applications closing at midnight on Tuesday, March 10. All applicants must live within a 40-minute radius of Hull or be willing to relocate to the city.

The advertised positions can be viewed in today’s Hull Daily Mail or on the Siemens website at: www.siemens.co.uk/hulljobs

When fully operational, Siemens will employ about 1,000 people in Hull. People who are interested in other opportunities with Siemens in the city can register their interest via the same link.

Find out more about the Siemens Hull project by visiting www.siemens.co.uk/hull

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