
JOB ADVERT

Lead Mechanical Engineer

Competitive Salary

Knutsford, Cheshire

Stopford are recruiting for a Lead Mechanical Engineer to join the team to work with highly skilled professionals who are constantly striving to deliver excellence and best practice.

Stopford's business activities are at the forefront of the energy transition and together with our clients and partners, we are playing our part in tackling the biggest challenges of our time: Energy Security; Environmental Sustainability and Energy Affordability.

You will be based at our office in Knutsford with the opportunity for hybrid working. There may be occasional travel required to other offices and client offices/sites. This is a full-time permanent position.

The Role

Reporting to the Project Group Engineering Manager, the Lead Mechanical Engineer shall be responsible for all aspects of Mechanical design and engineering delivered by the Project Group. Working on projects across the Waste, Renewables, Chemicals, Nuclear and Petrochemical Sectors working for a wide range of clients and also supporting the Technology and Innovation Group in the development and delivery of our own technologies.

Key Responsibilities include:

- Building, managing and developing a team of Mechanical engineers and designers.
- Preparing, checking and approving design and engineering deliverables including:
 - Basis of Design
 - Datasheets
 - Specifications
 - RFQ's
 - Preparing, checking and approving specifications and Scopes of Work for installation contractors and equipment suppliers and completing Technical Bid Evaluations (TBE's).
- Direct input or oversight of onsite construction and commissioning support, depending on the project.
- Ensuring the Mechanical deliverables produced by the Projects Group are to the correct quality, standard and budget.
- Participation in Project Design Reviews and Risk Assessments. (3D Model, Constructability, HAZOP etc)
- Reviewing and developing strategic planning and proposing new business opportunities.
- Supporting preparation of proposals including deliverable lists and Cost, Time & Resource budget estimates
- Proactively engage with customers internally and externally, developing and maintaining strong, positive business relationships.
- Some travel to Supplier FAT's, construction sites and Client Site Visits will be required.

About you

- Ideally educated to a degree level, in Mechanical Engineering.
- Have experience in the Petrochemicals, Nuclear, Chemicals, Waste or renewable energy industries.
- Have experience of managing in a design and engineering environment.
- Experience producing and checking Mechanical Deliverables, Scopes of Work, and reviewing similar Vendor Documents.
- Experience managing 3rd Party design consultants and suppliers.
- Knowledge of working with PED, PER and PSSR and CE/UKCA compliance routes.
- Knowledge of DSEAR/ATEX, hazardous area classification equipment/design.
- Knowledge of Nuclear Design Review and Safety Cases.
- Able to complete proposal and CapEx design hour and equipment cost estimates.
- An ability to think strategically and understanding the implication of changes to contract scope.
- An ability to work collaboratively with all engineering design and construction disciplines.
- Working knowledge of Office 365 including One Drive and Sharepoint with proficient use of Word and excel.
- Eligible to live and work in the UK (with no restrictions)
- Full UK/EEC driving licence

Desirable

- Chartered Engineer.
- Understanding of Designer and Principal Designer Roles under CDM.

Security Clearance

The successful candidate must be able to achieve and maintain security clearance of at least Security Check level (SC clearance) for this role.

The Company

Stopford is an international energy and environmental engineering company, our professional services span Technology and Innovation, Consultancy and Project Delivery. We are an industry leader with a portfolio spanning research and development through to design and commissioning of process, power, and renewables technology. With a worldwide clientele in emerging and existing industries, we provide a full range of project management and engineering services.

Employment at Stopford brings many benefits including:

- Competitive salary
- Profit related bonus payment (10%)
- Pension (5% employer and 5% employee)
- 25 days holiday plus bank holidays
- Additional day off to celebrate your Birthday
- Private medical insurance
- Employee assistance programme
- Free on-site parking
- Reimbursement of professional membership fees
- Long service awards

Please go to our website for a full job description to familiarise yourself with all of the responsibilities, skills and experience required before you apply.

Please note that we do not accept applications from agencies, and you must be eligible to live and work in the UK.

We look forward to receiving your CV for the post of Lead Mechanical Engineer.

Closing date: 30 January 2026

Stopford reserves the right to bring forward the closing date if we receive a suitable number of quality applications from which to make a shortlist. Therefore, we would recommend that you apply as soon as possible.

Please note that due to the volume of applications we receive we are unfortunately not able to respond to each applicant. If you have not been called for interview within 3 weeks of the closing date, you should assume that on this occasion your application has been unsuccessful.

Job Description

Position: Lead Mechanical Engineer

Group: Projects

Location: Mere Hall Farm Business Centre, Bucklow Hill, Mere, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 6LE

Ambition

Our ambition is to lead the way in engineering a sustainable world through the transition to a low carbon economy.

Values

Our values guide the way we carry out our everyday activities to achieve our ambition:

- Responsibility – Committed to ethical and responsible actions
- Innovation – Innovation to create sustainable value
- Unrivalled expertise – Delivering a world class service
- Inclusivity – Working together with mutual respect
- Sustainability – Awareness at every opportunity

Description

Reporting to the Project Group Engineering Manager, the Mechanical Lead shall be responsible for all aspects of Mechanical design and engineering delivered by the Project Group. Working on projects across the Waste, Renewables, Chemicals, Nuclear and Petrochemical Sectors working for a wide range of Clients and also supporting the Technology and Innovation Group in the development and delivery of our own technologies.

Key Accountabilities/Responsibilities

- Building, managing and developing a team of Mechanical engineers and designers.
- Preparing, checking and approving design and engineering deliverables including:
 - Basis of Design
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Requirements – Education and Experience

- Ideally educated to a degree level, in Mechanical Engineering.
- Have experience in the Petrochemicals, Nuclear, Chemicals, Waste or renewable energy industries.
- Have experience of managing in a design and engineering environment.
- Experience producing and checking Mechanical Deliverables, Scopes of Work, and reviewing similar Vendor Documents.
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- Working knowledge of Office 365 including One Drive and Sharepoint with proficient use of Word and excel.
- Eligible to live and work in the UK (with no restrictions)
- Full UK/EEC driving licence

Desirable

- Chartered Engineer.
- Understanding of Designer and Principal Designer Roles under CDM.
- BPSS or SC Clearance.

Company Wide Aspects

- Adhere to Stopford's Business Management System.
- Promote and manage Performance Development

Review

The above is not an exhaustive list of duties and you will be expected to perform different tasks as necessitated by your role within the organisation and the overall business objectives of the organisation.