
JOB ADVERT

CAD & Piping Lead

Competitive Salary

Knutsford, Cheshire

Due to a significant increase in recently awarded projects, Stopford are recruiting for a CAD & Piping Lead to join the team to support the design and delivery of major projects across all stages from design to commissioning. Experience working across nuclear, oil and gas and pharma sectors would be beneficial.

The Role

The CAD & Piping Lead will be working on a wide range of projects in the environmental and energy sectors ranging from water industry to waste to energy plants, biomass and plastic recycling facilities, new waste gasification technology and also supporting the development of our own cutting edge sustainable, low carbon technologies to name a few.

As a Lead, you will be responsible for the design of multi-sector projects from renewable energy, hydrogen generation and resource recovery to industrial chemicals, wastewater and also our own environmental technologies. Reporting to the Projects Group Director, and to the relevant Project Managers for project matters, you will be actively involved in the delivery of CAD and Piping deliverables for projects and supporting other Service Groups with CAD support as required.

You will manage a team of piping engineers, 3D designers and draughtspersons to deliver a strong technical solution that meets customer specifications and expectations, ensuring that all necessary reporting and administration deadlines are met.

You will liaise closely with other disciplines to fulfil CAD and piping requirements in their design work. You will demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills for dealing with different departments within the company.

You will be responsible for the delivery of 2D & 3D drawings, digital models and piping deliverables in accordance with Stopford Standard Procedures and industry best practice.

Key Responsibilities include:

- Contributing to the design evolution and formal design process.
- Creation, preparation, and modification of 2D and 3D drawings/models using AutoCAD Plant 3D, Navisworks, and other industry-standard software suites.
- Piping design at all design stages: conceptual, preliminary, detailed engineering, construction queries.
- Typical 2D output: PIDs, PFDs, GAs, details, pipe supports, isometrics, site layouts, hazardous area classification layouts.
- Typical 3D output: 3D piping, mechanical equipment modelling, Navisworks 3D models, clash detection, modelling from point cloud data, 3D point cloud manipulation, pipework general arrangements and isometrics.

- Development of piping and pipe support material specifications.

About you

- Preferably educated to a higher / degree level in an Engineering discipline with significant 3D piping design experience in a relevant sector.
- Have experience in the petrochemicals, chemicals or renewable energy industries.
- Have experience of working in a design and engineering environment.
- 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.
- Experience in estimation of budget hours and design scope.
- Sound understanding of engineering materials and manufacturing techniques in accordance with codes and standards. Conduct 3D model, round table, and constructability reviews and prepare survey and installation SOWs.
- Sound knowledge of Piping design elements to manage the overall department design activities.
- Knowledge of BIM and associated standards (ASME, BSi, ISO, etc), Navisworks, model federation and clash detection.

Due to our work supporting nuclear clients, you must be able to achieve and maintain security clearance of at least Security Check level (SC clearance).

The Company

Founded in 1982, Stopford is an international multi-disciplinary consultancy, engineering design and project management services company. We are an industry leader with a portfolio spanning research and development through to design and commissioning of process plant. With a worldwide clientele in emerging and existing industries in the clean energy sector. Our ambition is to lead the way in engineering a sustainable world through the transition to a low carbon economy.

Employment at Stopford brings many benefits including:

- Competitive salary
- Profit related bonus payment
- 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 with no restrictions.

We look forward to receiving your CV for the post of CAD & Piping Lead.

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: CAD & Piping Lead

Group: Projects

Location: Knutsford, Cheshire

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

As a Lead, you will be responsible for the design of multi-sector projects from renewable energy, hydrogen generation and resource recovery to industrial chemicals, wastewater and also our own environmental technologies. Reporting to the Projects Group Director, and to the relevant Project Managers for project matters, you will be actively involved in the delivery of CAD and Piping deliverables for projects and supporting other Service Groups with CAD support as required.

You will manage a team of piping engineers, 3D designers and draughtspersons to deliver a strong technical solution that meets customer specifications and expectations, ensuring that all necessary reporting and administration deadlines are met.

You will liaise closely with other disciplines to fulfil CAD and piping requirements in their design work. You will demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills for dealing with different departments within the company.

You will be responsible for the delivery of 2D & 3D drawings, digital models and piping deliverables in accordance with Stopford Standard Procedures and industry best practice.

Key Accountabilities / Responsibilities

As a Lead CAD and Piping, you will be responsible for managing following activities:

- Contributing to the design evolution and formal design process.
- Creation, preparation, and modification of 2D and 3D drawings/models using AutoCAD Plant 3D, Navisworks, and other industry-standard software suites.
- Piping design at all design stages: conceptual, preliminary, detailed engineering, construction queries.
- Typical 2D output: PIDs, PFDs, GAs, details, pipe supports, isometrics, site layouts, hazardous area classification layouts.
- Typical 3D output: 3D piping, mechanical equipment modelling, Navisworks 3D models, clash detection, modelling from point cloud data, 3D point cloud manipulation, pipework general arrangements and isometrics.
- Development of piping and pipe support material specifications.

- Managing the work of Pipe Stress Engineers to review designs in accordance with industry and Client standards.
- Developing Piping design, isometric production, pipe supports, MTOs
- Carrying out or coordinating site visits, including 3D laser scans, general site surveys, as-built checking, tie-in identification, meetings with clients and interpreting client requirements. This may require climbing stairs/ladders/crammed working conditions.
- Onsite construction and commissioning support may be required depending on the project.
- Preparation and checking of technical documents e.g., design calculations and analysis, technical bids evaluation, the vendor/manufacturer supplied documents and procurement specifications.
- Queries and correspondences with supply chain management, liaison with contractors and sub-contractors.
- Reviewing and approving technical documentation, working to the Stopford Business Management System.
- Development and mentoring of junior staff, resourcing and hiring as per company business plan.

Requirements – Education and Experience

- Preferably educated to a higher / degree level in an Engineering discipline with significant 3D piping design experience in a relevant sector.
- Have experience in the petrochemicals, chemicals or renewable energy industries.
- Have experience of working in a design and engineering environment.
- 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.
- Experience in estimation of budget hours and design scope.
- Sound understanding of engineering materials and manufacturing techniques in accordance with codes and standards. Conduct 3D model, round table, and constructability reviews and prepare survey and installation SOWs.
- Sound knowledge of Piping design elements to manage the overall department design activities.
- Knowledge of BIM and associated standards (ASME, BSi, ISO, etc), Navisworks, model federation and clash detection.
- Excellent communication ability both verbal and written.
- Skilled in Office 365 including One Drive and Sharepoint with proficient use of Word and Excel.
- Eligible to live and work in the UK.

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.