Chief of Design & Technology / Co-Founder

Full time position
Location: Singapore

Who We Are

BillionBricks is an innovation studio that uses design and technology as tools to innovate shelter solutions for the homeless and vulnerable. Co-founded by Prasoon Kumar in 2013, we have impacted 5,055 people from 9 countries. After 6 years of developing shelter solutions; now backed by venture capital investment, we are evolving into a for-profit social organization to accelerate the impact of our second innovation, powerHYDE.

powerHYDE communities are the world’s first self-financing, sustainable solar home communities for the homeless. A unique triple bottom line solution, powerHYDE combines social housing and clean (solar) energy into a single financially viable business proposition.

Through the production and sale of surplus solar energy, we’re increasing incomes and improving living standards. We have successfully built two prototypes in India & the Philippines and are now in the process of developing the first powerHYDE communities, beginning in these markets.

In this phase of growth, we are looking for a Chief of Design & Technology/ Co-Founder to venture with us, as we realize our vision of a world where everyone can afford their own home in a dignified way.

For more background on powerHYDE, please visit these links:
powerHYDE overview
powerHYDE article - designboom writeup
powerHYDE video

The Role

We’re looking for an all-rounded creative genius - someone who can balance out-of-the-box thinking, with the technicalities of engineering, technology and the nuances of product development. S(he) will lead the conceptualising, developing and execution of powerHYDE as a product. Through productization, our goal is to refine and standardize the pioneer powerHYDE concept into an IKEA-like playbook so that it can be efficiently mass produced and deployed at scale across the world.

We have been researching lean manufacturing, 3D printing and automobile-style, assembly line technologies for the manufacturing of powerHYDE homes. As Chief of Design & Technology/ Co-Founder, you will build upon this foundation, while actively working with new innovations and ground up technologies, to realize the vision of housing for all.
Importantly, as one of our Co-Founders, you will play a pivotal role in the overall success of BillionBricks. We're looking for candidates who are looking for more than a job. You'll need to truly believe in our work and mission; to be in it for the long haul. In this position, you will draw a basic, minimum salary, with founders equity, for long-term upside. Part of the role will also require you to work in India, with the pioneer Design Lead for the first 3-6 months, to gain a firm understanding of powerHYDE. After which you will be transferred back and be based in Singapore.

Summary

- Develop powerHYDE as a product from the ground up.
- Design to optimise product cost for easy implementation and mass deployment, globally.
- Build and lead the product team - you will be both a great leader and a hands-on team player, with the ability to pull together talent across functions to continuously create and refine the best versions of the powerHYDE home system.
- Work with interdisciplinary design teams in manufacturing and construction.
- Prudent in designing for affordability and sustainability; uphold the core design principles of BillionBricks.

Skills & Experience

- Strong understanding of system design and the life cycle of product design.
- Previous experience in technology, design and / or engineering (construction, manufacturing, structural design).
- Previous experience in prototyping and product industrialisation processes.
- Strong ability to conceptualise ideas.
- Innovative and hands-on.
- Experience leading a team across varying disciplines.
- Sample background : Postgrad fellow, R&D space in industries such as manufacturing.
- Ideal candidates will be able to thrive in these reference organisations : Google X, MIT Media Lab.
- Understands and leverages future trends in smart home systems, 3D printing, lean manufacturing, assembly line manufacturing systems, building materials, solar technology.
- Experience working within product innovation (hardware), relentless in the pursuit of improving design and technologies employed.
- Absolutely passionate and committed to solving the global housing crisis. Read more about our values here.

What’s in it for you?

A fulfilling, purposeful career with a multitude of professional growth opportunities.
A leadership role in a vibrant, evolving organisation creating global impact.
The opportunity to be part of the founding team, with a basic, minimum salary + founders equity for long term upside.
How to Apply?

Join our mission by sending a creative note to hello@billionbricks.org and amanda@billionbricks.org. Include your written motivation with clear mention of what you can bring to BillionBricks, together with all the following details:

- Linked in profile
- One page CV
- One key reference
- **Your portfolio of work**
- Expected compensation
- Current compensation
- Visa status for Singapore

Note that if you are shortlisted, we may request you to work on a sample case as one of the interview rounds.