

Job Title: Process Technician/Operator - Bio Manufacturing

Location: Sydney, Nova Scotia

Salary: Depending on experience



The Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment is an independent clean technology development and deployment facility. We offer client-tailored services to support companies in developing sustainable solutions that meet industry needs.

Our Bio Manufacturing team operates a unique bioprocess production model that combines both upstream and downstream operations. As part of the Bio Manufacturing team, you will assist in operating a unique pilot scale bioprocess production model that combines both upstream and downstream operations. Together with your team, you will support process development, optimization and scale-up, and product recovery and characterization services.

You will work with innovative clients to develop their products at a pilot scale level, participating in validating and de-risking their technology to ensure they hit commercial markets in sustainable biomanufacturing. Additionally, you will help to maintain the equipment and utilities to uphold high levels of safety and efficiency within the facility.

Qualifications and Eligibility

Your qualifications should include a diploma in a relevant field, such as 4th class power engineering, chemical or biochemical or other related engineering technology. Your education coupled with your experience makes you knowledgeable in process operations, and you have shown a history of being able to problem-solve and make improvements/optimizations. You have a great mechanical aptitude, and you have been able to provide support in maintenance in an industrial or related environment. Additionally, you are a highly detailed, focused individual that enjoys working on a small team where responsibilities are shared and varied.

Your qualifications include:

- A diploma in power engineering, chemical or biochemical engineering technology, or a related field
- 1 to 5 years practical experience in industrial process operations, with downstream process experience being considered an asset
- Experience with pilot or manufacturing scale of fermentation, or related chemical processes is preferred
- Maintenance experience on pipe and pump systems
- Strong mechanical aptitude, versatile, and flexible
- Ability to work as part of a team and independently with multiple areas of responsibility
- Ability to prioritize tasks and ensure completion of assignments

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Responsibilities:

- Operating utilities such as, but not limited to, electric boiler, multi-stage air compressor, RO water system. This would involve maintaining daily logs, minor maintenance such as filter changing, periodic manufacturers' recommended equipment maintenance
- Maintaining bioreactors. Under direction of the technical team, this includes regular equipment maintenance, maintenance troubleshooting while the process is running, and scheduled preventative maintenance
- Operating and maintaining (including CIP) downstream processes such as centrifuges, spray dryers, filtration equipment and auxiliary equipment
- Assisting in connecting/commissioning equipment to support the requirements of reactor production runs
- Assisting fermentation technicians when required or requested
- Responsible for Clean in Place (CIP) and Steam in Place (SIP) operations as required. Activities such as mixing caustic and pumping through the equipment in a manner prescribed by manufacturers to ensure proper cleaning. Successfully steaming equipment for sterilization purposes.
- Maintaining a safe and clean work environment
- Performing various processing operations in the pilot scale facilities in accordance with Verschuren Centre Safety and Standard Operating Procedures
- Completing individual daily workplans
- Working independently while collaborating in a team setting under direction of the Fermentation Lead and Process Lead
- Operationalizing pilot scale process equipment and down-stream processes from start to finish such as utilities, centrifuge, micro/ultrafiltration, and spray drying
- Assisting in troubleshooting and maintenance of equipment in collaboration with the process team and fermentation team
- Adhering to bio-safety, product safety, and other SOP's toward production of high-quality product.
- Other responsibilities may be assigned depending upon business needs

All interested and qualified candidates are asked to submit their cover letter and resume to info@verschurencentre.ca. Please reference the job title in which you are applying for in your cover letter and email subject.