



Product Development Manager – Food Contact Materials

The Role

The company is seeking a Product Development Manager to join the team, with the role of:

- Screening different bio-based polymers dispersions and / or solution formulations to create food contact microcapsules, coatings, and films.
- Developing materials which could be used as a barrier against grease, moisture and oxygen.
- Assessing the functional properties of microcapsules and coatings such as barrier performance, shelf life, water solubility, taste and visual impact.
- Ensuring food safety and compliance of the microcapsules and coatings formulations.
- Utilising of techniques for microencapsulation post treatment as spray drying.
- Designing and developing prototype machinery to simulate the coating technology on different food and packaging applications.
- Preparing reports on procedures tested and eliminate methods that are unsuccessful.
- Responsible for validation testing of its development e.g. migration testing, shelf life and biodegradability testing among others.
- Responsible for specification development of Xampla's food contact materials portfolio.
- Researching patents, copyrights, and trademarks in food contact material applications.
- In collaboration with other teams, ensuring product certification and quality measures are designed and met

Candidate Experience

The company is seeking candidates with:

- A bachelor's degree in a discipline relating to Biology, Chemistry, Food science or Material science (or equivalent)
- Experience in the food industry

- Microencapsulation, food coatings or edible packaging application experience would be beneficial
- Sustainability experience would also be beneficial - basic understanding of sustainable bio-based materials, or polymers materials in general. May have worked on cellulose or other biopolymers.
- Expertise in (food) polymer science and formulation.
- Experience in laboratory analysis for mechanical and chemical performances.
- Develop, optimize, and validate barrier assessment methodologies.
- Troubleshoot issues and determine the cause of a plan's success or failure.
- Working knowledge in food manufacturing and GMP's.
- Excellent understanding of processing technologies and end user applications across Food and Beverage markets.
- Excellent project management abilities.
- Keeps up to date with changes in the market and technology that would affect new product development.
- Must be a team player and possess excellent communication skills.
- Must be creative, detail-oriented and must be able to multi-task
- The right fit for a small, science-led, innovative team and a high level autonomy, creativity and independence

Package

- £40k-£50k salary (depending on experience)
- Share options in a fast-growing Cambridge start-up
- Flexible working options