**2-24-14 JOB OPENING**

# RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
# Saint-Gobain Corporation
# Northboro, Massachusetts

**Description:**
Saint-Gobain is the world's largest manufacturer and distributor of building materials, and a leader in the production of high-performance materials and glass containers with more than 1,000 subsidiaries in 64 countries. The Northboro R&D Center focusing on materials research has been in operation since 1985. We have an outstanding record of achievement, and are committed to growth through the development of proprietary products based on novel materials and process technologies. The 186,000-square-foot R&D Center is based in three buildings on a 26-acre site near I-290 in Northboro and has approximately 330 employees from 27 different countries.

**Duties:**

- Effectively communicate with customers to propose and define projects understanding business strategies, priorities and roadmaps. Propose objectives for projects in the area of polymer material and processing solutions and get agreement from stakeholders. Manage progress of the projects by working and communicating effectively with cross-functional teams and stakeholders. Apply the project management methodologies and detailed metrics for highly successful projects. Lead polymer processing developing in process simulation activity. Work in the frame of projects to understand and troubleshoot a specific process, to optimize processing parameters in the field of extruded and injection molded products. For this, assess rheological behavior of materials from specific rheological measurements.
- Provide recommendation on die designs, process improvements, and material formulation to increase process efficiency, product quality and manufacturing cost. Assess feasibility of new processes and processing of new materials / formulations.
- Through projects or specific requests, support processing needs for customers in the field of compounding (batch and twin screw extrusion), tubing, film or profile extrusion or coextrusion, and injection molding. Help customer with material and formulation development if needed. Stay aware of new polymer processing technology and guide customer for new processes and new product development.
- Work with the Polymer Characterization lab to quantify polymer rheological behavior. Use available rheological models (Newtonian, Non-Newtonian, Visco-elastic constitutive equations) to best describe the behavior of polymer shear flow, extensional flow or other.
- Closely work together with diverse materials and processing teams to maximize synergies.
- Mentor peers and develop direct reports as needed.

**Requirements:**

- MS or PhD (PhD preferred) in Polymer Chemistry, Polymer Science/Engineering, or Chemical Engineering or related disciplines with 5 plus years of industrial experience.
- Experience in the areas of polymer processing and formulation. Prior experience in compounding, extrusion, texturization and injection molding is highly desirable.
- Experience with designing experiments and analyzing data statistical techniques is required. Knowledge and use of polymer processing simulation software is highly desirable.
- Good communication skills, project management skills working with multiple clients, and be able to see big pictures and directions clearly.
- Prior experience in managing a small R&D team is a plus.

**Contact:**

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