



Materials Research and Development Assistant

Location: Swansea Full time-permanent, Monday-Friday

Competitive salary plus share options and pension

Smile Plastics is leading the way in recycled surface material innovation. We produce incredible decorative panels, products and furniture from 100% recycled and recyclable plastics. .

Launched in 2015, we are one of the global leading suppliers of sustainable plastics surfaces and products for commercial fit outs, priding ourselves on excellent craftsmanship and design as well as sustainability. We enjoy a growing list of high end and repeat customers within interior design, furniture design, product design and architectural disciplines. The demand and market for our product is huge and we are looking to radically expand our operations to capture the global market and deliver our mission of making the most beautiful sustainable materials in the world whilst encouraging us all to value plastics and eliminate waste.

To play an active role in our next phase of growth, we are looking for a Materials Research and Development Assistant to join us. You'll test and develop new sustainable materials, and work with external and internal stakeholders to ensure innovation, compliance and performance of our products hits the mark for the full range of customers we supply.

You need to be knowledgeable and passionate about the use of sustainable materials in the built environment. You'll come with a deep understanding of how to evaluate performance and deliver certifications and you'll have a strong technical knowhow in the R&D process. You'll be educated to degree level, or equivalent, in a related subject and your work experience will ideally come from within the architectural/design industry, working with materials.



On a daily basis you will:

- Facilitate the development and testing of new sustainable materials
- Facilitate further LCAs on our materials, evaluating them against other material types
- Deliver robust programs of work (including research and testing) to enhance technical performance criteria for our materials
- Work with external testing agencies to gain and communicate relevant test data
- Facilitate the delivery of in-house materials testing programs end-to-end in-house
- Deliver environmental certifications for the business e.g. Cradle 2 Cradle, working closely with our QHSE Manager
- Support with identifying and testing new waste streams for the business
- Conduct sustainable materials research, uncovering trends and innovations within the marketplace
- Research and advise on all materials compliance related matters within our target markets.
- Monitor funded R&D opportunities, applying for, and then managing all projects end-to-end
- Develop and maintain tests for the archive and materials library
- Provide advice to internal and external stakeholders on the correct usage and application of materials within the built environment
- Enable knowledge sharing around sustainable materials across the business

To join us in this role, you'll need:

- A degree in a relevant subject
- Post degree work experience in a similar role or a related field, ideally 2-3 years in a commercial environment
- A knowledge and passion for sustainable materials, ideally within the built environment
- Experience within the architectural/design industry highly beneficial
- Excellent online and applied research skills
- Systematic in approach with close attention to detail
- Highly motivated, able to work independently and collaboratively. This is a stand-alone role
- Strong data analysis and data manipulation skills
- Demonstrated proactivity, with a solution focussed mindset
- Evidenced organisational and project management skills essential
- Excellent IT skills including MS Office, experience of developing databases highly desirable

We offer:

- Share option scheme (EMI scheme)
- Excellent competitive salary
- 21 days holiday a year + bank holidays
- Company contributed pension
- An opportunity to be part of a fast growing, dynamic business with a triple bottom line, supporting our journey to a more sustainable future
- If you feel you have the right experience, and you'd love to join our innovative, creative and eco focussed team, then please tell us more about you!

Benefits:

- Casual dress
- Profit sharing

Apply through [Indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com)