

Fractional Engineering Manager for an early-stage start-up

Creathadh Energies is a small early-stage start-up funded by a National Science Foundation Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase I grant. Creathadh means “vibration” in Irish, and the goal of Creathadh Energies is to commercial research related to the interface circuitry between the energy storage and a mechanical vibration energy harvester in a vibration harvesting system. A link to a description of this current grant award is below.

https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/show-award?AWD_ID=2507259

To build Creathadh’s team and business partnerships we are looking for individual who will initially come in playing the role of a fractional engineer/manager in phase I with the goal of transitioning to a full-time or significant part-time employee in a potential phase II award. During phase I an individual in this role should help facilitate potential customer relationships, interact with program managers at the NSF, and be willing to review and give feedback on drafts of the NSF phase II SBIR grant proposal. This individual should be willing to fill out a form for the phase II NSF proposal as a member of Creathadh Energies team going forward. During a phase II award this role will also include recruiting and managing employees as well as some technical and lab-based R&D work. Hours worked during the remaining phase I award are negotiable and primarily remote. Hours could range between 1-10 hours per week per engagement during this phase I award.

Per NSF guidelines salary will be determined by BLS mean data in Iowa. Based on experience and/or education we can discuss the appropriate management position code to use to determine salary. https://www.bls.gov/oes/2023/may/oes_ia.htm

If interested please send a cover letter and resume including potential references to jamesm@creathadh.com. We are recruiting from the Cedar Valley, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City, Ames, and Des Moines areas.

Objectives and Responsibilities of this Role

- Business strategy discussion
- Reviewing draft grant proposals
- Customer development and interaction
- Interaction with Creathadh’s team and NSF officials
- Willingness to add your name and role to a Phase II NSF SBIR application

Required qualifications

- A minimum of bachelor’s degree in Engineering
- A minimum of 2– 5 years engineering work experience
- Willingness to work as a W2 employee (Contract employment will not be considered due to NSF rules. This is non-negotiable.)
- Flexibility for occasional travel

Desirable qualifications

- Master’s degree in business or engineering
- Management experience including hiring and interfacing with customers and/or partners
- PhD in Engineering
- Experience in federal grant writing
- Experience working in a start-up