



Updated October 2021

Design Outreach

R&D Director

Organization:

It has been stated that 90% of the world's products are designed for 10% of the world's population. Billions of lives have been changed by technological advancement, but billions are still left behind in areas such as access to clean water, sanitation, and basic healthcare solutions. If today's engineers have the capacity to create self-driving cars, then why not create solutions that alleviate global poverty?

The needs are massive and urgent. For instance, as of 2021, nearly 1 out of every 8 people in the world lacked access to clean water, resulting in women and children making daily long and often dangerous journeys to collect water that will make them sick. However, we have seen firsthand the transformation that happens in communities where DO's hand pump solution, the LifePump, has been operating for years without failures. We have hope that appropriate and reliable technology solutions are within reach that may break the cycle of poverty and provide bridges to share the Gospel.

We are a team of R&D professionals developing technology that makes a lasting difference in people's physical, economical, and spiritual wellbeing. We do this by engineering products that are appropriate for the context and community's needs and by providing a high level of quality in all our products.

Position:

Design Outreach is growing rapidly and poised to tackle more major problems facing people in developing countries. In order to help facilitate this growth, the position of R&D Director has been created. Reporting to the Chief Technology Officer (CTO), the R&D Director will focus on leading the product development team and managing the program portfolio of innovative appropriate technologies across the R&D divisions of WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene), Global Health, and Agriculture. The R&D Director position is a full-time permanent position with benefits and requires support raising.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead and manage DO's product development team of engineers, designers, and project managers.
- Develop and oversee the summer internship program as tool for recruitment for the R&D team.
- Manage DO's R&D project portfolio and project budgets.
- Serve as Project Sponsor on product development program(s).
- Serve as Project Lead as needed on critically important projects.
- Implement human centered design principles and provide training to the R&D team on DO's framework for new product development.

- Apply intensive and diversified knowledge of engineering, design, and product development principles in the development of new technology.
- Pursue on-going learning and implementation of best practices in creating appropriate technologies, focusing on human centered design, supply chain development, and long-term sustainability.
- In collaboration with the R&D Partnerships Director, connect volunteers across industry, academia, and/or church communities with opportunities to develop new appropriate technologies.
- In collaboration with the Manufacturing Director and Quality Director, work with suppliers to launch new technology and ensure appropriate process monitoring is established to maintain quality.
- Collaborate with CTO in developing intellectual property.
- Collaborate with DO's Field Programs department to plan for field testing and implementation of technologies.
- Professionally represent Design Outreach while interfacing with various volunteer groups, suppliers, NGO partners and missionaries.
- Support-raise launch and annual funds, maintain consistent and appropriate contact with ministry partners.
- Maintain healthy work-life balance.

Requirements:

- Understands and supports the mission of a Christ-centered organization dedicated to sharing the Gospel by word and deed.
- Passion and agreement with Design Outreach's vision and mission.
- Uphold Design Outreach's core values of excellence, faith, collaboration, and compassion.
- Kingdom and abundance minded when working with ministry partners.
- Strategic planning and oversight of engineering programs including developing, managing, and finalizing scope, budget, timeline, MOUs, etc.
- Strong communication (writing, oral and presentation) and interpersonal skills.
- Self-motivated and detail oriented.
- Excellent verbal, grammar, computer, and Word/Excel/PowerPoint skills.
- Ability to provide presentations to coworkers and volunteers.
- Intermediate to advanced skills in CAD and statistical analysis
- High capacity to multi-task, work independently, manage volunteers, and problem solve.
- Ability to commit an average of 8 hours per day 5 days per week (40 hours total per week), with availability in evenings and weekends to support special events, accommodate volunteer/donor schedules, and ensure deadlines are achieved.
- Works from office in Columbus, Ohio with ability to travel domestically and internationally to meet with staff and/or partners. International travel will be approximately one 2-week trip per year.
- Ability to work in a team-based collaborative environment.

Required Education and Experience:

- BS degree in an applicable (mechanical, electrical, or biomedical) engineering field; MS a plus.
- Must have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in related engineering field with leadership experience.

Timeline:

- Position start date is negotiable, and interviews will be ongoing until position is filled.

Salary/Benefits and Details:

- Competitive/commensurate with experience and other qualifications.
- This is a support raised position and the candidate will be required to raise support according to DO's policies before starting the position.