

benchspace

operations

manager



recruit@benchspacecork.ie
www.benchspacecork.ie

Benchspace is looking for an Operations Manager to take a leading role in the growth of our creative design and manufacturing space in Cork City, Ireland.

In the coming year we will open a new creative manufacturing facility in the heart of Cork City, with over 1,000m² of shared professional equipment and workspaces. We are looking for an Operations Manager to take the lead in bringing this exciting enterprise space to life.

This is a unique opportunity for someone with the right skills and experience to guide the development of a flagship creative manufacturing space, lead the growth of an entrepreneurial community, and shape the future of creative industries in Cork and the Southwest region.

The Operations Manager will work with a dedicated executive team who are passionate about making creative manufacturing resources accessible to the product designers, craft makers and creative enterprises who need them. The person we are looking for will share this passion, relish working in Cork's startup community, and help shape a welcoming, supportive environment where creative enterprises can thrive.

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The Role

As Operations Manager you will be a key member of Benchspace's executive team with responsibility for the resources, training and community that our members need to build successful creative enterprises. This includes:

- Developing, implementing and managing systems to ensure our workshops, spaces, services and events operate smoothly, safely and meet the needs of our members.
- Developing, implementing and managing an expanded enterprise and skills training programme for our new facility.
- Growing and retaining our community of members. Effectively communicating and engaging with them to develop an inspiring, supportive and collaborative culture for learning, creativity and enterprise.

You will also work closely with our executive team to:

- Develop and support innovative creative enterprise programmes and partnerships that promote Irish product design and local manufacturing.
- Organise and roll out our contract design/build services over the next three years.
- Implement a communications strategy for Benchspace's services and mission.

Skills & Experience

This is a varied and exciting role which requires a highly motivated individual with exceptional organisational abilities, first class people skills and an affinity for making and technology. A strong candidate for this position will be able to demonstrate a history of successfully delivering large projects or a proven track record of operational responsibility for an organisation.

Ideal qualifications, skills and experience include:

- A passion for Irish product design and creative enterprise.
- Experience in managing teams and working collaboratively.
- Strong communication and creative writing skills. Keen attention to detail.
- A background or demonstrated experience in incentivising, motivating and establishing community, collaboration and innovation.
- A qualification in creative or technical disciplines (such as design, architecture or engineering) is beneficial but we will also consider a wide variety of professional experiences for this position. Benchspace is an equal opportunities employer.
- Personable, an entrepreneurial spirit, and an open and creative mind.

Benchspace

Benchspace was established in 2017 to provide the next generation of makers, product designers and creative professionals with an enterprise-focused manufacturing facility in the City of Cork.

We are a non-profit, shared manufacturing space where anyone with a passion for product design, or a talent for making can access the equipment, workshops and resources they need to commercialise their abilities, grow new enterprise, and bring product-based businesses to life.

Inspired by similar projects in the Netherlands, UK and Australia, where post-industrial spaces have been transformed into the seedbeds for vibrant creative-economies, Benchspace has built a creative incubator in Cork's docklands where startups can work, prototype, showcase, collaborate and make.

We support these new enterprises with affordable access to professional manufacturing equipment, digital fabrication facilities, and flexible studio space that can grow with their needs.

At Benchspace, makers can collaborate across disciplines, unlock new capabilities and build successful creative enterprises. In the years since our doors have opened, many of our resident startups have graduated from our space or received national award recognition.

Over the coming year, with the help of Enterprise Ireland, we will be expanding our facility to support a broader community of creative manufacturing startups. This is an exciting time for us as we build a unique space for making in Ireland.

Our new location will house over 1,000m² (10,000ft²) of shared professional workspaces for wood, metal, electronics, textiles and jewellery manufacture, a digital design and fabrication facility, and space for over 30 resident creative enterprises and 100 non-resident members.

This multipurpose manufacturing hub will build on the Southwest's reputation as a centre of making, by connecting creative professionals in the region to the resources, space and community they need to build local, sustainable and successful creative enterprises.



Role:

Operations Manager

Location:

Benchspace, Cork City.

Start Date:

January 2021.

Salary:

The successful candidate will be offered a three year fixed term contract with a competitive salary of up to €50,000, reflective of experience.

How to Apply:

If you are interested in applying please send your CV and cover letter detailing why you believe you are the right person for this role to:

recruit@benchspacecork.ie

Closing Date:

5pm 16th November 2020.

Any Questions?

If you would like to find out more about this position please contact:

fergus@benchspacecork.ie
