
Technical Buyer

About ION Science Ltd:

ION Science has over 36 years of industry experience designing, manufacturing, and supplying PID gas sensors, gas detection instruments and leak detectors for a wide range of industries and applications. We are an unrivalled worldwide gas and leak detection company, with a team of workers who strive to deliver exceptional product quality and customer satisfaction. In 2022 ION Science were awarded the Queen's award for Enterprise for MiniPID Sensors.

MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB:

We are seeking a proactive and detail-oriented Technical Buyer to join our Supply Chain team, supporting both day-to-day operations and New Product Introduction (NPI). You'll work closely with our Research & Development, Production Engineering and Production teams and Suppliers to ensure the timely sourcing and procurement of materials, components, and services that comply with our product certification requirements and meet our high standards of quality, value, and product performance.

This is an exciting opportunity to support a diverse portfolio of existing and new products in a high quality and dynamic manufacturing environment.

JOB ROLE:

- Source and purchase raw materials, machined parts, fasteners, electronics, and other production-related items.
- Interpret engineering drawings and technical specifications to identify procurement requirements.
- Engage early with design engineers and project managers for new product / component sourcing.
- Identify main cost drivers, and deliver cost-reduction opportunities during supplier selection.
- Collaborate with Engineering, Production, and Quality teams to ensure purchased items meet standards.
- Evaluate and select suppliers based on quality, cost, delivery and ethical practices.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with key suppliers and subcontractors.
- Negotiate contracts, pricing and delivery terms.
- Raise purchase orders, track progress and maintain accurate procurement records.
- Resolve supply issues (e.g. delays, shortages, non-conformance).
- Support cost-saving initiatives and continuous improvement efforts.
- Participate in supplier audits, assessments, and performance reviews.
- Monitor supplier performance and develop improvement plans as needed.
- Stay current on market trends, pricing, and technologies.
- Support incoming goods inspection and ensure compliance with specifications.
- Collaborate on resolving non-conformances and quality issues with suppliers.
- Manage supplier corrective actions and quality improvements.
- Maintain quality documentation (e.g. certificates of conformity, inspection records)
- Contribute to the upkeep and improvement of the Ion Science Integrated Management System (Quality ISO 9001, Ex Product Manufacture ISO 80079:34, Health & Safety ISO 45001 & Environmental ISO 14001).
- Chair and manage supplier performance reviews.

- Develop and improve procurement processes and strategies.
- Ensure compliance with company purchasing policies and procedures.
- Deputise for the Purchasing Manager when required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- CIPS qualification (or working towards)
- HNC/HND or Degree in Engineering, Science, Manufacturing or Supply Chain related (or equivalent experience)
- Experience sourcing from UK and international suppliers.
- Knowledge of ISO 9001 and related quality assurance best practices.

SKILLS/EXPERIENCE:

- Proven experience in technical procurement within a manufacturing environment.
- Strong understanding of engineering drawings and manufacturing methods (e.g. machining, injection moulding, fabrication, PCB & SMT electronics assembly etc.).
- Knowledge of industrial materials and components (metals, plastics, composites etc.).
- Experience with ERP/MRP systems (e.g. SAP etc.) and Microsoft Office packages.
- Intermediate to Advanced level Excel capability.
- Excellent negotiation, communication and stakeholder management skills.
- Familiarity with ISO 9001, quality documentation and related inspection processes.
- Strong commercial awareness and ability to manage cost, value and risk.
- Analytical and problem-solving mindset, with attention to detail and accuracy.
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and adapt in a dynamic environment.
- Experience in developing and maintaining supplier performance metrics.
- Positive, accountable, and approachable team player with leadership potential.
- Able to coordinate multiple projects and support strategic procurement initiatives.

BENEFITS:

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| • 25 days annual leave + Bank Holidays (annual holiday increasing with service) | • Monthly lunch & drinks laid on by the company |
| • Excellent employer pension contributions of 8% after probation | • Sick Pay |
| • Life Assurance of 4% of pensionable salary | • Christmas party |
| • In-house training | • On-site parking |
| • Discretionary Annual Bonus | • Private Medical with AXA |
| • On site shower & changing facilities | • Bike Purchase Scheme |
| • Long term service awards | • Car share scheme |
| | • Early finish on Fridays |

WORKING PATTERN:

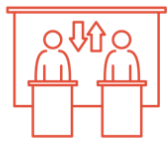
- Monday to Thursday: 08:30 – 17:00
- Friday: 08:30 – 15:45
- Immediate start available
- Full time – Permanent position

**LOCATION:**

This role is based at the ION Science head office, located in Fowlmere, 10 miles south of Cambridge. The role is required for you to be on site.

Our Core Values:

Fun



**Embrace
change**



Respectful



Responsive



**Challenge the
status QUO**



Committed

See what our employees have to say about working at ION: <https://ionscience.com/en/careers/>