

Position: Polymer Engineer II, Injection Molding Focus

Scope of Position:

- Candidate is expected to apply expertise in polymer science and engineering to support new product development activities and assist with existing products.
- Candidate will assist with polymer compound selection and evaluation for passive and active hardware products for fiber optic communication systems e.g. connectors, closures, cabinets, assemblies, adhesives and seals.
- Candidate will serve as a materials subject matter resource for product and project engineers for new product and process development efforts as well as assist manufacturing with solving materials-related problems.
- Candidate will demonstrate technical leadership in the area of materials science and polymer engineering through rigorous mechanistic problem solving approaches.

Day to Day Responsibilities:

- Work with molding group to understand and implement new material processes
- Participate in project teams, providing polymer materials fundamental understanding and development support
- Lead and support materials-focused development work for short and long-term R&D goals.
- Conduct research, propose experiments and analyze data to test hypotheses to enhance understanding of products and processes and to provide Corning with inventive solutions toward new development efforts.
- Identify and investigate new and alternative polymer compounds for cost reductions and new products introductions
- Balance hands-on work-related activities with technical leadership related activities
- Collaborate with research, development and manufacturing functions throughout product development cycle
- Guide technicians in Materials Test Lab to develop new test methods.
- Communicate and document results
- Maintain strong interaction with polymer community located in US, Europe, as well as Asia
- Assist and/or lead product development projects (globally) to accomplish design and cost reduction goals.
- Interface with suppliers and procurement to test and evaluate new materials, analytical equipment and services. Work with suppliers to resolve problems with materials as well as maintain relationship with suppliers to stay abreast of new material availability.

Travel Requirements: Up to 20% – primarily domestic to Corning Optical Communications. Possibility to travel as needed to Keller, Corning, Reynosa or Europe facilities

Work location: Hickory, NC

Hours of work/work schedule/flex-time: 40+ hours per week, conventional schedule with some flexibility

Required (Must Have) Skills:

- Master of Science or Post Graduate Degree in material science, mechanical engineering or related degree and 0-3 years of experience OR Bachelors in materials science, mechanical engineering, or related degree and 3-5 years of experience.
- Understanding of injection molding processes, scientific molding
- Relevant experience in molding product development or product testing.
- Ability to develop new test methods for in-depth product characterization

- Ability to apply fundamental understanding & scientific principles to solve technical problems and identify product solutions

Desired Skills:

- Hands on experience with injection molding and knowledge of scientific molding.
- Experience with thermoplastic polymers / polymer compounds, particularly high temperature engineering thermoplastics.
- Knowledge/experience in polymer science, understanding of polymer structure-property relationships and polymer physics
- Hands on experience with polymer characterization methods such as rheology, DMA, DSC, TGA, TMA, SEM and mechanical testing; understanding or experience with optical testing a plus.
- Experiences with the evaluation of product lifetime.

Soft Skills:

- Ability to work within a multicultural team environment
- Ability to multitask
- Ability to work independently
- Effective oral and written communication skills
- Expected to bring enthusiasm and innovative spirit
- Enjoys to present achievements and is open for constructive discussions