

Lab Automation Engineer/Sr. Lab Automation Engineer - Biopharma

Job ID: 201901-101155

Job Function

Production Engineering

LocationSouth San Francisco
California
United States of America**Schedule**

Full time

Job type

Regular

Company/Division

Pharmaceuticals

Job Level

Individual contributor

The Position

Analytical Operations (AO) has an exciting opportunity that involves the creation and application of automation technology for analytical methods, including sample preparation using robotic systems, analytical instrument interface, and data analysis. The incumbent will design, program, and test automated analytical procedures and processes to enable wider implementation and dissemination of automation technologies within and outside of the department.

The successful candidate will be adaptive to rapidly changing priorities and is flexible with tasks supporting the department goals. The role includes the exploration of new technologies to improve existing procedures and processes. S/he is creative and able to integrate analytical, information, and automation technologies to improve the performance of analytical assays, the consistency of testing results, and the effectiveness of the operational processes. S/he will be responsible for evaluating and integrating lab automation computer system infrastructure focusing on the interfaces to Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), Chromeleon, Microsoft Excel and Electronic Lab Notebook (ELN), as well as software for robotic system, such as TECAN and Hamilton.

The incumbent is expected to work with department management and other organizational leaders to develop and implement strategic initiatives that enable right first time delivery of solutions that are increasingly capital efficient and productive. It requires a mindset of sharing insights and improvements, participating in design reviews across the portfolio of departmental projects, and contributing to best practice forums across our network. The successful candidate is also expected to collaborate effectively with scientists and engineers in Protein Analytical Chemistry (PAC), Analytical Operations (AO) and partner organizations.

This position requires strong leadership and collaboration skills to interact with other automation experts, analytical chemists, vendor engineers, bioinformatics, and management

to achieve joint goals and meet pre-defined timelines.

Responsibilities:

- Accountable for ensuring end-to-end user support in PAC, AO and partner organizations. Responsible for producing documentation and training materials for GMP and non-GMP applications.
- Represent AO as a primary technical contact on automation projects, interact with external vendors for hardware/software solution, and coordinate with representations of partner organizations.
- Serve as a subject matter expert for: automation design, configuration, implementation and ongoing support of solutions used in a laboratory environment.
- Collaborate across PT labs (both GMP and non-GMP environment) to develop and execute global assay automation strategy.
- Participate in the validation of robotic systems and transfer of the validated systems to other departments.
- Perform lab or platform engineering design for existing processes, including upgrades and capacity expansions, equipment upgrading and replacement.
- Perform instrumentation specification, selection, installation, configuration to maximize success rates, reduce failure rate, increase capacity/productivity, increase levels of safety and/or reduce ergonomic injury.
- Provide troubleshooting support of robotic systems and interact with vendor engineers to generate proposals for automation services and projects.
- Start-up and equipment installation, commissioning and troubleshooting of robotic systems.
- Educate and train end-users to operate/maintain robotic systems in the department.
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of vendor's hardware/software strategy, information of available competing solutions and be able to translate these to the changing business environment so as to continually maximize automation technology investments.

Qualifications:

The right candidate will possess the following skills and experience. The level of the position will depend on the qualifications of the selected candidate.

- BS/MS/PhD in a relevant engineering or science discipline.
- 5+ years of post-Bachelor's experience in the pharmaceutical or biotech industry, or combination of relevant advanced degree and work experience, to include providing technical expertise in automation design, configuration, implementation and ongoing support of solutions used in a laboratory environment; 7+ years required for the senior level.
- Demonstrated ability to provide technical leadership and teamwork in a GxP environment across functional and organizational boundaries.

- Ability to partner effectively with stakeholders and look for opportunities to predict/plan for future assay automation needs in PT.
- Experience in the pharmaceutical or biotech industry with analytical instruments, robotic systems such as TECAN and/or HAMILTON, programming and scripting in VB, VBA or JAVA, and a strong working knowledge of PC based programs and systems.
- Knowledge of networks, PC/Mac support experience and lab instrument installation.
- Experience running laboratory instruments such as HPLC, MS, or UV/V preferred. Knowledge of Relational Databases, Active Directory (AD), NTFS file and folder permissions is a plus.
- Ability to convey concepts and positions clearly and effectively both verbally and in writing.

#LI-PTD-JM1

Who We Are

A member of the Roche Group, Genentech has been at the forefront of the biotechnology industry for more than 40 years, using human genetic information to develop novel medicines for serious and life-threatening diseases. Genentech has multiple therapies on the market for cancer & other serious illnesses. Please take this opportunity to learn about Genentech where we believe that our employees are our most important asset & are dedicated to remaining a great place to work.

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