

“Truly inspiring...”

Bio-economy Career Profile

Position: Operations Manager

Name: Rajneesh Tyagi

Company: North West Bio-Energy Ltd.

Salary Range: \$80,000 to \$100,000 per year

What I do:

As an Operations Manager, you have to run the project in a competent manner. I integrate 11 sections of the plant to work together in order to maximize the product return for the lowest conversion costs in an energy-efficient manner.

North West Bio-Energy Ltd. is in the process of building an ethanol plant. I have been hired as the Operations Manager to ensure the process is optimized and to run this facility once it's built. Commissioning of this plant is expected by September 2008.

My role includes ensuring that all of the building specifications of the plant are satisfactory – I oversee the process co-ordination, quality control and assurance. On a daily basis, I work with contractors, plant supervisors, scientists and general maintenance staff. Part of my role includes training staff to standard operating procedures. Major accountabilities also include productivity, operating costs, safety and environment.

Travel is part of my job, mostly touring other facilities around the world, and keeping up to date on the latest techniques in the biofuel industry. I recently returned from trips to Mexico and the US. I also travel to educate and give presentations about the industry.

What education and skills do candidates need for this position?

I have a Bachelors of Science in Organic Chemistry and I have also earned a double post-graduate in the areas of Industrial Fermentation and Alcohol Technology, and Chemical Process Instrumentation and Control. I have



worked in the Fuel Ethanol and Fermentation Industry for over 15 years.

People interested in this role need to be able to convert their understanding of science, especially chemistry, microbiology and chemical engineering to the everyday operation of the biofuel plant. You must have good people skills, as you work with a diverse group of people. Time-management skills and the ability to prioritize are also essential.

You must have a passion for what you do and work toward lifelong learning. You also require innovative and technological aptitude. It also pays to be curious with a good dose of patience.

What are the best parts of your job?

I am fascinated with the biofuel industry and its many uses. I garner satisfaction from seeing the new ethanol plant being built around me and the plant running and operating well. Knowing that I played a large part in the operation of the plant truly inspires me. I also have developed a great network of people, professionally and academically around the world.

I also enjoy looking for challenges to exploit my skills and deliver my best at all times. My vision and focus go beyond set parameters, and I am optimistic and aggressive in project application, completion, and achieving success at all times.