



## THE OPPORTUNITY

LAI International is seeking an experienced Strategic Programs Manager to join its dynamic and growing Strategic Products Group in Minneapolis MN. Location may be negotiable and, could be based out of several different company locations. Travel required.

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## ABOUT LAI INTERNATIONAL

LAI International is a leading contract manufacturer of precision-engineered finished parts, components and subassemblies for aerospace, power generation, defense, medical, electronics and other advanced technology industries. Their technology, engineering and manufacturing solutions are used to build components for airframes, aircraft engines, power generators, defense systems, medical devices and other mission-critical applications.

To learn more about LAI International visit [www.laico.com](http://www.laico.com)

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## THE POSITION SUMMARY

The position is responsible for ensuring LAI effectively and efficiently meets all purchase contract requirements for strategic projects or customers while maintaining good vendor and customer relations. This includes performance to schedule and performance to cost.

Maximizes efficiency of production manufacturing processes by applying statistical processes and principals of lean manufacturing in an organized and rigorous approach to eliminating variation and waste. Works on process development and transition to production for new technologies. Prepares and maintains process documentation suitable for customer approval and production application.

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## PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

### ***Manufacturing:***

- Direct customer facing activities in support of the manufacture of nozzles and other turbine components.
- Identify improvements in processes needed to support increased capacity, profitability and quality. Develop and execute plans to implement these improvements.
- Prepare and maintain manufacturing plans.
- Prepare, maintain, and monitor manufacturing schedules.
- Develop subcontractors involved with the program, including the flow-down of all pertinent customer requirements and specifications.
- Provide technical support to LAI staff as requested.
- Create and maintain technical data packages.
- Support operations organization in resource planning to ensure that there are adequate resources to complete objectives.

- Participate in activities associated with continuous improvement and lean manufacturing to ensure that key customer and programmatic objectives are supported.
- Support the development of new technologies.
- Transition new methods and procedures to production, including documentation, in-process monitoring and debugging to ensure system efficiency.
- Support operations in tooling design and concept drawings and cost estimates.
- Develop solutions to production problems relating to materials, processes and tooling.
- Support new programs by developing new processes, managing design of tooling and machinery, and developing production controls.
- Support operations and engineering by troubleshooting problems and effecting timely solutions to maintain the continuity of production flow.

***Financial:***

- Maintain accurate monthly projections of sales and shipments.
- Monitor subcontractors for quality of performance and necessary documentation.
- Maintain all supporting documentation for each unit fabricated.
- Maintain detailed cost logs for all units produced.

***Customer Service:***

- Interact with customers on a regular basis to monitor LAI performance.
- Supports sales as required, to promote growth in market segments.
- Review and respond to Requests for Proposals.
- Review customer contract requirements, including all referenced specifications and initiate and maintain systems to ensure those requirements are met.
- Report status to customers as requested.
- Maintain regular communications with contacts, customers and key suppliers.
- Monitor production to ensure processes are capable of meeting customer requirements and specifications.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- B.S.M.E. Degree or Bachelor of Science with a concentration in Industrial Technology.
- Industrial Engineering or commensurate experience.
- Minimum of eight years experience as a Manufacturing Engineer with process design responsibilities.
- Minimum five years project management experience.
- Experience in capital appropriation evaluation and analysis.
- Familiarity with ISO 9002 standards and processes.
- Must have ability to read and interpret machining blueprints and aircraft specifications.
- Familiarity with statistical analysis methods.
- A thorough knowledge of Statistical Process Control is highly desirable.
- Familiarity with the principals of lean manufacturing.
- Experience with Pro-E or other CAD program highly desired.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Ability to analyze and interpret complex documents, including financial and legal documents.
- Ability to work with multiple complex issues simultaneously.
- Ability to apply logical thinking to a wide range of intellectual, analytical, and complex problems.
- Ability to recommend and implement long and short range goals for the organization, taking into consideration the mission of the organization and the local and national power generation marketplace.
- Ability to relate to people at all levels of the organization.
- Ability to effectively present complex information to managers and staff.
- Ability to empower managers and staff to the highest level of quality and commitment to the organization.
- Ability and familiarity with changing and maintaining an organizational culture which is client and employee focused. Must be able to model and lead others in a caring and fair manner.

## **COMPETENCIES**

- Design - Generates creative solutions; Demonstrates attention to detail.
- Problem Solving - Gathers and analyzes information skillfully.
- Customer Service - Responds promptly to customer needs; Solicits customer feedback to improve service; Responds to requests for service and assistance.
- Oral Communication - Speaks clearly and persuasively in positive or negative situations; Listens and gets clarification; Demonstrates group presentation skills.
- Initiative - Takes independent actions and calculated risks; Looks for and takes advantage of opportunities; Asks for and offers help when needed.
- Innovation - Displays original thinking and creativity; Meets challenges with resourcefulness; Generates suggestions for improving work; Develops innovative approaches and ideas; Presents ideas and information in a manner that gets others' attention.

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## **COMPENSATION**

- \$80,000 - \$85,000 base salary.
- An exceptional benefit package including health, dental, life, disability, 401(k) retirement plan, paid time off benefits, and a pay-for-performance incentive program is provided.

**Interested candidates should submit their resume to:**

**Gary R. Thornton**  
**HR Management Consultant**  
**Thornton and Associates**  
**PO Box 1207**  
**Scarborough, ME 04070**  
**Email: [Gthorn@ThorntonAndAssociates.net](mailto:Gthorn@ThorntonAndAssociates.net)**  
**Phone: 207-885-9333**  
**Fax: 207-885-9320**