



Senior Innovation Development Technologist (5S) job description



the finer details

Which site am I based at?

TBC – Travel required between sites to liaise with other departments/sites/suppliers or customers

Which team am I a part of?
Development

Who do I report to?
Innovation Manager

Who do I look after?
N/A

Team size?
N/A

Do you have responsibility for a budget?

N/A

Qualifications &

Experience

Essential:

- ♥ **Project Management-**
Experience in managing multiple product

The purpose of your role

Under the direction of the Innovation Manager, the Senior Innovation Technologist will support in the launching & evaluating of new & existing products in the following categories (yogurt, ice cream, desserts, savoury & fruit) depending which site the role will be based at.

The role will work closely with cross-functional teams to assist in the delivery of cutting-edge, high-quality product concepts. Main areas of focus are:

- ♥ Supporting Innovation Manager in concept creation
- ♥ Improving raw material and packaging knowledge
- ♥ Product formulation knowledge across multiple categories.

This role is critical in shaping the future of the Yeo Valley Product Portfolio.

Key responsibilities:

- ♥ **Product Innovation Support**

To assist in the delivery of development projects from Gate 0- Gate 2. Assist in the co-ordination, production and delivery of kitchen samples. Liaising with existing suppliers for new ingredients within a set list of parameters. Demonstrate scientific understanding of the recipe formulation and the roles of the ingredients and impact of the process.

Collaborate with Process Development teams to identify opportunities for process improvements and EPD modifications.

- ♥ **Customer Engagement**

Support with customer engagement and supporting customer presentations.
Support in the arranging of customer lunches and displays.

- ♥ **Market Trend Support**

Conduct market reviews & product benchmarking to analyse competitor products to help identify new trends, opportunities and insights.

- ♥ **Cross Functional Collaboration**

Work with the stakeholders to ensure buy-in of new concept ideas and products to deliver “First to Market” innovation ideas

- ♥ **Documentation & Reporting**

To assist in the generation of the critical path and delivery of projects that meets the target launch date

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development projects simultaneously, with a focus on meeting deadlines.

Prepare & maintain accurate documentation related to innovation development.

♥ **Teamwork –**

Ability to work well with a collaborative, cross-functional team environment.

♥ **Problem solving –**

Proactive and strong hands-on approach to trouble shooting

♥ **Communication -**

Good verbal & written communication skills with the ability to present ideas and data clearly to technical & non-technical stakeholders

♥ **Drivers License** is essential due to multi-site locations

Qualifications:

- ♥ Food qualification or previous related food manufacturing experience in Innovation
- ♥ Minimum 2 years of post-graduate experience in a food process NPD role.

Desirable Skills:

♥ **Industry Knowledge-**

Working knowledge of relevant legislation criteria and food production industry standards/HACCP

Personal Attributes:

♥ **Detail-Oriented –**

Attention to detail in both product development and documentation

♥ **Adaptability –**

Able to work in a fast-paced environment and adjust to changing priorities & project timelines. Resilience and supporting others are key.

♥ **Training & Knowledge Transfer**

Transfer kitchen approved recipes into a customer pack and liaise with process teams on new concepts to ensure effectiveness and consistency in the transfer from concept to scale-up.

- ♥ As part of total team, responsible for hygiene of kitchen and stock rotation of ingredients.

What good looks like for this role

General Profile:

The Senior Innovation Technologist will be supporting product innovation within Yeo Valley's yogurt, ice cream, dessert, savoury & fruit product lines. This role requires practical knowledge in development, alongside an understanding of related disciplines such as process innovation, technical development, and production. This role will be responsible for generating new concepts aligned to Yeo & Customer briefs. Working with minimal supervision, they will independently address innovation challenges and may take the lead on specific aspects of projects or trials within larger initiatives

Business Expertise: The Senior Innovation Technologist has a good grasp of industry best practices in concept development and understands how their work integrates with cross-functional teams including Process, Technical, and Production. They are familiar with the competitive landscape and aware of factors that differentiate the company's products in the market. The Senior Innovation Technologist's ability to understand both the technical and commercial aspects of the business will be critical in driving product success and ensuring that Yeo Valley's products are competitive.

Leadership: While the primary responsibility will be hands-on kitchen concept work, the Senior Innovation Technologist can lead smaller-scale briefs, coordinating efforts within a team to meet specific objectives. The role requires them to identify technical and operational challenges, apply innovative solutions, and recognise how these decisions affect the broader product development process.

Impact: Guided by department policies and overall product development plans, the role will impact a wide range of process, sourcing and technical activities within the team and across related departments. By generating

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- ♥ **Tenacious** & “can do” attitude
- ♥ **Self-driven** with a growth mindset & can use initiative
- ♥ **Hands on** & practical approach to working
- ♥ **Good IT skills** -Microsoft and database systems

marketing leading concepts, the Innovation Technologist will play a role in Yeo Valley’s ability to deliver high-quality products that meet customer expectations.

Interpersonal Skills: This role must possess good communication skills to explain detailed recipe information clearly to both process, technical and non-technical stakeholders. Their ability to work effectively with colleagues in multiple departments is important and as a key member of the product development team, they will guide others, both within the organisation and potentially with external partners, to adopt best practices and innovative solutions.

HR use

Date of last review:

Job reference no:

Job level:

Job family:

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