



Director/Sr. Manager, Down Stream Processing (DSP)

The Company:

Vestaron is a company dedicated to improving the safety, efficacy and sustainability of crop protection through migration from synthetic pesticides to peptide-based biopesticides. Vestaron is initially focused on a class of peptides that kill insect pests efficiently, but are safe for humans, beneficial insects and the environment. As part of this, the company has developed a proprietary platform for peptide optimization, fermentation-based peptide production and *in planta* expression that will allow it to develop a wide variety of biologic crop protection and trait solutions. Vestaron is the winner of the inaugural 2015 Bernard Blum Award for novel biocontrol solutions.

The Opportunity:

Vestaron is currently recruiting a Director/Sr. Manager, DSP to join our team in Research Triangle Park, NC, reporting to the COO. The Director/Sr. Manager, DSP will be working on development and optimization of downstream processes (filtration) for peptide recovery produced thru yeast fermentation. We are seeking a highly motivated Downstream Process Development Engineer/Scientist to design, execute, and scale-up novel recovery processes to separate and recover various peptides from fermentation-based processes. The ideal candidate will be experienced in the separation of multiphase mixtures utilizing a variety of mechanical, chemical, and other relevant unit operations. You will primarily be responsible for the successful running of separation/filtration unit operations and gathering data to evaluate and optimize key process parameters on a large scale.

To be successful in this role, you must provide leadership, expert advice, sound judgment, and timely and appropriate actions in managing the process. Ensure that performance of the downstream process is such that objectives as set forth in Strategic and Operating Plans are met with emphasis on effective resource utilization and maximize corporate value. This hands-on position requires a desire and ability to work as an integral part of a multidisciplinary team, as well as the demonstration of a high degree of flexibility, creativity, and initiative applied to the various duties and aspects of the position.

Responsibilities:

- Help develop and implement potential novel downstream processes to improve peptide recovery and yield.
- Perform data analysis to develop understanding of the tradeoffs between process parameters and key performance indicators.
- Help with equipment installation, commissioning, maintenance, support working with vendors.



- Collaborate and communicate effectively with internal teams and external tech partners.
- Develop processes in compliance with appropriate AgTech GMPs and applicable safety standards.
- Design, analyze, and optimize critical product recovery unit operations associated with unique fermentation process.
- Utilize a variety of relevant techniques and unit operations (centrifugation, filtration, evaporation, crystallization, distillation, etc.) in developing cost-effective separation processes to recover peptides from complex fermentation broth.
- Keep abreast of current literature and techniques in separation technology and their potential application to internal projects.
- Contribute to the company's intellectual property (IP) portfolio and assist on preparation of patent applications.
- Analyze, write up, and present experimental results to others in the company to expedite the development of our integrated product development in a collaborative team environment.
- Other duties as assigned.

Requirements:

- M.S. in Chemical Engineering or related field with 5 years of experience, or B.S. with 10 years of experience or Associates with 15 years of experience.
- PhD. in Chemical Engineering not required but a plus.
- Technical knowledge in development, implementation and optimization of downstream processes preferred.
- Experience with key downstream unit operations such as centrifugation, filtration, evaporation, crystallization, distillation, etc.
- Experience with design of experiment, statistical analysis, and modeling preferred.
- Self-starter with strong organizational, and general communication skills.
- Comfortable working within a small, collaborative team, passionate about changing the Biopesticide space.
- Able and willing to travel as necessary (domestic and international).

Why Join Us?

Join the Revolution...

With an innovative and accomplished leadership team guiding our day-to-day wins, and a Board with a long-term vision that supports our efforts, we set out daily to improve the safety, efficacy and sustainability of crop protection through migration from synthetic pesticides to peptide-based biopesticides. Our team is empowered to solve problems and find



solutions that will advance the science and commercialization of peptides. If you're seeking a career that taps into your talents and contributes to harnessing the Power of Peptides® for the benefit of the environment and industry, we just may have a job for you.

We know our employees are our most valuable asset, and our culture conveys that.

Headquartered in the heart of RTP (Research Triangle Park), our office is located in the Frontier complex, a vibrant work environment where the development of restaurants, shops and hotels is underway.

Our R&D center is in Kalamazoo, MI, within the Western Michigan University Innovation Center. The 69,000-square-foot, purpose-built incubator and co-working space was created to support companies from the earliest start-ups to maturing organizations with office and conference space, high-quality shared scientific equipment and resources, and a wide range of support services.

We offer a competitive benefits package, to support the health and happiness of our staff.

We invite you to apply to join a company developing the products, processes and relationships to lead the advancement of the biological peptide industry, beginning with the pesticide markets.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Vestaron is an Equal Opportunity Employer and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any kind. All employment decisions at Vestaron are based on business needs, job requirements and individual qualifications, without regard to race, color, religion or belief, national, social or ethnic origin, sex (including pregnancy), age, physical, mental or sensory disability, HIV Status, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, marital, civil union or domestic partnership status, past or present military service, family medical history or genetic information, family or parental status, or any other status protected by the laws or regulations in the locations where we operate.

Headquarters

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