

2024 Internship

Lithium Refinery | Metallurgist Internship

Location: Robstown, TX (In-person)

THE ROLE

The Lithium Team is responsible for extracting and purifying battery grade lithium hydroxide from a mined ore called spodumene via a novel, acid-free process in a state-of-the-art facility. Construction began on this new facility in May of 2023, and this fast-paced internship role will work closely with Operations Team as we commission and stabilize the new facility. As the Metallurgist intern, you will initiate, design, and conduct the lab and pilot plant scale testing programs in the metallurgy and process technology lab in support of the lithium refinery operation. In addition, you will be responsible for identifying, designing, developing, and implementing process improvements, as well as supporting strategic site initiatives.

THE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Identify, design, develop, and conduct lab and pilot plant scale testing programs in the process technology lab to enhance the efficiency, productivity, and sustainability of the Lithium Refinery
- Collect scientific or technical data, and analyze experimental, test, or analysis data or findings
- Document testing results and prepare testing reports and presentations.
- Collaborate with cross-functional teams to evaluate and implement optimization opportunities throughout the refining process
- Contribute to strategic planning efforts by providing technical expertise and insights related to process design and chemical engineering
- Support a team of engineers, chemists, and technicians performing routine quality testing as well as extremely high priority/rapid response projects
- Ensure all team members working in and/or visiting the lab adhere to safety rules and good laboratory practices
- Work closely with battery materials R&D team for the introduction of novel materials and new process methods at commercial scale
- Must understand and comply with all safety rules and company policies

THE REQUIREMENTS

- Currently working towards a BS, MS, or advanced degree in a relevant engineering program
- Experience working in a metallurgy/process lab environment and desire to initiate, design and conduct lab and pilot plant scale experiments in support of the operation
- Hands-on experience is a must
- You must be self-managed and committed to working in a fast-paced environment
- Professional and positive communication skills
- Previous experience in metallurgical, materials and chemical engineering projects in mining, mineral and metal industries, or related field is a plus
- Excellent problem-solving skills with the ability to analyze complex issues and develop innovative solutions