

Product Development & Support Manager Sauces & Dressings



Vandemoortele
shaping a tasty future

Product Development & Support Manager Sauces & Dressings

Your key responsibilities and challenges are:

- **Project leader of NPD projects + initiator new innovations**
 - As Project Leader you are the driver to develop innovations, new applications, customer demands or ideas for our product range of sauces and dressings, which includes:
 - You initiate and discuss innovations, new applications, customer demands or ideas on a technical basis (with R&D, marketing, commercials, customers, ...) and translate these ideas into technical product definitions.
 - You plan and follow up trials on pilot and on industrial scale (in cooperation with pilot team and production).
 - You get approval of the customer/commercials and other internal departments concerning the developed product (product characteristics, cost price, ingredient declaration, ...).
 - You transfer and follow-up all necessary information to quality, purchase, packaging, operations, ... in order to create the new product.
 - Finally, you follow-up the first productions to ensure the new product is produced according to the specifications agreed upon during the development.

- **Product expert of the sauces & dressings product group:**
 - You are in charge for the follow up of competitor products and market trends.
 - As an expert in sauces and dressings you give technical support to the commercial teams and you organize or assist in customer visits to Vandemoortele or technical visits to the customer.
 - You are in close contact with the VDM chefs and have good knowledge and understanding of the applications of the products.
 - You know and have a good understanding of the plant capabilities and processing conditions.
 - You are able to keep a helicopter view of the ongoing projects in the defined product group.
 - You build up specific technical knowledge through contacts with suppliers & customers, internal networking and literature, patents, seminars, institutes etc.

- **Major R&D Projects:**
 - Next to the challenging responsibilities above, you also participate in important R&D projects, including projects outside of the direct scope of the function.

- **R&D Systems:**
 - Finally, you develop and manage the R&D systems (recipe management, cost calculation, new ingredients...) and procedures.

About you

- You hold a Master degree in Engineering (Bio-engineering, Industrial engineering, etc.).
- You have minimum 3 years of experience R&D and/or product development within the food industry. Experience with sauces and ingredients is a strong asset
- Above all you are ambitious, energetic, driven and open to receive and give challenges. Your drive and enthusiasm will motivate you to go the extra mile in engaging others.
- You have well-developed analytical skills.
- As a food Lover, you are passionate by food.
- Your excellent communication and persuasion skills enable you to motivate, drive and engage your internal (R&D, production, purchase, logistics, master data,...) and external stakeholders.
- You are proactive, and you are a driver for change. At the same time, you are pragmatic, problem-solving and looking for initiative.
- You are able to work together on major projects and you like to take ownership.
- You have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, written and verbal, in English and French/Dutch.
- You are willing to travel 10% of your time (short trips).
- For this exciting role you will be working at our R&D Centre based in Izegem.

What's in for you?

We offer you challenging work with a great purpose in an international company having a dynamic, driven and ambitious culture and a collegial atmosphere. With headquarters based in Belgium, you will have a real impact on the business. You will get all chances to grow within a people oriented and value driven environment, where cooperation, respect and ambition are key. You will receive an attractive salary and will enjoy all fitting extralegal advantages.

How to apply?

Visit our career site at www.vandemoortele.com and select job opening 5305: **Product Development & Support Manager Sauces & Dressings.**

For more information you can contact Dirk Ghekiere via dirk.ghekiere@vandemoortele.com.