

R & D Technologist- Pet Food

An industry leader wishes to identify nutrition minded Research and Development professionals to step into key strategic roles where they will closely interact with customers, develop or modify existing formulas, ensure products are effectively manufactured, and solve production, R & D, and quality issues in pet food manufacturing.

In this role, you will manage R & D projects as assigned involving new product and process development, production trials, least-cost formulation, product-process improvement, technical sales support, etc. Product area responsibilities will include dry extruded, baked biscuits and snacks, chews and treats, and canned pet food according to existing defined parameters and will provide technical support to sales professionals regarding formulations, processing, and ingredients.

The qualified candidate will demonstrate:

- Well-developed project management skills in research and development projects, experience in conducting or overseeing plant trials at various plants, and will be acclimated to both research and manufacturing environments.
- The ability to troubleshoot and resolve production and product quality issues experienced at the plant level with some possible travel to other sites- East Coast, West Coast, North Central, Midwest, and Southwestern US, depending on assigned division.
- Working effectively on multidisciplinary teams within the company, and also interfacing with external customers and suppliers to accomplish project objectives
- Knowledge regarding nutrition ingredients and product formulation and will issue specifications for new ingredients and finished products.
- Knowledge of related food processing regulations including FDA, USDA, and AAFCO Guidelines (Association of American Feed Control Officials), as well as knowledge of Good Manufacturing Practices and Standard Operating Procedures.
- Ability to collect, report, and interpret data and make recommendations, including use of computer data base programs for nutrition, formulation, etc. and Microsoft office Suite, including Excel

Key Requirements:

- BS/MS in Food Science or Nutrition, Animal Science or related area, or equivalent experience required.
- Experience in companion animal food, nutritional products and supplements, food science, or related food or ingredient manufacturing desired.
- Well-developed communication and project management skills
- Experienced in use of Microsoft Office Suite, other specialized computers. The ability to collect, analyze, interpret, and report data, as well as the ability to follow, revise, or develop written procedures and SOP's as necessary.
- Experience with a broad range of highly automated food and/or canned beverage manufacturing processes, ideally with experience related to high speed packaging solutions including cans, bags, trays, pouches, etc. desired.

Benefits of this Opportunity:

- You will be joining an organization that is now positioned as the industry leader in a specialized private label and branded food product niche.
- You will be joining an organization with resources to solve problems, to innovate, and with a track record of continuous successful growth.

- You will be joining an organization with plans for aggressive future growth over the next two to five years, affording significant career growth potential to those who bring value to the operation.
- You will be offered a competitive compensation package.
- You will be joining an organization that is privately held, with a very strong foundation of ethics and values at the core of their guiding principles, including integrity, honesty, commitment to employees, to their families, and to the community. This is a company of diverse people working together to produce food, that strive to be honorable people at all times, and take pride in high quality product offerings.

To express interest in this opportunity, forward your current resume to:

Linda Morrison Brown, MLIR, PHR
Brown Associates (LMBPB), LLC
Email: Linda.747@brownassociateslmbpbllc.com

Additional information:

By way of introduction, my name is Linda Brown and I am an executive search consultant and Principal with Brown Associates, LLC. Our firm specializes in search and placement with Fortune 500 companies and industry leaders; innovators in highly specialized areas of food science, agro-science, animal science, life science, and associated industries.

We have been engaged by an industry leader in branded and private label manufacture of high quality companion animal nutritional products. These products are primarily based on simple, healthy ingredients and high quality protein sources: including specialized minerals, grain based ingredients, and processed meat ingredients that are custom formulated to produce high quality pet food, biscuits, and treats that are sold in feed stores, grocery stores, and specialty pet stores.

This mid-sized, rapidly expanding organization is positioned as the industry leader in specialized areas of companion animal nutrition product formulation and processing, with multiple operations across the US. In the assigned division, facilities are highly automated, with a large, complex state-of-the art operation at the core, located in the western US. Operations include formulating, blending, batching, baking, extruding, canning and heat sterilization (retort) processes, as well as consumer packaging in cans and bags, and bulk packaging in containers.

The position will be located in the Southwest. In this area adventure travel including world class ski and snowboarding resorts, mountain biking, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, and angling in the many area streams and lakes, make it a prime destination for outdoor enthusiasts. Nightlife including exceptional restaurants, pubs, shopping, and entertainment venues provide culture and entertainment. This state of the art operation is located in the Southwest, near a large metropolitan area. Cost of living is moderate and cost effective, and quality of life is exceptional by all measures. Relocation assistance may be provided.