

Injection Moulding Machine Setter

Signal Plastics is recruiting for an experienced **Injection Moulding Machine Setter** to join our technical team. This is a fantastic opportunity for someone with the right skills, experience and enthusiasm to contribute to the growth of a dynamic business.

Reporting to the NPI and Technical Manager, you will be responsible for the initial set up of the mould tools at the beginning of a production run and be a technical go to person and key problem solver on the specified production shift. You will work closely with the shift leader to achieve right first time and on time operational performance within a safe working environment. Full details are in the role description.

This is a permanent, full-time role based at our site in Washington. All candidates must have the immediate right to work in the UK - sponsorship is not available at this time.

Working pattern, pay and benefits

You will work 37.5 hours a week over a 3-shift rotation pattern of days (7:00am – 3:10pm), nights (11:00pm – 7:10am) and backs (3:00pm – 11:10pm) so you must be available to work this shift pattern. We start each week with a Sunday night shift and finish on Friday back shift.

We will pay between **£29,500** and **£33,000** a year based on working full time over a three shifts rotation (depending on qualifications, skills and experience). This includes shift allowance for back and night shifts. We offer 23 days annual leave (plus the usual bank holidays), increasing with length of service. Two weeks of this is usually taken during our summer shut-down period and we also usually shut down over Christmas. We also offer a number of benefits including company pension scheme, life insurance (2x salary), Employee Assistance Program, Cycle to Work scheme, free hot drinks and more.

There will occasionally be overtime (paid at 1.5x) and we ask for flexibility in being available for this.

A bit more about us ...

Signal Plastics is part of the Omega Plastics Group, a plastic injection moulding and tooling business, together with its sister company, Omega Plastics.

We provide high quality plastic injection mould tooling, components, assembly and technical solutions on time and with exceptional customer service. Signal Plastics is based in a 43,500 sq. ft facility on Bentall Business Park in Washington and Omega Plastics is based in a 45,000 sq. ft facility on Team Valley Trading Estate in Gateshead, which is also our group head office.

We have a reputation for technical expertise and delivering solutions to challenging problems or in short timeframes and hold ISO 9001 certification. We work with customers from product conception through the tooling development cycle and into serial production. Our flexibility and value-add approach means we can be a strategic partner to customers and strive to develop long-term relationships.

We work across four main sectors: industrial and technical, consumer, automotive and medical. We deliver low to high volume plastic injection moulding using 29 injection moulding presses, ranging from 40 to 1,300 tonnes, some with robot demoulding and packing capability. In addition, we integrate plastic mouldings into more complex assemblies which we manage on behalf of our customers.

The group is growing, with a workforce of over 190 colleagues (from 90 in 2019) across both businesses and we continue to invest in our people, infrastructure and facilities. Our people are key to the success of the business. We offer a competitive salary and benefits package and invest in the training and development our colleagues.

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Job Description

Main duties include:

- Take a “safety first” approach to all activities, to protect the health and safety of yourself and colleagues/visitors.
- Apply technical knowledge to the set-up of each job in terms of quality and machine operation, taking responsibility for achieving an optimum operational condition at the start of each run.
- Carry out tool changes, ensuring tools are set with the correct validated settings in accordance with SOPs and customer requirements.
- Work closely with the Shift Supervisor, and members of the production and quality teams to achieve right first-time and on time operational performance on the shift and to identify and implement performance improvements.
- In between discrete set ups, monitor the operational performance of a suite of tools across production and intervene when an actual or potential issue arises.
- Complete required paperwork at the start, end and throughout shifts.
- Ensure that the agreed quality standards are met consistently and that any non-conformances are identified and rectified in a timely manner.
- Be a point of contact for colleagues on technical queries or problem solving/ decision making.
- Support team members to improve in all areas, demonstrating the required standard, monitoring and developing new skills acquisition.
- Promote good standards of housekeeping and compliance with procedures and agreed working practices.

Physical demands include:

- Prolonged periods working on feet and requires reaching, bending, grasping and using tools and moving around the factory.
- Must be able to lift up to 15kg of plastic raw materials at a time.
- Manual dexterity when handling parts or using tools.
- Good eyesight (including with glasses/lenses) to read instructions, operate machines, and inspect parts of differing colours and finishes.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Proven experience of setting machines and changing tools in a fast-paced injection moulding manufacturing environment
- Experience of working in a fast-paced manufacturing environment (preferably automotive sector)
- Ability to mentor and develop junior setters or trainees
- Experience of working in an environment with ISO9001/IATF16949 certifications (desirable)

- A commitment to quality, safety and continuous improvement
- Basic maintenance experience
- Trained in safe use of overhead crane equipment (valid certificate required)
- Good IT skills, in particular MS Excel
- Be proactive, resilient and flexible with an ability to work under pressure and within time constraints