

## AUTOMATION MANAGER

**Department:** Engineering  
**Reports To:** General Manager  
**FLSA Status:** Exempt  
**Updated:** July 30, 2019

Working at Eckhart is an opportunity to directly impact the future of American manufacturing. We are an Industry 4.0 leader committed to developing advanced manufacturing solutions that enhance the quality of life. Our AUTOCRAFT™ autonomous guided vehicles and FLEXCHECK™ collaborative robotic error-proofing systems lead the market in reliability and dependability. Our suite of solutions includes AGVs, collaborative & traditional robotics, 3D printing, conveyance & automation, highly engineered weld fixtures, lift-assist & ergonomic tooling, and mechanical & electrical engineering services. Our solutions improve employee safety, product quality, and productivity at the largest companies in the world.

Eckhart invests in people because we believe it is our people who differentiate our solutions and our company from our competitors. For over 40 years our company has committed dedicated creative minds to conceptualize and design custom manufacturing solutions for industry. Our customers span medical devices, food, consumer packaged goods, aerospace, automotive, industrial machinery, commercial construction, household appliances, and farm machinery & heavy trucks. We thrive solving our customers' most difficult problems and find satisfaction when customers receive safe and efficient turn-key solutions that enhance their quality of life.

### Description

Eckhart is a premier market leading manufacturing solutions provider to Fortune 500 industrial manufacturers. We are seeking creative minds committed to innovative disruption like artificial intelligence, autonomous guided carts (AGCs), additive/3D printing, collaborative robotics, and microlocation spatial positioning. We believe companies that embrace Industry 4.0 will shape the future of how things are made.

From ergonomic lift-assist solutions, that help manufacturers transfer raw material and large components to points of assembly in factories, to turnkey fully integrated controls that empower manufacturing companies to identify parts, confirm work sequences, and monitor product quality, our team loves creativity and ingenuity. We work closely with our customers to ensure their design to installation experience at Eckhart is exceptional.

Eckhart's Automation Manager is a key member of the management team responsible for leading engineering and program management activities. The ideal candidate will possess a continuous improvement mindset and have a passion for growing the company's technological offerings and improving engineering standards and process flow. Challenging engineering team to integrate sound engineering practices into the design of advanced industrial solutions will be a high priority. The individual must possess a sound technical background, have a strong desire to develop engineering talent, and be capable of managing multiple priorities and customers.

## **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Passion for growth and the desire to build the engineering depth and capability required to expand Eckhart's suite of solutions and market penetration across multiple industries
- Operational and engineering technical depth to lead the implementation of engineering design standards across Eckhart suite of solutions
- Experience implementing Design for Manufacturing methodology in a custom advanced automation industrial solutions environment
- Hands-on experience and technical acumen to successfully lead internal and external design reviews, customer buy-offs, and root cause analysis in the field
- Actively manage awarded programs to ensure key milestone gates are achieved and customers receive turn-key solutions delivered right the first time
- Lead team of engineers responsible for delivering multi-million dollar programs to Fortune 100 industrial customers
- Work closely with subordinates & executive staff to develop and execute the company's Strategic Initiatives
- Oversee customer scope of work to ensure all contractual terms and conditions are met
- Strong fundamentals of control and electrical system design, HMI design, and its application in automated industrial design including vision, power, sensor, inspection, collaboration, and communication systems
- Working knowledge of UG, Solidworks, AutoCAD, and other design software
- Expert knowledge of Omron/Schneider/Allen Bradley/Siemens/RSLogix and other PLCs, vision systems, and robotics
- Experience with different fieldbus architectures such as DeviceNet, Ethernet/IP, Profinet, Profibus
- Functional electrical maintenance and troubleshooting skills.
- Create and develop concepts for manufacturing cells, including traditional and collaborative robots, end effectors, and ancillary material handling equipment
- Understand customer needs, apply technical knowledge to identify process requirements, recommend and implement custom engineered solutions
- Demonstrate Engineering professionalism in all activities and provide timely & efficient service to customers
- Proactive behavior, taking initiative, seeking continuous improvement
- Must be able to communicate effectively with employees, colleagues and customers both orally and written
- Must be able to travel within the continental US

## **Qualifications:**

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be professional, proactive, and positive. Having a passion for exceptional customer service and support is a must. Being sensitive to the unpredictable demands and uncertainties associated with customer service is a requisite to delivering superior results and exceeding the expectations of very demanding customers.

## **Education and/or Experience:**

A four-year degree in Automation Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Manufacturing Technology or a related field is required. Also require at least five years of engineering management, leadership, and custom automation & controls experience. Prefer a master's degree in relevant technical, business or design fields of study and substantive work experience as a project engineer or technical program manager.

**Other skills and abilities:**

- Ability to read, analyze and interpret general business technical procedures. Ability to write reports, effectively present information and respond to questions from management and customers (internal/external)
- Ability to solve problems and manage a variety of diverse manufacturing challenges
- Ability to interpret instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram or schedule form
- Ability to analyze, troubleshoot, and improve existing processes
- Ability to read and understand mechanical and electrical controls drawings
- Working knowledge of manufacturing and assembly processes.
- Proven organizational; time management; multi-tasking skills
- Computer Literacy (Microsoft Office Programs)
- Strong presentation skills; executive presence
- Ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Ability to work well under pressure and to remain flexible to changing schedules and demands.