



Burapha Agroforestry Co., Ltd is a Swedish/Lao plantation and wood products manufacturing company, with its own plywood mill, sawmill, and plantations.

Established in Lao PDR in 1994, Burapha's objective is to build a timber plantation asset in Laos large enough to be the core wood supplier for a major industrial operation. Burapha currently operates a sawmill/furniture factory and a plywood mill, which commenced production in 2021.

Industry Manager

Location: Head Office – Vientiane, with frequent travel to site

Reporting to the Chief Executive Officer, this is a new, senior leadership role to oversee the entire plywood mill operation (production, maintenance, technical, sales and marketing, administration) and support the growth of industrial operations into the future. The initial focus and priority will be to lead the final ramp-up stages of the plywood mill to reach optimal capacity to meet market demands and target new customers. This will be achieved through implementing safe production targets and preventative maintenance regime to decrease equipment failure and operational downtime. You will act as a change agent, instilling a commercial, performance-focused culture within the operation while retaining a team-based environment where people enjoy coming to work.

Another key to your success will be your ability to work effectively with your peer senior managers, in particular the Forestry Operations Manager as the key supplier of logs to the mill.

This is an attractive opportunity for a seasoned milling/manufacturing leader to make their mark in an expatriate role in a growing business with an exciting future.

While you will be based residentially in the Laos' capital of Vientiane, you will be required to spend considerable time on site in Hinheup, approximately 1.5hrs drive from Vientiane.

Key Responsibilities:

- Manage Burapha's Plywood mill ensuring high quality business activities with maximum efficiency, production, service and profitability for the company.
- Lead a positive safety culture that reflects Burapha's commitment to the health and safety of all employees
- Establish a risk management approach focused on minimising safety, environmental, community and business risks and impacts
- Establish production and safety KPI's and a performance-based culture where employees understand their contribution to the company's business and are recognised for their achievements in a team-based environment
- Ensure production targets are met through the optimisation of equipment, human resources, systems and processes



- Instill continuous improvement practices in line with Lean or similar manufacturing principles, supported by rigorous audit and review processes
- Actively support the ongoing training and development of the industry team
- Ensure compliance with related legal/statutory regulations, professional duties, responsibilities and obligations
- Develop and utilise appropriate systems to monitor, measure and analyse production data
- Implement and lead preparation of daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual reports
- Actively manage business unit budgeting, forecasting and planning activities

Qualifications / Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in industrial engineering, wood products science or other related discipline
- Proven experience and success in a senior production management role, ideally gained in timber milling operations
- Thorough understanding of factory and production environments, manufacturing and business processes and business management with exposure to Lean or similar operating principles
- Experience in start-up or turn-around production facilities an advantage
- Proven ability in building a successful, production-focused culture that brings out the best in equipment and people
- Good understanding of the global timber market (plywood ideal) to identify market opportunities and support sales function
- Familiarity with industry standard equipment and international compliance requirements
- High level of computer literacy in MS Office, combined with experience in ERP systems
- Strong commercial acumen and business skills to manage a budget, planning and resource allocation
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills to develop relationships with a range of internal and external stakeholders including local communities and Government
- Exceptional leadership ability to motivate and manage a diverse team with previous expatriate experience in a developing country desirable
- Strong analytical and decision-making ability

We offer a competitive expatriate remuneration package including comprehensive health insurance and a supportive and committed team environment.

To apply, please send your CV, proof of qualifications and a cover letter (optional)

to: recruitment@buraphawood.com

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

Closing date 26 June 2022