Job Title: Machinist Technician (Manufacturing Technician)

Location: In person in Batavia, IL
Department: Engineering / Manufacturing
Reports To: Engineering Lead
Company: Kazadi Energy

About Kazadi Energy

Kazadi Energy is an energy technology startup developing novel, licenseable hardware solutions designed to transform the efficiency and sustainability of dehumidification and power systems. We combine deep technical innovation with a nimble, impact-driven culture. As an early team member, you'll play a meaningful role in shaping our products and company trajectory.

Position Summary

Kazadi Energy is seeking a detail-oriented and skilled Machinist Technician to support the manufacturing of precision components and assemblies. This role is critical in turning product designs into functional hardware using CNC and manual machining tools. You will collaborate closely with engineers and other team members to ensure parts meet our quality, timeline, and safety expectations.

Key Accomplishments

- Small batch component manufacturing for various prototype and pilot-scale devices
- Maintenance of various pieces of equipment
- Management of safety procedures for the manufacturing equipment
- Bringing new equipment on line when needed
- Development and delivery of training on new equipment

Key Responsibilities

A. Machining and Manufacturing

- Operate and maintain CNC machinery, including routers, mills, and lathes.
- Operate manual machining tools such as mills, lathes, and saws.
- Translate technical drawings, CAD files, and instructions into precise machining steps.
- Set up machines by installing and aligning tooling, fixtures, and raw materials.
- Generate tool paths and CNC programs from design files as needed.
- Monitor ongoing machining processes and make adjustments for optimal performance.
- Inspect finished components using calipers, micrometers, and other measuring tools to ensure they meet dimensional and surface finish tolerances.
- Identify and correct any flaws, inconsistencies, or process inefficiencies.

B. Equipment Maintenance & Safety

- Perform routine inspections and preventative maintenance on all assigned equipment.
- Keep machines clean, calibrated, and in proper working order.

- Follow all safety protocols, including the use of PPE and proper handling of tools and materials.
- Support the safety of other team members by modeling best practices and identifying hazards.

C. Documentation & Communication

- Accurately record production output, including quantity, time, and any process deviations.
- Communicate with team members and supervisors regarding progress, issues, and suggestions for process improvements.
- Provide feedback on design for manufacturability or ease of assembly.

D. General Support

- Support other manufacturing or engineering tasks as assigned by your supervisor.
- Participate in continuous improvement initiatives, including lean manufacturing practices.
- Maintain a clean and organized work area.

Qualifications

Required:

- 2+ years experience operating CNC and manual machining equipment in a production or prototyping environment.
- Proficient in interpreting technical drawings, blueprints, and CAD files.
- Strong attention to detail and a commitment to producing high-quality work.
- Familiarity with safety standards and machine shop protocols.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.

Preferred:

- Experience with G-code programming and CNC setup.
- Background in prototyping or short-run manufacturing.
- Comfortable using CAD/CAM software (e.g., Fusion 360, SolidWorks CAM, Mastercam).
- Experience working in an R&D or startup environment.

Working Conditions

- This position involves standing, lifting (up to 75 lbs), and using machinery for extended periods.
- Work will primarily be performed in a workshop or fabrication lab environment in Batavia, IL (60510)
- Occasional weekend or evening hours may be required to meet deadlines.