Head of Supplier Assurance

Recruiter: RSSB
Posted: 9 March 2015
Closes: 31 March 2015
Ref: RSSB35M1
Contact: RSSB
Location: London/home based with extensive travel in UK
Sector: Rail
Function: Management, Procurement, Assurance
Job Type: Senior Manager
Hours: Full time; Permanent
Salary: £Competitive + excellent benefits

The client

RSSB is an expert body that helps the rail industry collaborate to continuously improve and meet future challenges. It spans the whole railway, including in its membership infrastructure companies, train and freight operators, rolling stock owners and suppliers to the industry. RSSB supports rail in the areas of safety, standards, knowledge, innovation and a wide range of cross-industry schemes – including supplier assurance.

Britain’s railways are crucial to the economy, and on the back of two decades of rapid growth, will expand even further to carry more people and freight in the future. Trains, infrastructure and equipment are being reinvented, renewed and rolled out, requiring a confident world class supply chain. Rail is a big buyer, relying on thousands of suppliers of every shape and size, providing a wide range of unique, critical and complex products and services.

To get this right, RSSB has an important role to play to support industry in developing modernised, effective supplier assurance arrangements fit for the 21st Century railway.
The role

You will head a team of experts to develop industry’s strategy for the assessment and assurance of the supply chain. You will develop, coordinate and oversee arrangements and schemes, and work closely with senior decision makers across the rail industry, government and the regulator.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead, develop and manage the supplier assurance arrangements for the GB rail industry and its associated supply chain partners
- Develop and manage the business plans and budgets for industry to optimise the delivery of the supplier assurance requirements
- Report to and support RSSB’s governing bodies for supplier assurance management, whilst liaising and engaging with its members as required, DfT, ORR, government bodies, other industry members, supply chain partners and other assurance scheme providers
- Promote mutually beneficial relationships with all relevant stakeholders to maintain understanding and support for supplier assurance arrangements and to demonstrate the performance, value, contribution and efficiency the schemes provide to the industry and safety management
- Develop and manage governance and review structures for supplier assurance arrangements
- Develop a plan for each of these constituent elements of the supplier assurance schemes and identify relevant and appropriate key performance indicators in conjunction with stakeholders, monitoring progress in these respects and providing regular reports to RSSB’s governing bodies, whilst maintaining optimal performance of the schemes and utilising this to inform future developments
- Specify, authorise, procure and manage relevant contractual relationships with third party providers of supplier assurance support services for the schemes and on behalf of the industry community of users and beneficiaries
- Lead, manage and develop the Supplier Assurance team
- Represent RSSB on supplier assurance matters as remitted by the Director of External Engagement
Requirements

- Significant experience in a complex, risk-critical industry
- Track record of influencing senior stakeholders for business change
- Good knowledge of standards, systems and process for accreditation and conformity assessment
- Leadership skills
- Confident communication skills
- Good management and organisation skills
- Knowledge of rail supply chain and assurance schemes would be helpful

You can look forward to an attractive package that includes bonus and a final salary pension scheme.

If you’re a confident commercially-minded manager with a background in assurance, procurement or business development, and keen to fulfil your potential in the rail renaissance by joining us at RSSB, then please email your CV and covering letter quoting reference RSSB35M1 to vacancies@rssb.co.uk

You can find out more about RSSB by visiting our website at www.rssb.co.uk