

Position Vacancy Announcement

Job Title:	Product Manager (Internship)
Reports to:	Director, Marketing & Sales
Location:	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Employment Type:	Paid Internship, Full time
Duration:	6 months
	1st Batch: (Sept. / Oct. 2017 – Feb. / Mar. 2018)
	2nd Batch: (Feb. / Mar. 2017 – Jul. / Aug. 2018)
Benefits:	Air ticket (for international candidate) and Health insurance

About African Bamboo

African Bamboo is a premium Tropical Bamboo products manufacturer. Registered in Ethiopia and the Netherlands since 2012, the company is founded on a wholly sustainable business model. We manage an integrated supply chain developed on a socially inclusive forestry management plan in cooperation with local communities primarily using natural forests. Our manufacturing facility operates off-grid with a net negative carbon offset and no residual waste. Our flagship product is also highly engineered, in cooperation with a leading German wood technology institute. We've optimized material consumption to produce an 82.5% natural bamboo fiber composite panel using Ethiopian highland bamboo. Its exceptional characteristics make our products extremely durable, steel-strong and unique. All processes have been designed to meet the most stringent efficiency, safety and environmental standards.

We are looking for like-minded pioneers to support us to accelerate the commercialization of our production, product launch and market access.

After several years of building the pillars of the business, we're ready to launch!

Role:

African Bamboo is currently looking for a motivated and enthusiastic **intern** to take on the following duties in the role of **Product Manager - Intern**. Through this position you will gain valuable skills in bringing products from R & D to commercial markets. Your role is centered on making African Bamboo's product(s): valuable, usable, and feasible. The Intern – Product Manager; should operate at the intersection of: i. Business, ii. Quality, & iii. Market.

The Intern – Product Manager, shall inspire the most significant brand value of our products as: “durable”, “sustainable”, and “natural” substitute to tropical hardwood that has achieved high quality certification. Ultimately, The Intern – Products Manager, shall be passionate about building products that customers love.

The Intern – Product Manager is expected to work in a dynamic, international and fast-paced environment and work with cross-functional teams to research, develop, test, and certify products that deliver the company's vision and strategy of becoming the first African company to produce an advanced industrially processed panel board product.

Duties:

As an Intern – Product Manager, you are pivotal to bringing our activities together and establishing a coordinated product management function. You will be supporting the marketing, product development and production teams, undertaking the full breadth of product management activities. Together we will define our product mix and materials, structure customer requirements and product delivery activities, and plan for after-sales care.

1. Product Mix

- 1.1 Define core products, characteristics, customizable attributes, and accessories in line with international market demands.
- 1.2 Formulate structure for receiving and processing customer specifications across the product mix.

2. Product Information

- 2.1 Create marketing and sales documents, including but not limited to product brochures, technical specifications, installation, maintenance, health and safety, warranty and related guides.
- 2.2 Create a structured, systemized, method for receiving and maintaining customer orders and related documents.

3. Product Packaging

- 3.1 Identify and source packaging materials for product samples and commercial orders.

4. Product Markings and Labels

- 4.1 Confirm selected product and company markings and labels with respective teams within African Bamboo.
- 4.2 Coordinate implementation of related standards to attain marks and labels internally.
- 4.3 Document project plan for applying, maintaining and renewing marks and labels with; requirements, timeline, costs, processes, roles and responsibilities.

5. Product Delivery Support

- 5.1 Work with marketing and sales to receive customer specifications.
- 5.2 Coordinate production planning with productions team.
- 5.3 Document and maintain production mix and volumes per customer orders.
- 5.4 Coordinate samples from production and marketing & sales to potential customers.

6. Related activities

- 6.1 Establish product support channels for customers.
- 6.2 Recommend feedback processes.
- 6.3 Structure KPIs to benchmark product performance and value.
- 6.4 Evaluate costs, resources and solutions are timely and effective to meet our objectives.
- 6.5 Test established product definition, systems and processes work operationally.

Minimum Qualification:

Required qualifications and experience

- Wood Sciences, Wood Engineering, Business Management, or Marketing graduate
- Experience in timber industry and/or building materials sector is an asset,
- Strong written and verbal communication skills,
- Affinity with information technologies and able to easily adopt new tools.

Required skills

- A pragmatic, problem solving, mindset.
- Team player with strong interpersonal skills.
- Ability to research and propose solutions independently.
- Ability to process large amounts of information and create structured workflows.
- Stress resilient and flexible.
- Strong knowledge of wood based panel products and applications is a plus.
- Familiarity with European and American building materials and products standards and norms is a plus.
- Project management skills and experience is an asset.

To Apply:

Interested candidates who meet the above requirements are invited to submit their CV and cover letter by **September 15, 2017** via email: recruitment@african-bamboo.com. For more information, contact us via **Tel: +251 11 320 2647** or visit www.african-bamboo.com

African Bamboo is an equal opportunity employer; qualified women are encouraged to apply.