



Job Description

## Production Operator

**Reports To:** Plant Mgr, OP Mgr./Shift Supervisor  
**FLSA Status:** Non-Exempt  
**Department:** Production

**Purpose:** This position will provide support to our Process Operations, including Production D & E, Cook positions and Water Treatment. Backup to Process Operator is required to provide manpower needs due to scheduled vacations/personnel time off, emergency absenteeism of other production personnel. Cross training is an Essential duty of this job, cross training in Process, Water Treatment and other areas as assigned.

### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Learn and operate all processes associated with the plant. Including but not limited to Process, Energy Center, Water Treatment; for operational and maintenance requirements of the physical plant equipment and utilities including: water supply, centrifuges, dryer system, cooling tower, air dryer/compressors, reverse osmosis, waste treatment plant, chiller and all associated equipment.
- Operate DCS (computer control system) for the plant.
- Learn Process flow: including but not limited to; Corn, Steam, Water, Slurry tanks, Hydro Heater, Liquefaction tanks, Fermentation, Beer well, Scrubbers, Distillation, Side Stripper, Beer Column, Rectifier, Mole Sieve, Evaporators, Cook Water Tank, Methanator, Thin Stillage tank, Centrifuges, DDGs Dryers and other related process flows.
- Learn and follow procedures for Ethanol Storage tanks, 190 Proof Tank and 200 Proof Tank.
- Learn and follow procedures for plant start-up, shut down, cleaning and batching.
- Keep accurate and timely logs.
- Respond to collected data and make adjustments to optimize plant operation.
- Work to keep plant facilities clean.
- Update operators on the proceeding shift on what tasks have been completed, any updates or issues in regards to operations, and what needs to be done on the next shift.
- Work closely with production and maintenance personnel to reduce or eliminate down time. Support efforts to maximize production through creative problem solving, adaptation, and correction of process bottlenecks. Focus on continuous improvement in all aspects of the job
- Perform quality control testing on product streams.
- Safe work practices are a condition of employment. Report any safety issue or problem to your supervisor and EHS Manager.
- Actively promote HWE Team values and principles with team members, outside vendors and customers.
- Effectively communicate with Plant Management, Energy Center, Water Treatment, Grains Receiving/Ethanol Loadout, Maintenance and other departments to keep them informed and resolve issues.
- Other duties as assigned.

**Physical Demands:**

The person in this position is constantly moving and will need to be able to ascend and descend ladders and steps, stoop, reach in all directions, twist, bend, kneel, crawl and grasp. It requires an individual to push, pull, and lift up to 50 lbs frequently and unassisted. One must be able to observe and monitor their surroundings as there's moving equipment around the facility. Must stand and walk for extended periods of time during shift. This position requires someone to do data entry and use precision while measuring and testing instruments in the lab.

**Working Conditions:**

The person in this position is constantly going indoors to outdoors and will be exposed to all weather conditions (-50° to 100°+ at times.) There is exposure to high noise levels, elevated work, and confined spaces. Along with exposure to substances including dust, oil, grease, and chemicals. Personal protective equipment {PPE} is required to be worn in designated areas. This position is rotating shift work, includes occasional call-ins at unexpected times and twelve-hour work days.

**Education/Language Ability:**

The person in this position must be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide numbers. Must also be able to work with fractions, the metric system, percentages, and decimals. This position requires an individual to read, write, and comprehend the English language.