Candidate Information

Position:	Digital Transformation Lead
School/Department:	BRCD AMIC
Reference:	25/112696
Closing Date:	Monday 28 July 2025
Salary:	£51,016 - £62,695 per annum.
Anticipated Interview Date:	Wednesday 3 September 2025
Duration:	3 years

JOB PURPOSE:

We are seeking a team-player who is passionate about innovative technology to play a major role in the engagement and consulting with companies and in the management and expansion of applied research, innovation and knowledge transfer in Digitised Manufacturing and Industry 4.0.

The role is part-funded by The DigitAl ManufacTUring Transformation PlatforM (DATUM) project- a project focussed on the expansion of applied research, innovation and knowledge transfer in Digitised Manufacturing & Industry 4.0. It is funded by SEUPBs through PeacePlus2.2 (Innovation Challenge Fund) and delivered in partnership with Irish Manufacturing Research (IMR).

You will lead the engagement with Manufacturing companies, assessing their Digital Maturity and, with them, develop Digital Transformation Plans to inform the development and delivery of Collaborative Innovation projects. You will work with teams of engineers and technicians in the development of project-related activities across AMIC to undertake innovative research, design and research-support activities in Digitised Manufacturing and Industry 4.0. This requires working in collaboration with different technology areas, technology providers, national technology centres, academia and industry to deliver key projects, developing regional and international links and securing partnerships and funding. You will support senior managers with a proactive approach in the identification, technical specification and delivery of new and novel technology capabilities and strategies that will have a direct technical, economic and reputational benefit to AMIC, industry and Northern Ireland.

AMIC - a £100M investment through the Belfast Region City Deal - is a collaborative, innovative powerhouse of advanced manufacturing set to elevate our region globally.

We are supporting economic growth and prosperity for Northern Ireland by creating high quality jobs and increasing inward investment through high value manufacturing innovation clusters.

We are driving industrial transformation, paving the way for future technologies and competing globally with a more sustainable focus.

MAJOR DUTIES:

1. Engaging with Manufacturing companies, applying leading frameworks and tools to evaluate a manufacturer’s digital maturity across process, technology and organisation.
2. To identify opportunities for improvement – pinpointing specific priority areas of manufacturing can lead to the most improvements.
3. Developing tailored Digital Transformation Roadmaps for the manufacturers to outline the steps needed to meet their Industry 4.0 goals.
4. Providing expert advice on priority technologies and processes and inform the development and delivery of Collaborative Innovation projects.
5. Assist with developing relationships with customers, suppliers and industry leaders.
6. Participate in external activities related to specialisation.

7. Liaising with QUB academic staff, with industry and government agencies.
8. Coordinating and liaising with other members of project teams over work progress.
9. To work closely with AMIC staff, technology providers, national centres, Queen's academic staff, with industry and government agencies in all aspects relating to technology transfer.
10. Support and inform the creation of new cross-disciplinary projects of strategic importance to AMIC and Queen's University Belfast.
11. To initiate, develop and manage R&D links with industry nationally and internationally.
12. Assist in winning funding from industry and government sources (nationally and internationally) to grow manufacturing research in line with AMIC's long term strategic plans (supported by CTO and Business Development function).
13. Play a leading role in developing the international reputation of Digitised Manufacturing research at Queen's through presentations, attendance at trade shows and through visiting major companies world-wide as required.
14. Any other duties commensurate with the role that may reasonably be requested by management.

Planning and Organising:

1. Plan own work to meet given objectives and processes.
2. Plan, schedule and monitor work activities in order to meet time and quality targets.
3. Plan for the use of research resources and laboratories where appropriate.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Responsibility for a significant area of work, including technical, financial and quality aspects.
2. Ensure research and development resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
3. Provide guidance as required to staff and any students who may be assisting with research projects.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Honours Degree, or equivalent, in related engineering or computer science discipline.
2. Substantial relevant experience in engaging and consulting with manufacturing companies, and assessing their digital capabilities, identifying opportunities for improvement and providing expert advice on technology and process solutions.
3. Relevant experience initiating, executing and managing multifaceted industrial-focussed research & development projects within deadlines and budget, displaying strong and effective resource management abilities.
4. Experience in contributing to and creating presentation materials and in presenting materials and engaging with companies.
5. Evidence of technical excellence and understanding of fundamental engineering concepts as evidenced by major project outcomes, reports, or publications, patents or product designs.
6. Experience that demonstrates extensive breadth and depth of specialist knowledge in the discipline and of research and development methods and techniques to work within established research programmes, with proven competence and technical expertise in:
   • Theory and implementation of Digitised Manufacturing with experience using relevant software packages and associated manufacturing technologies.
   • Specific knowledge and experience in related technical areas such as machine connectivity, enterprise systems, data visualisation and analysis, machine learning and cyber security.
7. Experience of collaborative working in multidisciplinary research and development teams.
8. Experience assisting in securing revenue or funding to support the activities of the research group.
9. Ability to communicate complex information to range of audiences through effective written reports and presentations, adjusting approach to meet audience needs.
10. Ability to build effective and productive relationships and interact with others including senior academic staff, and senior industry and government executives.
11. Strong problem-solving skills in a complex industrial environment.
12. Some working outside of standard working times and national or international travel may be required to meet the responsibilities of the post and needs of stakeholders. It should be possible to plan and schedule for this activity 90% of the time.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Postgraduate and/or professional qualification in a relevant discipline.
2. Experience of working with international OEMs and SMEs.
3. Understanding theory and demonstrated application of process mapping, Lean thinking and modern manufacturing philosophies.
4. Experience in the application of commercial digital manufacturing/simulation software tools.

5. Familiarity with process cost estimating / modelling, costing philosophies.
6. Experience with manufacturing automation.
7. Familiarity in the theory and application of Artificial Intelligence in a manufacturing environment.
8. Experience in building and developing teams.