

energyStartup 2015 Summer Internship Position

Company name: Obtainium, Bay Area, CA (San Francisco & Berkeley)

Description of position:

Obtainium is a seed-round startup creating value out of CO₂. Our technology uses, electricity, water and metal catalysts to convert CO₂ and water into products such as ethanol, CO, H₂ and ethylene. We hope to provide CO₂-emitting business with an opportunity to convert their CO₂ into a revenue stream instead of a pollution source. The team currently includes two Stanford PhD students and one Stanford MBA. We are located mostly at Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBNL) under a new cleantech program called Cyclotron Road. Note: By joining our team you will become an affiliate of LBNL and will be working there for part of your term. We are looking for someone to fulfill either a scientist/engineer position or a business development/communications position. Please apply to one position and state any skills you may have in the other (if applicable).

Scientist/Engineer-The position will require the applicant to work with the project supervisor in order to test various conditions for an electrochemical process to convert carbon dioxide into common chemicals, such as carbon monoxide, ethanol, and ethylene. Conditions tested will include the fabrication of catalyst/support mixtures of varying composition and process conditions such as pressure and temperatures. The knowledge gained through this study will be key in improving the overall process efficiency.

Communications and Business Development-This position will involve market research and managing communications for our team. Responsibilities include: market sizing, pricing estimates, website design, social media management, creation of promotional images and materials, and brand development. The communications and market research strategy developed will have a direct impact on Obtainium's ability to raise funds and achieve our technology development goals.

Who should apply:

Either position is great for someone who is 1) passionate about market driven approaches to clean tech, 2) can work independently and with a small team, 3) enjoys challenging problems, 4) would enjoy living/working in San Francisco or Berkeley for the summer and 5) those who wish to gain experience working on technological R&D or business development as part of an early stage startup.

Required expertise:

- 1) Ability to learn quickly and follow directions in the setting of a scientific lab.
- 2) Good organization and ability to clearly communicate and document activities as directed are required.
- 3) As the work will be performed in a shared space, the applicant is expected to be conduct work in a conscientious manner that does not interfere with others.
- 4) Chemical Engineering Specific - Gas analysis or quantitative chemistry experience
- 5) Communications specific – Excellent writing skills and ability to generate aesthetically pleasing graphics and images.

Preferred skills/Majors:

Preferred Majors: Engineering (Mechanical, chemical, electrical, materials, etc), Chemistry, Physics. Experience working in a research lab preferred.

or

Communications/Business Development: Familiarity with social media and website design preferred. Ability to use Adobe Creative Suite or comparable graphics design software.

Internship term: 8 weeks

Compensation: \$6000