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# Deputy Quality Manager

MiAlgae applies leading advances in science and technology to improve food security and reduce the impact of humanity on the planet.

## Company Profile

Founded in 2016, MiAlgae leverages cutting-edge science and technology to tackle global food security and environmental challenges. Our breakthrough innovation lies in eliminating the need for wild-caught fish as a source of Omega 3, by harnessing microalgae, a sustainable and potent alternative.

Our production process recycles by-products from the food and drink industry to grow Omega 3 rich microalgae, returning clean water in the process and supporting a truly circular economy.

We are proud to be a diverse, family-friendly and inclusive employer, committed to equity and belonging in everything we do. We welcome applications from all backgrounds and are open to discussing flexible working arrangements that suit both you and the role.

## The Opportunity

Reporting to the Quality Systems Manager, this role will act as a deputy within the Quality function, with responsibility for leading the day-to-day operation, performance, and development of the Quality Control (QC) team, while also supporting wider Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Systems activities across the business.

This is a senior role requiring strong leadership capability, the confidence to manage an established team, and experience operating effectively within a regulated manufacturing environment.

The successful candidate will ensure QC activities are planned, prioritised, and delivered effectively to support manufacturing operations, product quality, and business requirements.

Alongside this, they will contribute to the maintenance and continuous improvement of the Quality Management System (QMS), supporting audits, investigations, CAPA, documentation, compliance, and cross-functional quality initiatives.

This is a hands-on leadership role requiring technical credibility, strong collaboration, and a practical, improvement-focused mindset.

## **Key Responsibilities**

- Lead, manage, coach, and develop the QC team, including workload planning, performance management, training, and day-to-day support.
- Oversee the daily running of QC laboratory activities, ensuring testing, sampling, documentation, and reporting are completed accurately and on time.
- Ensure QC priorities are aligned with production schedules, operational requirements, and quality standards.
- Review QC data, records, results, and documentation to ensure accuracy, traceability, completeness, and compliance.
- Support the management of raw material, in-process, finished product, environmental, microbiological, and analytical testing activities.
- Coordinate external testing where required, ensuring results are followed up, reviewed, and communicated appropriately.
- Maintain high standards of laboratory organisation, housekeeping, equipment use, stock control, calibration, maintenance, and health and safety.
- Provide practical laboratory support and undertake QC testing activities when required to maintain continuity of operations during periods of absence, sickness, annual leave, or peak workload.
- Maintain sufficient technical competency across relevant QC methods, systems, and processes to provide effective operational cover when needed.
- Act as a key point of contact between QC, Production, QA, R&D, Engineering, and other departments to resolve quality and operational issues.
- Monitor QC performance, trends, and KPIs, escalating issues and identifying opportunities for improvement.

- Support investigations into deviations, non-conformances, out-of-specification results, complaints, and other quality issues.
- Contribute to CAPA management, ensuring actions are practical, timely, and effective.
- Support the maintenance and improvement of the QMS, including SOPs, controlled documentation, training records, risk assessments, and compliance activities.
- Assist with internal audits, external audits, customer audits, and audit readiness activities.
- Drive continuous improvement within QC processes, workflows, documentation, and team capability.
- Deputise for the Quality Systems Manager when required.

## **About You - Experience & Qualities**

The successful candidate will be an experienced quality professional with a strong foundation in Quality Control and practical experience gained within a manufacturing, laboratory, or regulated operational environment. You will be confident leading people, setting priorities, managing performance, and balancing operational delivery with quality improvement initiatives.

You will be technically credible, comfortable reviewing laboratory work and quality data, and able to operate effectively in hands-on when required. You will also understand of how QC outputs contribute to wider compliance, audit readiness, investigations, documentation control, and continuous improvement across the business.

You will be organised, pragmatic, and confident working cross-functionally, with a solutions-focused approach.

### **Essential Experience**

- 3–5+ years' experience in Quality Control, laboratory operations, or a similar quality role within a manufacturing or regulated environment.
  - Previous line management, supervisory, or team leadership experience.
  - Practical, hands-on laboratory experience in QC laboratory operations, with the ability to competently perform testing and analysis, and provide operational cover when required.
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- Experience working within a controlled quality environment, following SOPs, specifications, and documented procedures.
- Exposure to QA/QMS activities such as deviations, CAPA, audits, and document control.
- Ability to review QC data, records, and documentation with strong attention to detail.
- Strong organisational skills, with the ability to prioritise work and manage competing demands.
- Clear communication skills and experience working with cross-functional teams such as Production, QA, R&D, or Engineering.
- Practical problem-solving approach with a focus on continuous improvement.
- Understanding of laboratory health and safety, risk assessments, COSHH, PPE, and good housekeeping standards.

## Desirable

- Degree or equivalent experience in a relevant scientific, technical, manufacturing, or quality-related discipline.
- Experience in biotechnology, food/feed, pharmaceutical, chemical, manufacturing, or another regulated industry.
- Experience with microbiological, biochemical, analytical, or environmental testing.
- Familiarity with GMP, GLP, ISO, HACCP, FEMAS, or similar quality standards.
- Experience supporting internal, external, customer, or regulatory audits.
- Experience with equipment calibration, maintenance, validation, or laboratory equipment management.
- Experience using LIMS, QMS software, or other electronic quality/laboratory systems.
- Experience developing or improving SOPs, laboratory workflows, training materials, or quality processes.
- Experience reporting KPIs, quality trends, or performance metrics.
- Formal leadership, management, auditing, or quality systems training.

## Details

**Location:** Grangemouth, UK (Hybrid options available)

**Reports to:** Quality Systems Manager

**Employment type:** Full-time

## What We Offer

- **Competitive Compensation:** A market-aligned salary (as noted). We reward high performance and business impact.

- **Holidays:** 32 days holiday per year (including bank holidays) to recharge and refresh, plus flexible working arrangements to support work-life balance. Additional annual leave per complete year of service – up to 5 additional days. Our holiday purchase scheme offers even more flexibility, allowing you to buy extra days when you need them.
- **Pension & Benefits:** 5% company pension contribution. We also offer a Cycle to Work and Electric Car salary sacrifice schemes. Free on-site parking is available for all employees.
- **Wellness Perks:** 50% company contribution to gym membership to support your health and wellbeing - terms apply. You'll also enjoy regular social events and team activities - because at MiAlgae, it's all about the folk and celebrating our successes together.
- **Growth & Development:** Join a high-growth, purpose-driven business where you can shape your own career path. We offer professional development support and opportunities to collaborate cross-functionally, helping you deliver results and make an impact.
- **Mission & Impact:** Be part of a pioneering biotech company delivering innovation with purpose - reducing reliance on wild-caught fish, supporting the circular economy, and driving a more sustainable pet food industry. Your work will directly contribute to creating a healthier planet.

**Ready to Apply?** If you're excited by the opportunity to help shape a more sustainable future, we'd love to hear from you.

Please send your CV and a cover letter explaining your interest to [careers@mialgae.com](mailto:careers@mialgae.com).

**Grangemouth Job Prioritisation Scheme (GJPS).** If you wish to be considered under the Grangemouth Job Prioritisation Scheme, please indicate this when applying.

## How to apply

Please provide your CV, cover letter explaining your interest to:  
[careers@mialgae.com](mailto:careers@mialgae.com)