MULTI-SKILLED MAINTENANCE ENGINEER (Days)

Cottage Farms (Horsmonden) Ltd

Location	August Pitts Farm, Churn Lane, Horsmonden, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 8HW
Salary	£45,000 to £55,000 per annum, depending on experience
Hours	Monday to Friday, 45 hours per week (inc paid breaks)
Contract	Permanent, full time

About Cottage Farms

Cottage Farms is a successful and growing fresh produce business based in the Kent countryside. We grade, pack, and distribute fresh produce while maintaining high standards of safety, food quality, operational efficiency, and customer service.

As we expand our product portfolio and invest in the future of our operation, we are looking for a practical and proactive Multi-Skilled Maintenance Engineer to maintain our production equipment and identify further opportunities to improve machinery reliability, operational efficiency, and performance.

The Role

Working with the senior leadership and operational teams, you will deliver the site's planned preventative maintenance programme, respond to breakdowns and support current and planned improvement projects.

You will work across a range of fresh produce grading, packing, conveying, wrapping and automated handling equipment. The role combines hands-on electrical and mechanical fault-finding with maintenance planning, root cause investigation, contractor control, and continuous improvement.

Key Responsibilities

- Complete and continually develop the site's planned preventative maintenance programme.
- Diagnose and repair electrical and mechanical faults, responding promptly to breakdowns to minimise disruption.
- Complete root cause investigations and implement corrective actions following significant breakdowns or recurring faults.
- Maintain engineering spare-parts stock and support control of the maintenance budget.
- Support the installation, commissioning and improvement of machinery, equipment, and site facilities.
- Maintain accurate maintenance systems, records, and engineering reports.
- Work in partnership with senior leadership and operational teams to improve equipment reliability, efficiency, and performance.
- Identify and deliver continuous improvement and cost-saving opportunities.
- Comply with site health and safety, hygiene, and food safety requirements.
- Manage contractors and ensure compliance with site contractor-control procedures.
- Help maintain a safe, clean, and organised engineering environment.

Skills and Experience

Essential

- A recognised electrical, mechanical, or multi-skilled engineering qualification, such as an apprenticeship, NVQ, City & Guilds, HNC or HND.
- Practical electrical and mechanical maintenance experience in manufacturing, food production, warehousing, or industrial environment.
- Strong fault-finding, diagnostic and problem-solving skills.
- Experience of planned preventative maintenance and reactive breakdown support.
- Ability to work independently, organise priorities and respond effectively to operational requirements.
- Ability to follow health and safety, hygiene, and food safety procedures.
- Clear communication skills and the ability to work effectively with colleagues, contractors, and suppliers.

Desirable

- Experience in fresh produce, food manufacturing, or FMCG.
- Experience of conveyors, grading equipment, wrapping equipment, automated handling systems, or refrigeration-associated plant.
- PLC fault-finding experience.
- 18th Edition Wiring Regulations qualification.
- Welding or fabrication skills.
- Familiarity with BRCGS, HACCP or similar food safety standards.

What We Offer

- Salary of £45,000 to £55,000 per annum
- Private Health insurance
- Company pension scheme.
- 28 days paid annual holiday, including bank holidays.
- Training and development opportunities.
- The opportunity to contribute directly to engineering improvements and the future growth of the business.
- A supportive, practical, and collaborative working environment.

How to Apply

Please apply through the platform where this vacancy is advertised, submitting your current CV and a short covering statement explaining how your experience matches the role.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and the vacancy may close once a suitable candidate has been appointed.

Cottage Farms is committed to fair and inclusive recruitment. If you require reasonable adjustment at any stage of the recruitment process, please let us know when applying.