

Job Title: R&D Engineer (Entry Level)  
Position Type: Full-time  
Reports to: R&D Manager

Location: Kansas City, MO  
Department: Research & Development  
Date: October 2022

## KEYWORDS

*Architecture, Digital Fabrication, Computational Design, Rhino, Grasshopper, Python, Raspberry Pi, Robotics, Automation, Design, Construction,*

***"Innovation and Collaboration to achieve the Incredible"*** -Zahner Mission Statement

## R&D ENGINEERING ROLE

We are looking for an Entry Level R&D Engineer that is passionate about making/digital fabrication and interested in learning how to build BIG intricate architectural projects. A. Zahner Company specializes in digital fabrication and mass customization of architectural projects at large scales. In this position, you will use cutting edge technology to design, engineer, fabricate and construct many of the world's most exciting and iconic buildings/sculptures. Past Zahner projects include: The de Young Museum, Museum of Pop Culture, Contemporary Jewish Museum, Petersen Automotive Museum, Cooper Union, The Modern, Broad Art Museum, Chrysalis Amphitheatre, Stadiums, Airports and more!

Every Zahner project is different and thus requires a custom production process. Processes must be quickly developed and deployed to satisfy project specific requirements. Zahner R&D utilizes a mix of technologies and techniques (supporting and/or augmenting our in house metalworking expertise) to meet client design intent and expand what is possible to build.

R&D Engineers are responsible for supporting research projects and initiatives including process development(70%). Knowledge of architectural project delivery is helpful but not required. In addition, this position will be involved in ongoing Zahner Labs product support in the areas of design, concept refinement, modeling, fabrication, and problem solving (30%). In this role you'll work with the larger team to take projects from concept all the way to production!

Ever built your own 3d printer or custom machine? Worked on a pavilion project or a complex assembly? Did you work in your school's workshop or fabrication lab? Or, were you a teaching assistant for a course focused on design for manufacturing? – if so, we want to talk to you!

## PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with R&D team to plan and deploy project specific fabrication processes.
- Develop workflows and operating standards for the introduction of new processes.
- Design and coordinate with Zahner craftspeople to produce tools, jigs, parts, and assemblies to support project planning.
- Support Zahner Labs campaigns and proof of concepts.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- MS or BS Degree in related fields (mech eng, architecture, mfg engineering, etc) or equivalent experience/knowledge.

- Experience/interest in digital fabrication workflows including CAD/CAM.
- Experience using parametric design tools (Rhino/Grasshopper a plus).
- Experience with industrial robots and CNC machinery a plus.
- General familiarity with construction documents and architectural models.
- Relevant experience in AEC (Architecture, Engineering, Construction) or manufacturing.

#### ADDITIONAL BONUS CHARACTERISTICS.

- Previous work in the sheet metal, structural steel, or curtain wall industries is a plus.
- Work experience in construction or manufacturing is a plus.
- Electronics prototyping (physical computing) experience.
- Proven process development and deployment (built a 3d printer or cnc machine?).
- Experience with basic computer programming languages like Python or Matlab.

#### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Send your resume to [hr@azahner.com](mailto:hr@azahner.com)
- Applicants with Architecture background please provide a portfolio of past work.
- Applicants with Engineering background please provide clear description of past work experience.

#### WORK ENVIRONMENT, PHYSICAL DEMANDS, TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS

- We are offering a competitive salary, excellent insurance benefits, 401k with match, bonus, and profit sharing. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicant will receive consideration for employment without regard to sex, race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, pregnancy or perceived pregnancy, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, protected military or veteran status or any other characteristic or condition protected by Federal, state or local law.
- Job will generally be performed in a team-based office environment, but may require traveling to a client or subcontractor's office, to a production facility or a construction jobsite.
- Job requires extensive interaction with manufacturing personnel. Limited exposure to sharp objects, tools, NC machines, welding equipment, chemicals, adhesives and other equipment. Noise levels in manufacturing may occasionally reach moderate levels. Safety glasses, appropriate clothing and closed toe footwear will be required when in manufacturing or at construction sites.
- Conditions will vary at each job site location. Will be required to wear a hard hat, safety glasses and safety vest when in a construction zone. May be required to take the safety training onsite for some jobs if site visits are frequent during the course of a project.
- Job may require traveling to other parts of the country and maybe overseas at times. Travel times may vary from a few days to over a week based on requirements.