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Employment Opportunity

Email Resume To: donn@gardnerinc.com

DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING

Gardner Inc., one of the largest family owned Parts Distributors for the Lawn and Garden industry, is growing to better serve our current customers while continuing to develop new opportunities in new territories. Gardner currently has distribution centers in Columbus, Ohio; Franklin, Massachusetts; Jacksonville, Florida; Greensboro, North Carolina and Arlington, Tennessee. With the addition of our newest warehouse and distribution centers we now have over 700,000 square feet nationwide. Gardner can efficiently serve all 50 U.S. States. Our foundation rests on the strength of all our services including: Sales & Marketing, Customer Service, EDI & Data Processing, Physical Distribution and Education. We measure our success with high fill rates and on-time deliveries. Our goal is to always provide your business with a quality of service that is both quick and complete and at the lowest possible cost.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE:

The Director of Purchasing is responsible for analyzing demand in the distribution channels and developing inventory plans to ensure the business has appropriate resources to support current forecasted business and projected growth. The position is responsible for developing operational plans to meet channel service targets and communicating inventory plans to gain consensus from sales, finance, and operations. In addition, the incumbent will have primary responsibility for maintaining control and accountability for over \$50+ million of inventory.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Create an accurate plan to ensure the right inventory is available with the goal of meeting customer service targets and financial plans.
- Develop strategies, improve efficiencies, and ensure consistent methodologies for alignment of processes across all internal customers.
- Lead the Planning team in the creation and maintenance of monthly/weekly, statistical and adjusted demand plans over a 12-24-month horizon. Rationalizes strategic inventory levels with demand and space.
- Accountable for forecasts of specific product(s)/customer(s)/channel(s) as required.
- Partner with the Sales, Marketing, and Operations teams to generate new product forecasts and works with Purchasing to ensure products are available and ready to support new product launches.
- Understand and analyze key business drivers and drive improvement in the forecasting process.
- Develop Key Metrics on Dollars of Inventory on Hand, Fill Rates, Turns and Opportunities for Product Category/SKU Consolidation to drive optimization of inventory levels.
- Design strategies to negotiate and capitalize on market buy opportunities
- Engage with other functions to drive inventory accuracy through best practices of receiving and transfers of inventory from different warehouses to optimize space utilization.
- Responsible for daily, weekly and monthly cycle counts and maintenance of inventory accountability and participates in year-end audited cycle counts as member of the team.
- Analyze data to generate reports of backorders along with slow-moving and discontinued products and identify opportunities for inventory reductions.
- Proficient in WMS systems and how they relate to inventory control and accuracy.
- Demonstrates personal accountability to achieve inventory objective and customer service.
- Manage performance, provide coaching, feedback and development plans to the team of planners and buyers. Recruit, hire, and on-board new talent as required. Own the performance review process for the team members.
- Set the highest ethical standards for self and others.
- Other duties as assigned.

REQUIREMENTS:

- BS/BA in business, statistics, mathematics, economics, supply chain management or similar field required.
- 10 years of experience in supply chain / demand planning or related field including 5+ years managing direct reports and 5+ years of demand forecasting experience.
- Experience managing inventory levels of > \$50 million.
- Comprehensive understanding of forecasting analytics and statistical processes.
- Strong Analytical and problem-solving skills: Position requires ability to apply critical thinking to dissimilar problems and deliver fact supported analysis, and the capability to quickly switch between strategic thinking and tactical execution.
- Excellent oral and written skills, organizational and time-management abilities, effective inter-personal skills, and the ability to work with personnel at all organizational levels.
- Candidate needs to be able to promote a culture of collaboration and teamwork across the organization and possess the ability to work across multiple teams.
- Comfortable presenting to and working directly with senior management

PREFERRED:

- Familiarity with NetSuite and/or Valogix
- Experience with ERP system conversions (Legacy to new technology)
- Familiarity with S&OP process
- Change management including products and processes
- Ability to manipulate large quantities of data to drive business decisions in Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Power BI, or equivalent software.

EXPERIENCE:

- Forecasting Experience: 5 years (Preferred)
- Management experience: 5 years (Required)
- Supply Chain Experience: 10 years (Preferred)

ESTIMATED COMPENSATION RANGE:

\$100,000.00 - \$125,000.00

BENEFITS:

- 401(k)
- 401(k) Matching
- Dental Insurance
- Disability Insurance
- Employee Assistance Program
- Health Insurance
- Life Insurance
- Vision Insurance
- Paid Time Off

COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS:

As a company the safety of our associates is a primary concern. We have implemented cleaning and safety protocols that meet and exceed the CDC, OSHA, and State requirements currently in place during the pandemic.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Methods of application or screening, you must approach the employer directly to request this as LinkedIn is not responsible for the employer's application process.