

## **Role: Head of Product Development - Synthetic Biology**

### **Ayana Bio**

Ayana leverages Synthetic Biology technologies to search and harness nature's bioactives to support health and wellness, and healthy aging. Ayana collaborates with global industry leaders in consumer packaged goods brands, supplements, specialized nutrition, OTC, and herbal medicines to bring to market standardized bioactives that provide consumers with confidence in quality and reliability. Ayana has partnered with Ginkgo Bioworks, a Synthetic Biology platform company that is redesigning the living world to solve some of the globe's growing challenges in health, energy, food, material, and more. Ayana is backed by Viking Global Investors, and Cascade Investment to democratize nature's bioactives that are standardized, safe, and sustainably sourced.

For more information visit:

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ginkgo-bioworks-ferment-consortium-launches-ayana-bio-to-produce-plant-and-fungal-bioactives-for-herbal-medicines-and-nutraceuticals-301372272.html>, and visit us at: [www.ayanabio.com](http://www.ayanabio.com)

### **General role description**

This role is an integral part of the early team at Ayana as we stand up our new venture. We are looking for candidates who are driven to help shape many aspects of Ayana, and excited to support our mission to democratize standardized and safe complementary medicine for consumer health and wellness, and healthy aging.

You will be a part of the Ayana leadership team, and would focus on technology, and product development aspects. You would ensure timely execution of Synthetic Biology initiatives, technical programs, and product launch, contribute to scouting new opportunities, and building out business cases for prospective partners and products. This role requires a versatile skill-set, including strong capabilities in technical project management, analysis and communication, as well as initiative and critical, creative thinking. The candidate who would do well in this role is self motivated, a problem solver, and undeterred by the challenges of building a company, but rather sees them as opportunities to create something new and impactful. This position is located in Boston, MA.

### **Responsibilities**

- Partner with Ayana's CTO in all stages of technology and product development to conceptualize, build, validate, formulate, and bring Ayana's products to market within timeline, and budget considerations.
  - Construct a high performing technical team, R&D, and product development capabilities.

- Identify opportunities via strategic partnerships which complement Ayana's technology, product development, and business objectives.
- Liaise with key technology partners and manage critical technical programs.
- Collaborate across functional teams to assess and prioritize technology and product opportunities based on technical feasibility, and techno-economics.
- Support other areas within Ayana such as process chemistry and engineering, intellectual property, strategy, regulatory, safety, product development, pilot scale manufacturing, and partnership development.
- Work with the commercial and marketing team on development areas related to health claims, performance, usage, and technology translation.
- Support growth of business operations as needed, refining organizational feedback loops to resolve business, technical, and contractual issues
- Travel as necessary

### **Desired Experience and Capabilities**

- Ph.D. in biotech-related fields such as Chemical, and Biological Engineering
- 8+ years of experience in the Synthetic Biology R&D and product industry, with track records of successful value creation from R&D to product
- Experience in technology and product development aspects such as formulation, safety, quality, regulatory management, and cost optimization
- Experience in cross-functional team building, and working cooperatively with external parties
- Strong project management skill set
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Display intellectual leadership, continually learn and evolve thinking
- Can represent Ayana as a global thought leader, and inspire team members to propagate a sense of pride and excitement
- Excellent decision-making ability based on growth, with a data-driven mindset
- Constant focus on optimization and continuous improvement
- Experience in innovative raw materials and ingredients industry a plus
- Startup experience is preferred
- Excellent written and verbal communication, and an ability to work across organizational boundaries
- Well-organized and detail-oriented, with a keen ability to multitask
- Interest in learning new topics quickly and prioritizing in a fast-paced environment

We also feel that it's important to point out the obvious here – there's a serious lack of diversity in our industry, and that needs to change. Our goal is to help drive that change. Ayana is deeply committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its practices, especially when it comes to growing our team. Our culture promotes inclusion and embraces how rewarding it is to work with people from all walks of life.

We're developing a powerful biological engineering platform, so we must remain mindful of the many ways our technology can – and will – impact people around the world. We care about how our platform is used, and having a diverse team to build it gives us the best chance that it's something we'll be proud of as it continues to grow. Therefore, it's critical that we incorporate the diverse voices and visions of all those who play a role in the future of biology.

It is the policy of Ayana to provide equal employment opportunities to all employees and employment applicants.

### **Applying for This Position**

Please send your CV to [info@ayanabio.com](mailto:info@ayanabio.com). Write "Head of Product Development - SynBio" in the Subject line. You will receive an application form to fill out if selected for an interview. Thank you!