



Utrecht, February 24, 2009

Team Leader Patent Department Research & Development Coffee and Tea

The Research & Development centre for Coffee & Tea is the international centre of expertise for the development of and knowledge on Coffee & Tea related products and technologies. Within the R&D centre 4 New Product Development (NPD) departments are responsible for execution of NPD projects and research programs. In addition, a services department supports essential services (analytical, sensory, food-legal & health, patents and information). The R&D NPD-departments closely collaborate with one or more Marketing Core-lines within the Global Brands Organization, and the SL International Food Service marketing departments as well as the Operations departments.

We are currently looking for a Team Leader with project management skills for the Patent Team, who will be located in Utrecht.

The main tasks and responsibilities are:

- Checking published patents and communicating the contents to relevant researchers.
- Reporting noticeable and relevant trends in patent developments.
- Maintain contacts with outside patent attorney.
- Stimulating intellectual property protection while focusing on patent strategy per Coreline.
- Leading the Patent Team.
- Giving clearance to all NPD's to prevent infringements with other patents.
- Keeping aligned with the Legal Department with respect to Intellectual Property issues.
- Managing continuous improvement processes and procedures in relation to the department, the patent strategy, career development, budget etc.
- Independently managing NPD project(s) or project activities according to agreed plans.

For this job we are looking for someone with:

- University degree in food related science.
- Relevant experience with reading and interpreting patent literature.
- Knowledge of international patent law.
- Minimum of four years working experience in an R&D environment.
- Good managerial- and people skills.
- Project management skills in an NPD-environment are preferred.
- Excellent communication skills in English, verbally as well as in writing.
- Competencies: communicative, team player as well as independently active, result driven, problem solving, passionate for products and technologies.
- Readiness to travel.

Interested?

For more information, please contact Steven Biesterveld/Department Head Support Services, via telephone +31(0)30 297 8241. If you are interested in this position, please respond via our JobSite www.workatsaralee.nl for the attention Suzanne Brans/ Recruiter