

Job Description

Sr. Manager – Head New Technology Identification

Department: Innovation

Organization: International Center of Excellence in Mining (iCEM)

Location: iCEM Office or as required by the organization

About iCEM

iCEM is an autonomous institution established by the Government of Gujarat under the auspices of the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation. With a vision to be India's leading institute for enabling sustainable mining from societal, environmental and commercial standpoints, iCEM aims to catalyse growth of the mining sector, helping it become more efficient, safe and sustainable.

Recognising the ever-evolving mining landscape and its impact on both economic growth and the environment, iCEM adopts a comprehensive approach that encompasses capacity building and skill development, developing knowledge resources, evaluating best-in-class technologies, validating breakthrough innovations for adoption in GMDC, and forging strategic collaborations with reputed national and international institutions.

Address:

Opp. Kensville Golf Resort,
Devdholera Village,
Off. Bavla - Rajkot Highway,
Ta: Bavla, Dist.: Ahmedabad,
Gujarat (India) – 382 240

Role Purpose

The Sr. Manager – Head, New Technology Identification will lead the technology scouting and early-stage innovation discovery function (TRL 1–3) within the iCEM Innovation vertical. The role is responsible for identifying emerging technologies and innovative solutions relevant to mining and allied industries, and building a robust, high-quality innovation pipeline for downstream validation, scale-up, and deployment.

This role will act as the entry point of the innovation value chain, ensuring that iCEM continuously sources high-potential innovations aligned with GMDC's operational priorities and the evolving needs of the mining sector.

Key Objectives

- Build and maintain a strong pipeline of early-stage innovations (TRL 1–3)
- Establish structured technology scouting and innovation discovery mechanisms
- Engage with startups, academia, R&D institutions, and industry networks
- Identify emerging trends and technologies relevant to mining and allied sectors
- Enable seamless transition of shortlisted innovations to the scale-up stage

Role Positioning within iCEM Structure

Reports to: Director – Innovation

Directly Leads: Sr. Executives / Assistant Managers (New Technology Identification)

Works Closely With: Head – Technology Scale-up | Head – Technology Adoption

Internal teams and external ecosystem partners

Key Responsibilities

1. Technology Scouting & Innovation Discovery (TRL 1–3)

- Identify key problem statements in collaboration with GMDC, industry partners, and internal stakeholders
- Design and execute innovation scouting initiatives such as startup challenges, hackathons, and innovation calls
- Build structured outreach programs to engage startups, research institutions, and technology providers
- Scan national and international ecosystems to identify emerging technologies and disruptive solutions
- Evaluate innovations across domains such as mining operations, mineral processing, safety, sustainability, ESG, and digital technologies (AI/ML, automation, etc.)

2. Pipeline Development & Evaluation

- Establish screening and evaluation frameworks for early-stage technologies
- Conduct technical and preliminary commercial assessments of identified innovations
- Develop and maintain a qualified pipeline of high-potential solutions
- Prioritize innovations based on relevance, feasibility, and impact potential
- Ensure structured documentation and tracking of all identified opportunities

3. Ecosystem Engagement & Partnerships

- Build and nurture relationships with startups, incubators, academic institutions, and R&D organizations
- Collaborate with national and international innovation networks to source cutting-edge solutions
- Engage with government bodies and industry associations to align innovation efforts with sector priorities
- Represent iCEM in innovation forums, industry events, and knowledge platforms

4. Knowledge Development & Insights

- Develop sectoral insights, trend analyses, and technology landscape reports
- Create knowledge products such as whitepapers, briefs, and case studies
- Support thought leadership initiatives to position iCEM as a hub for mining innovation

Key Competencies

- **Innovative Thinking:** Ability to identify emerging trends and think beyond conventional approaches
- **Analytical Capability:** Strong ability to evaluate technologies from technical and strategic perspectives
- **Ecosystem Building:** Capability to build and leverage networks across startups, academia, and industry
- **Communication & Influence:** Ability to engage diverse stakeholders and present insights effectively

- **Execution Orientation:** Ability to translate ideas into structured programs and outcomes
- **Learning Agility:** Openness to continuously learn and adapt in a rapidly evolving innovation landscape

Qualification

- Master's / Bachelor's degree (in engineering or other technical discipline is preferred)

Experience

- 12 - 15 years of experience in innovation scouting, research, technology evaluation, or related roles
- Exposure to startup ecosystems, incubators, or R&D environments is preferred
- Experience in mining, metals, heavy industry, or deep-tech sectors will be an advantage
- Strong understanding of emerging technologies and innovation trends

Key Success Factor

- Problem Statement Identification
- Innovation Sourcing Pipeline
- Ecosystem Engagement & Partnerships
- Innovation Evaluation & Shortlisting