



## **Role: Senior Scientist**

**Switchback Systems** aims to accelerate the synthetic biology revolution by placing tools directly in the hands of scientists. We are a stealth-mode startup engaged in the development of a highly scalable DNA synthesis platform, with a focus on dramatic minimization of time, cost, and waste. Switchback was founded in 2019. The core technical team at Switchback has an in-depth knowledge of DNA synthesis technologies, with a strong track record of pushing synthesis fidelity beyond previously established limits. Our laboratory space is in Santa Cruz, CA. We are looking for an organic chemist to lead and grow the Switchback Systems chemistry team.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to experience the genesis of a high-impact, synthetic biology company. Switchback Systems is uniquely positioned to disrupt the industry, while maintaining a focus on creating and implementing a core foundation of bioethics and corporate ethics. There is vast potential for career growth and increasing leadership opportunities as the company progresses.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Work collaboratively with biologists and engineers to design, build, and test nucleic acid synthesis technologies.
- Work independently in a self-driven capacity to design, execute, and summarize complex and reproducible experiments.
- Perform laboratory experiments to establish best-in-class DNA synthesis technologies.
- Provide clear and concise written and oral communications.
- Create an inclusive, supportive, and encouraging environment for scientific and personal development.

### **Required Qualifications:**

- Ph.D. in organic chemistry, analytical chemistry, or a related discipline.
- Extensive experience with oligonucleotide synthesis chemistry.
- Demonstrated track record for leading and executing experimental R&D projects.
- Proven ability to work collaboratively on cross-disciplinary teams.
- Dedicated work ethic with effective leadership and communication skills.
- Exceptional analytical skills combined with strong logical thinking.
- Ability to learn quickly and willingness to work at a dynamic, early-stage startup.

### **Desired Skills and Experience:**

- Experience with synthesis, purification, and analysis of phosphoramidites.
- Hands-on experience in solid-phase oligonucleotide synthesis.
- Well versed in total synthesis and synthetic organic chemistry techniques, including an in-depth knowledge of protecting group strategy.
- Familiarity with analytical tools such as NMR, LCMS, and HRMS.
- General understanding of fluidic delivery systems, including experience repairing laboratory instruments and working with prototype tools.
- Desire to creatively address technical problems and generate intellectual property.

**Switchback** is a member of the General Inception Venture Studio. We are a venture-backed corporation located in Santa Cruz, CA. We value ingenuity, honesty, and humor.

**Please send inquiries to [contact@switchbacksys.com](mailto:contact@switchbacksys.com)**