



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 a molecular biologist to drive progress for the Switchback Systems biology 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 chemists 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 molecular biology, synthetic biology, biochemistry, or a related discipline.
- Extensive experience with NGS, PCR, oligo design, gene synthesis, and DNA assembly (e.g. Gibson).
- 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:

- Familiarity with at least one programming or scripting language such as Python or R.
- Experience with genome engineering, cloning, transformation, transfection, and cell culture.
- Experience troubleshooting with fluidic delivery systems and prototype equipment.

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