

GWT Senior Buyer Job Description

Senior Buyer

Location: Fullerton, CA

Reports to: VP of Purchasing

Overview

Lead strategic procurement for direct materials, contract manufacturing components, and critical subassemblies. Drive cost savings, supplier performance, and on-time delivery to support aerospace, medical, industrial, and defense programs while maintaining compliance with relevant standards and regulations.

Key responsibilities

- Develop and execute category procurement strategies for PCBA components, raw materials, and MRO within aerospace, medical, industrial, and defense contexts.
- Source, qualify, and manage strategic suppliers; lead RFQs, bid analysis, and supplier selection based on total cost of ownership, quality, delivery, and risk.
- Negotiate terms, contracts, pricing, lead times, and payment terms; optimize total cost and inventory levels.
- Align purchasing with production schedules; prevent stockouts and part obsolescence; manage material availability for builds.
- Manage supplier relationships, performance scorecards, and continuous improvement initiatives (quality, delivery, cost).
- Collaborate with Quality, Engineering, and Compliance to qualify suppliers, manage changes, and address quality holds.
- Lead supplier risk management, including single-source risk, contingency planning, and backup sourcing.
- Drive procurement analytics: cost savings, PPV, inventory turns, supplier performance, and spend under management.
- Ensure compliance with company policies and industry standards (e.g., ITAR, FAR/DFars where applicable; quality systems like ISO 9001/AS9100 in aerospace/defense contexts).
- Mentor and develop junior buyers; participate in cross-functional teams on NPI programs.

Qualifications

- 7–12+ years in procurement/purchasing in manufacturing, preferably electronics/PCBA with exposure to aerospace, medical, industrial, or defense sectors.
- Demonstrated experience with direct materials, components, and supplier management; background in EMS/OCM environments is highly desirable.
- Proven track record in cost reduction, supplier negotiations, and on-time delivery improvements.

GWT Senior Buyer Job Description

- Strong analytical skills; proficiency in ERP/MRP systems (e.g., SAP, Oracle, NetSuite, Expandable) and MS Excel data analysis; experience with BOMs, lead times, and part classifications (e.g., MRP, KANBAN).
- Familiarity with quality and regulatory requirements (e.g., IPC, ITAR/EAR considerations, AS9100/ISO 13485 as applicable).
- Excellent communication, cross-functional collaboration, and stakeholder management.
- Bachelor's degree in Supply Chain, Engineering, or related field preferred; APICS/CIPS certification or equivalent is a plus.

Preferred competencies

- Experience negotiating with electronics component suppliers and contract manufacturers.
- Ability to manage multiple programs simultaneously and work under strict program schedules.
- Strategic thinker with hands-on, results-driven mindset; strong project management skills.
- Performance measures
 - Cost savings and cost avoidance vs. targets
 - On-time delivery and fill-rate improvements
 - Supplier performance scores and quality incidents
 - Inventory turns and working capital impact
 - Compliance and audit findings
- Led supplier transitions or dual-sourcing strategies for high-risk parts
- Implemented supplier scorecard dashboards and quarterly business reviews
- Experience with ITAR-controlled programs and defense/ aerospace procurement processes