

Head of Digital

Employer: East West Railway Company

Location: Milton Keynes

Basis: Interim to Perm

Role Summary: This role provides the expert leadership required to develop and execute EWR Co's Integrated Railway Digitalisation strategy as well as foster a culture of digital innovation and collaboration throughout every stage of the asset and operational lifecycle of East West Rail. In the next 5 years, digital will have a profound impact on the delivery of infrastructure throughout the asset lifecycle, on the operation of the railway and the customer experience on East West Rail. It is of significant importance to the success of the company and the manner in which we are looking to push the boundaries of data and technology to bring efficiencies throughout the design, procurement and build stages across a wide supply chain and into the delivery of excellence in customer experience.

Team dimensions: Reporting directly to the Engineering Director, with dotted line report to the CEO. Peers: 3 Heads of Departments, 3 Programme Engineering Managers.

A little bit about us:

East West Rail is a new direct connection, linking communities between Oxford and Cambridge, including Bicester, Milton Keynes and Bedford by rail.

Oxford, Cambridge and the communities in between are renowned for their vibrant economy, educational excellence and scientific innovation. They deliver growth and prosperity both locally and for the whole country; connecting these two cities and the communities in between is crucial to the social and economic future of the region.

East West Railway Company was set up to accelerate the delivery of the East West Rail infrastructure and passenger services, bringing faster journey times and easing pressure on local roads.

We were set up by the Secretary of State for Transport in 2017 to do things differently. We aim to innovate, positively disrupt, and challenge the status-quo, leading to quicker and more cost-effective project delivery, and an improved experience for passengers and the communities we serve.

As we build our team, we're looking for people with the right skills and mindset so that we can innovate, positively disrupt and set new industry standards. Whether you've been working on some of the world's most exciting rail and infrastructure projects or can inspire us with your ideas and expertise from other sectors, we want to hear from you.

Responsibilities and accountabilities

- Develop our company wide Integrated Railway Digitalisation strategy for all stages of our asset and operational lifecycle that links customer, assets, operations and employees
- Prepare and execute a pragmatic implementation plan for the Integrated Railway Digitalisation strategy
- Develop in partnership with the Head of Railway systems Architecture and Head of IT the EWR Co whole systems and data architecture
- Establish the framework for office digital enablement including process automation in conjunction with the Head of IT
- Working with the Head of Customer Strategy develop digital customer experience/ services
- Lead the development and adoption of digital solutions for EWR Co
- Design and execute communications and initiatives aimed at increasing the awareness of Information Management, the adoption of technology and celebrating success
- Create and present thought leadership content relating to digital transformation and enablement in the rail and construction sectors
- Working with the Head of Innovation, identify innovators and support them to productise their ideas
- Manage partnerships with key digital technology partners
- Proactively look to drive cost, time and wasted effort out of programmes
- Support the EWR Co. commitment to customer service and an excellent customer journey
- Take responsibility for your own and others' health and safety by adopting and working to the EWR Co. Health and Safety principles
- Champion and act as a role model for EWR Co.'s vision and values, behaving in ways that are aligned with EWR Co.'s Ways of Working, as well as encouraging and supporting others to do so too
- Promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace and adopt appropriate behaviours when interacting with colleagues
- Promote innovation with colleagues in all aspects of the EWR Co. project

Team dimensions

- Reporting directly to Simon Scott, Engineering Director, with dotted line report to the CEO. Peers: 3 Heads of Departments, 3 Programme Engineering Managers.
- Given the early stage of the project, it is likely that the nature of the role may evolve as the project progresses. It is also possible that other ad-hoc activities and duties may be required

Experience and skills

- Experience in product development and technology-based innovation
- Experience in the development and implementation of whole systems and data architecture
- Knowledge of digital engineering including BIM and GIS, immersive technologies, data capture techniques, as well as analytics and simulation is highly desirable
- Demonstrated leadership, strategy development, and collaborative implementation at a comparable scale
- Strong leadership, people and team management skills (including of data and technology teams)
- A flexible leadership style that can adjust to different team cultures and situations
- Thought leader with published content in digital
- Excellent communication, relationship management and presentation skills
- The ability to work within a complex stakeholder environment
- Experience in negotiating and facilitating joint decision making with colleagues and stakeholders
- Bachelor of Engineering or other Technology-related University degree. MBA or other study of Leadership preferred.

Join the team!

Please send your resume and a covering letter explaining why you are interested in the role and meet the above experience requirements to: recruitment@eastwestrail.co.uk