**ITC Principal - Projects, Systems & Consulting**

Type: Full time direct hire

Location: Houston, TX following the pandemic

Recruiter: Linh Nhuc, lnhuc@ascendmaterials.com

Houston, Texas

Ascend Performance Materials’ Office of International Trade Compliance (ITC) is seeking a compliance professional to manage ITC-related projects, take point on system roll-outs and enhancements, consult and advise, and to serve as the backup for export operations. This is a full-time position requiring 10 years of specific experience in international trade compliance. The successful candidate will be expected to hit the ground running to lead projects and initiatives of medium to high complexity, some of which involve trade software. Strong U.S. export expertise is a must and global trade compliance experience dealing with China and the European Union is highly desired.

This role is ideal for the career-minded individual interested in applying the technical aspects of trade compliance such as EAR export controls, HTS classification, valuation, and related software systems to improve Ascend’s compliance profile, achieve efficiencies, and save money. You will be a member of Ascend’s focused team of ITC professionals located in our global headquarters in Houston, TX.

 **Targeted Outcomes:**

* Learn Ascend’s products, trade flows, and overall business
* Take ownership and complete projects and other assignments with quality, timeliness, dependability, and professionalism.
* Engage with key stakeholders to build and maintain strong working relationships
* Integrate into Ascend’s culture and values

 **Primary Responsibilities:**

* Interface with Ascend personnel, customs brokers, freight forwarders and other service providers to complete projects, resolve issues and give clear guidance
* Requirements gathering, solution development
* Software implementation, enhancements, break/fixes
* Initial project: Develop a robust country of origin determination and management system for plant operations of medium to high complexity that addresses preferential and non-preferential trade
* Identify, develop and deliver savings initiatives
* Develop and execute company and governmental reporting
* Consult & advise on trade matters to internal customers (e.g., sales, CSRs)
* Make HTS/ECCN classification determinations
* Onboard new carriers, brokers, and other service providers (ITC components)
* Handle Customs rulings requests
* Handle legal issues
* Manage external audits (Customs, BIS, etc.)
* Support/backup other areas of the ITC as business circumstances require
* Domestic and international travel is anticipated (approx. 10-20%)

**Required Skills:**

* Bachelor’s Degree in a related field such as business, supply chain/logistics, economics, tax, or finance. Other degrees will be considered.
* Strong project management and organizational skills
* Strong communication skills (verbal, written)
* Ability to work independently and focus on a single task that demands a high attention to detail for an extended period of time
* Proficient with U.S. export regulations
* Comfortable working with customs brokers and freight forwarders
* Strong understanding of logistics and supply chain
* HTS classification, valuation, country of origin determination, routed exports, EEI filings, Incoterms
* Free-trade agreements
* MS Word and Excel
* Unwavering commitment to accuracy and quality results
* Comfortable asking questions as appropriate, and the judgement to know when to escalate
* Intrinsically motivated with a results-oriented work ethic
* Proven ability to work in a team environment

**Not required, but considered a plus:**

* Licensed Customs Broker (LCB)
* Export credential such as Certified U.S. Export Compliance Officer® (CUSECO) or Certified Export Specialist (CES)
* SAP (MM, GTS)