



Leap's Vision and Technology Revolution

Leap Photovoltaics is a team of passionate people tackling the climate crisis by transforming the way solar cells are manufactured. Leap was founded in 2020 by founders and advisors with experience working with start-ups, major solar manufacturers and equipment suppliers, universities, and national labs to bring new solar technology to market. We are funded by the California Energy Commission, U.S. Department of Energy and prizes from multiple competitions. We are based in San Francisco, CA, with lab space in Mountain View, CA, and collaborators at the National Renewable Energy Lab, Lawrence Livermore National Lab, UC San Diego, the Washington Clean Energy Testbeds, and Arizona State University.

Leap is developing a revolutionary process to manufacture crystalline silicon solar cells without wafers. Our additive manufacturing approach can achieve the same performance and reliability as traditional solar cells at half the cost using entirely local supply chains. This unique combination leaps the barriers of thin margins and supply chain disruptions that are holding back the explosive growth in solar manufacturing that we need to achieve our decarbonization goals.

Role Description

We are seeking a **Solar Cell Fabrication Engineer** who is passionate about changing the world through renewable energy. As a founding member of the engineering team, you will have a unique opportunity to make major technical contributions by developing and owning key processes for solar cell fabrication, and leading a collaboration with the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL).

Responsibilities: Lead process development for Leap's novel solar cell architecture, focusing on metallization and contact formation.

- Design and execute experiments to optimize performance of solar cell components and full devices by controlling process parameters for key fabrication processes.
- Track and report experimental results.
- Lead a collaboration with NREL, managing a Cooperative Research Agreement (CRADA), and coordinating use of facilities, sample fabrication and characterization.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Ph.D. or equivalent experience in Materials Science, Electrical Engineering or related field.
- Experience with solar cell fabrication or semiconductor equipment and processes, particularly chemical vapor deposition and metallization.
- Experience with silicon and solar cell characterization and process metrology.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and spearhead collaborative projects.
- Willingness to be flexible, adaptable, and do whatever needs to be done in a fast-paced start-up environment.

LEAP PHOTOVOLTAICS
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Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with formation of passivated electrical contacts on silicon, including screen-printed metallization of electrodes on silicon.
- Expertise in characterization of silicon and solar cell performance, particularly SEM, photoconductance, photo/electroluminescence, sheet resistance, and contact resistance.
- Demonstrated ability to coordinate projects with external collaborators and contractors.
- Experience handling fine powders.
- Previous safety training and access to NREL facilities a plus.

The Solar Cell Fabrication Engineer will report to the CEO/CTO and be based at the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) in Golden, CO. Candidates located outside the Denver area with a willingness to travel regularly (50%+) to NREL will be considered with preference given to those in the San Francisco Bay and Tempe areas.

If you're ready to take a leap forward in clean energy, email a resumé and cover letter to David Berney Needleman at david AT leap-pv DOT com.