

Position

Position Title: New Product Development Specialist **Date:** August 2024
Location: Tahua HUB, Takapuna, Auckland **Reports to:** Supply Chain Manager
Department: Supply Chain (Hospitality)

Who we are:

Tahua Partners Limited is a great Kiwi business, home to well-loved brands in retail and hospitality. Inspired by a common vision and a shared passion for hospitality/retail, we strive to serve our communities in a truly unique way based on our heritage in Aotearoa. Each of our business units operate independently as they face the market, but are supported by resources, skills and solutions available through the Tahua community (e.g: Information Services, Finance, Payroll, Strategy Development, Project Management, Property, Supply Chain, and People and Culture). Each business celebrates its own unique culture, however we are all connected through the Tahua values of 'better', 'manaakitanga' and 'whanaungatanga'.

Why you'll love this role:

Our business is growing, rapidly! With two current successful hospitality brands, and a third global brand start up underway as part of the future growth strategy, strong supply chain management is at the heart of our competitive advantage.

As part of the high-performing Supply Chain team working across the hospitality group, this newly created role will successfully drive & manage new product initiatives, ensuring they are innovative, compliant, and aligned with the brands strategic goals. You will ensure that all NPD products align with the brand standards, operational capability, regulatory compliance, while also managing some product categories to drive success.

What you'll deliver in this role:

- Successfully manage the New Product Development (NPD) process for Burger King, Popeyes and Starbucks as required.
- Manage the NPD gate process & working in conjunction with brand Marketing, Finance and Food Safety & Quality leads to ensure all new products meet the businesses financial, strategic and brand requirements. This includes managing the product's journey from initial concept through each stage of the gate process to completion.
- New Supplier research, sourcing, and onboarding (in conjunction with the QA team) where required.
- Coordinate supplier briefs and provide continuous feedback throughout the development process. Ensure all supplier communications are aligned with brand expectations and development timelines.
- Propagate costing models for new products & LTOs
- Ensure compliance with local food regulations in collaboration with the Quality team.
- Initiate and manage the global BK Asia Pacific / RBI approval process, including supplier approvals and addressing any issues or queries. Finalise operational procedures the Operational team for new products and builds.
- Effectively hand over new products to the supply chain team, who will move the product forward in respect to volume forecasting and initial ordering.



- Manage 1-2 smaller product categories, particularly those relating predominantly to the Limited Time Offer products like sauces and desserts.

What you'll bring to the role:

- Food Technology or Food Science tertiary qualification
- Ideally 3+ years' experience in the food/ manufacturing industry, ideally with proven technical product development & supplier management.
- Demonstrated success in bringing new products from concept to market, with experience managing the entire product lifecycle.
- A deep understanding of brand strategy and consumer trends, ensuring that new products align with brand positioning and meet market demands
- Ideally you will have experience with global product development processes, including navigating approval processes and coordinating with international teams, would be advantageous.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, capable of working with cross-functional teams, including Marketing, Operations, Finance, Quality and Supply Chain, to develop and launch new products.
- Effectively manage relationships with suppliers, including negotiating terms, coordinating briefs, and providing feedback throughout the development process.
- Strong ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously, from concept through to launch, while adhering to timelines and budget.
- Proficient in development and analysing costing models, understanding financial impacts, and ensuring products meet profitability goals.
- High attention to detail in product development, including ingredient specifications, compliance with food regulations and ensuring product quality and consistency.
- Calm and composed when under pressure, with the ability to think clearly, prioritise and handle multiple pieces of work in flight
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office 365 – including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Word.
- Well organised, effective time management – with the ability to handle a complex, shifting, varied workload.

