POSITION DESCRIPTION

SENIOR FRONTEND ENGINEER

About Xerra

Xerra Earth Observation Institute (Xerra) is using Earth observation (EO) data and remote sensing to develop new and applied science-based products for New Zealand industry, local and national governments, policy makers and the international research community.

We believe in a sustainable future through the power of science, which means we are focused on developing products and conducting research that help us look after our planet, not harm it. We use our unique knowledge and skills in EO technology and capabilities to establish ourselves at the forefront in applied research and development in Aotearoa.

In order to achieve this, we have a culture that encourages the pairing of initiative and collaboration for the benefit of the organisation. We invest in our team and hire passionate, purpose-driven people who want to build world-changing products in a safe and fun, but hardworking environment.

As a member of the Xerra team you'll be treated with trust and respect and will be expected to care deeply about the business and our planet.

Position Purpose

A Senior Frontend Engineer at Xerra is responsible for developing frontend web-based software solutions, converting research work in Earth observation and remote sensing science into commercial products.

Position Scope

This is a full-time position. You will have the opportunity to work remotely with flexible work hours, provided you are able to deliver on your primary accountabilities, and attend meetings within regular working hours, as needed.

Primary Accountabilities

This position is a senior role, and as such has important duties and responsibilities to fulfil, with both short and long-term goals to achieve. As a Senior Frontend Engineer, you will be expected to:

- Work with customers and the Xerra team to design and develop software solutions.
- Develop robust, usable, elegant responsive web applications.

- Collaborate on multiple projects with other members of the product team.

- Create prototypes to rapidly test ideas and techniques developed by our research team.

- Perform code reviews and quality assurance testing.

- Stay abreast of technology developments, and actively teach and learn from colleagues.

- Participate in an operations duty rotation: responding to user support requests and critical system issues.

Key Characteristics

As a Senior Frontend Engineer at Xerra, you need to have a passion for innovation, be an effective communicator, value teamwork, and have a deep sense of care and responsibility towards our environment and the community.

To thrive in this role, you need to excel in a remote working environment while demonstrating a high level of integrity. As a highly experienced software engineer, you are expected to demonstrate technical excellence and lead by example.

Essential Knowledge, Competencies and Skills

- Proven ability to deliver elegant, interactive user interfaces;

- Extensive knowledge of vanilla JavaScript;

- Extensive knowledge of frontend frameworks and their toolchains (we use React, Redux & Leaflet);

- Extensive knowledge of a CSS, pre-processing tools (we use SASS) and HTML templating;

- Experience with browser development tools (Chrome/Firefox dev tools);

- Experience with graphic design tools (we use Figma);

- Comfortable in a command line environment (ssh, bash etc); and

- Demonstrated ability to communicate complex ideas both verbally and by other means (presentations, proposals, bug reports, forum discussions, etc).

Desired Knowledge, Competencies and Skills

- Familiarity working with GIS (geographic information system) data and applications;

- Familiarity with server-side coding and databases (we use Python, Go & Postgres);

- Familiarity with GraphQL;

- Familiarity with software testing — unit & integration testing;

- Experience with ES6 JavaScript; and

- Experience working remotely.