

HIRING

Director of Product | *Virga Labs*



WHO WE ARE

Virga Labs is a mission-driven natural water and resource consulting firm, based in Tucson, Arizona. We focus on delivering integrated modeling, analysis, and data visualization tools to drive solutions to wicked problems and the intersection of water, climate, and society.

We develop data-focused products at the local and regional scales, ranging from public-facing dashboards with high traffic to smaller bespoke customer-specific analyses and tools. Our products are designed to support decision-making, communicate water-related climate risks, detail economic impacts associated with climate risk, and visualize potential solutions.

We are a small cohesive team who thrives on strong communication, emotional intelligence, and a foundational desire to engage in some of the West's most pressing work. We foster a culture of respect driven by celebrating individual strengths, encouraging vulnerability, and supporting the personal and professional growth of team members. Our team is made up of individuals with a diverse set of skills and backgrounds who are committed to making the best available data come to life through dynamic tools and visualizations that make the information and resources more useful, accessible, and impactful.

We look for individuals who are looking to be on the forefront of data tool development to answer our most pressing water and climate issues and who are looking to collaborate with a highly driven team who shares in that passion. We believe connection is at the heart of our ability to work together and tackle the difficult but critical work we engage in and we are looking for individuals who are interested in engaging on that level, whether that be connecting one-on-one throughout the week or engaging in a group meditation. As a growing company each role at Virga Labs is unique, but all require a desire for a high degree of collaboration with a small team, the ability to listen, learn, teach, and compromise, and a willingness to roll with changing needs and priorities.

YOUR ROLE

As the Director of Product at Virga Labs you are responsible for managing a product and service portfolio and optimizing operational execution. As Director you will lead execution of product and service initiatives, guide the technical team of data scientists, developers, and backend architects, remove roadblocks, and oversee the complete product life cycle. This role requires a highly strategic and collaborative mindset combined with a strong background in product development, project management, supervision of technical team members, and strategic resource planning. You will be focused on oversight of existing services and deployment of product lines.

Specific Duties

- Lead execution of product and services delivery in collaboration with the technical team including planning and execution through the product and service lifecycle
- Lead translation of high-level project deliverables into workflows for the team including: scheduling when work will happen, outlining the intermediate milestones, allocating team members' time, and both high-level and detailed level management of projects
- Lead the short-and-long-term planning process in collaboration with the leadership team
- Manage multiple projects simultaneously and allocate resources to effectively meet all project deadlines
- Supervise a semi-remote technical team of data scientists, backend architects, and developers

- Lead the development of products and services from MVPs to full product deployment
- Measure and monitor delivery progress to ensure releases are delivered on time and meet or exceed expectations
- Document, communicate, and help organize all key project plans, commitments, and changes including requirements, QA plans, schedule, and scope changes
- Help team to self-organize and creating a culture of learning and transparency
- Proactively manage dependencies, identify obstacles or blockers and help the team to overcome them
- Participate in, and when necessary, lead conversations with current and prospective clients

Preferred Skills and Experience

- 5+ years of product management experience, including strategic leadership and supervision
- Advanced degree in business, product management, or related field
- Knowledge of dynamics surrounding the Colorado River including Law of the River and current State and Federal policies
- Prior experience leading application development & technical teams in the scoping, development, and launch of products, including the day-to-day resource planning and deployment, development of minimum viable products, and taking products from concept to execution
- In-depth experience with project management platforms and automation: Monday.com preferred
- Experience with project management methods & tools (IE Gantt & Burndown charts)
- Experience in direct team supervision and leadership
- Comfort with programming languages, data management platforms, qualitative and quantitative analysis: R &/or Python language experience a plus
- Strong problem-solving skills and strategic acumen
- Desire to work collaboratively with and foster growth among technical team members
- Process orientation; demonstrated ability to develop repeatable processes or improve existing processes in and out of product development
- Exceptional organizational skills with the ability to multitask and manage multiple processes, projects, and procedures simultaneously while working under pressure to meet deadlines
- Project management; will have demonstrated the ability to push projects over the finish line with sound planning and persistent execution; will understand how to align resources, seek the input of key stakeholders, and manage others to achieve desired results
- Effective communication skills and high degree of emotional intelligence
- Ability to think dynamically and respond quickly to an ever-changing workload
- Desire to be involved with a company whose work is at the heart of the water and climate challenges currently facing the western US
- Comfort communicating at both technical and executive levels of detail, especially when explaining complex topics to those new to the subject area
- Ability to work in a highly collaborative and inclusive environment
- If remotely located, willingness to travel to Tucson, Arizona for meetings and work sessions several times throughout a calendar year

DETAILS

Timing | Position will begin in June or July 2022 with the exact date to be determined based on selected candidate.

Location | Our preference is for this position to be based in Tucson, but we are open to remote locations.

Compensation | A competitive salary; 401(k) retirement plan; Pre-tax health care; Flexible medical, dental, and vision benefits; Life insurance & disability insurance; Parental leave; Unlimited paid time off; Apple computer and phone set-up and ergonomic home office stipend

COVID-19 Considerations | COVID-19 vaccine required (apart from a medical or religious exemption). Work will be semi remote with integrated in-person work sessions as CDC guidance allows with integrated testing protocols as needed.

APPLY

Applicants should send a cover letter and resume combined as a single document in PDF format to: info@virgalabs.io please indicate "Director of Product application" in the subject line. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and be accepted until position is filled, with preference given to candidates who apply before May 15, 2022.