



14401 Keil Road NE, Aurora, Oregon, USA 97002
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Prototype Shop Senior Technician

Van's Aircraft has an open position for an experienced builder/mechanic/technician to help lead our Prototype Shop into the future. We're looking for an applicant with strong established leadership skills, hands-on aircraft construction and maintenance experience, and a passionate interest for the kit aircraft industry.

The person who fills this position will help manage and execute work related to the maintenance and airworthiness of the Van's demo and training fleet, identify potential issues and ensuring aircraft availability, and will help organize and lead the operations of the prototype shop. While this not an engineer position per se, the person filling this role will have opportunities to participate in the practical aspects of development, testing, and refinement of new products as well as existing product improvements.

The successful applicant will also help conduct quality inspections in the Aircraft Assembly Division and with Quick-Build components, provide training sessions, and guide hands-on rework as needed.

Responsibilities

- Maintain knowledge of requirements for legal compliance of company aircraft
- Coordinate personnel training requirements and qualifications for various equipment
- Maintain demo/training aircraft fleet (planning/scheduling, maintaining airworthiness documentation, oil changes, condition inspections, repair, troubleshooting)
- Assist with design, development, and testing new prototype products and improvements to existing products (develop/fabricate/improve fixtures and tools, create and maintain documentation)
- Manage and maintain prototype shop equipment and organization

Requirements

- Must work well as a team leader, in a group, and individually
- 5+ years experience in inspecting/maintaining/repairing piston engine aircraft
- Ability to translate complex technical concepts and procedures into understandable instructions using pictures and text for builders
- Ability to handle multiple projects simultaneously, with an eye for prioritization
- Pilot license or strong interest in becoming a pilot
- Superior demonstrated ability with sheet metal fabrication and repair techniques
- Experience with fiberglass/composite tooling, fabrication, and repair techniques



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- Thrive in a fast-paced work environment with high expectations, significantly diverse assignments, and in collaborative/team settings across all levels
- Must be self-motivated and able to work with little supervision
- Superior written and verbal communication skills with an exceptional eye for detail and accuracy
- Proficient with MS Office (Word and Excel)

Preferred Requirements

- Airframe & Powerplant license
- Inspection Authorization
- Experience building, operating, and maintaining experimental aircraft (ideally RV's)
- Experience operating machine shop tools (NC router, lathes, welding, CNC machining, etc.)
- Experience to viewing and editing CAD files (Solidworks, AutoCad)
- Experience painting vehicles (cars or aircraft)

Van's Aircraft is a relatively small company and our employees typically "wear more than one hat." As such, the successful applicant will be expected to be flexible in their role and participate, at times, in all aspects of the business including maintenance, repair, fabrication, assembly, tool design, shop maintenance, technical writing and any other duties necessary to get the job done.

Compensation and benefits include paid sick time, paid holidays and vacation, health insurance coverage, life and short-term disability insurance, 401K, and access to an employee flying club.

Compensation will be commensurate with experience. Preference will be given to candidates who have completed and flown an RV. A demonstrated ability to adapt and learn will be a key to success in this role.

If you'd like to work for the best kit aircraft manufacturer in the world, email a copy of your resume and a cover letter, and tell us why you're the best person for the job. If there are projects you've worked on that you think we should know about, please include a small portfolio or summary (pictures are welcome). Please include "Proto Shop Senior Candidate" in the subject line and send your email to: jobs@vansaircraft.com. No phone calls, please.