



## Director of Supply Chain Engagement for Leading Harvest

*OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN A LEADER IN SUSTAINABILITY – GROWING A HEALTHIER FUTURE AND ADVANCING AGRICULTURE FROM THE GROUND UP*

**Leading Harvest**, the nonprofit leader driving innovation in sustainable agriculture, has introduced a new certification for sustainability across all crops and regions in the U.S. and globally. The organization is seeking to recruit for the newly created role of **Director of Supply Chain Engagement**, to manage business development, relationship building, and project management across North America's agricultural supply chain. This is a remote position with an expectation for 20 - 25% of the year traveling.

### ***About Leading Harvest***

*Leading Harvest* ([www.leadingharvest.org](http://www.leadingharvest.org)) is committed to working with the entire agricultural value chain through third-party audited standards, outcomes-based collaborations, and learning networks to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable agricultural system. It was formally organized in 2020 by a diverse group of stakeholders—from farmland owners to companies and communities. After launching in the U.S., *Leading Harvest* expanded its program to Australia and Canada and today certifies ~3,000,000 acres globally across 100 different row and permanent crop types.

When utilized, Leading Harvest standards provide a framework to help farmers and farm managers methodically tackle agricultural sustainability and make verifiable claims to the market while strengthening credibility, reputation, and social license to operate. Over the last three years, the [Walton Family Foundation](#) has awarded three substantial grants to *Leading Harvest* to accelerate its sustainability certification through pilot programs, resource development and educational initiatives. Leading Harvest has also entered into a partnership agreement with [Nestlé USA](#) to advance its core regenerative sourcing objectives. In addition, Leading Harvest has recruited Nutrien Ag Solutions, John Deere, Cargill, and Nestlé to participate in its [Founding Supporter Council](#).

The organization is governed by a [Board of Directors](#) comprised of recognized leaders from the social, environmental, and economic sectors. With diverse viewpoints across the agricultural landscape, the Board reflects the many interests that make up the agriculture community from farmers to food retailers, environmental NGOs to labor organizations, investors to consumers.

### ***Position Overview***

Reporting to the President & CEO, the **Director of Supply Chain Engagement** will lead supply chain business development, relationship building, and project management in North America. This person will work collaboratively with the Director of Standards and Education and Director of Brand and Communications, and this individual will supervise the Program and Partnerships Manager.

#### Specific responsibilities include:

Responsible for business development and relationship building in the supply chain, including:

- Developing and executing a strategy for driving massive adoption of Leading Harvest certification by food and apparel brands in North America.
- Raising broad awareness of Leading Harvest with North American agribusiness, food and apparel brands, retailers, banks and insurance companies.
- Active and regular attendance and speaking engagements at industry conferences to represent Leading Harvest to the supply chain.
- Establishing relationships and partnerships in the supply chain that advance Leading Harvest's mission and its adoption.

Responsible for project management for new and existing supply chain relationships, including:

- Full management and oversight responsibility for Leading Harvest's Founding Supporter Council and associated Flagship Projects, with support from the Programs and Partnership Manager.
- Full management responsibility and oversight for relationships with existing North American participants in the program, including both Program Users (farms, farm business, and companies that certify to Leading Harvest), and Program Supporters (companies that provide people, products, and services supportive of Leading Harvest).
- Supporting facilitation of collaborations across the Leading Harvest Membership.
- Working collaboratively with the Director of Standards and Education on pilot projects and educational initiatives that involve the Membership.

General engagement with Leading Harvest stakeholder ecosystem, including:

- Board of Directors and Resource Group.
- Independent Review Panel.
- Membership.
- Non-membership stakeholders with an interest in Leading Harvest.

### ***Candidate Profile***

The **Director of Supply Chain Engagement** will have an innovative mindset with a strong ability to work as a team and develop and execute independently. They will excel at relationship and project management with internal and external stakeholders and must be an ambassador for the organization's mission and have a passion for sustainability. The ideal candidate will have the following attributes:

#### Experience and Skills:

- BS/BA minimum, and MBA, Masters of Environmental Management, or equivalent preferred.
- Minimum 7 - 10 years of industry experience in complex multi-faceted stakeholder environments with demonstrated track-record in business development, relationship and project management.
- Experience in the agricultural sector and strong working knowledge of food and fiber brands' approaches to sustainability.
- Demonstrated ability for effective oral and written communication, with an ability to engage in all forums (local farm level, corporate level, at public meetings, etc.) in a constructive manner, and also demonstrated ability to generate proposal and presentation content.
- Comfort with media relations and in serving as a spokesperson.
- Experience in personnel and budget management.

#### Personal Characteristics:

- Self-starter with strong executive function who thrives in an environment that requires effective prioritization of projects. Demonstrates ability to manage time efficiently to meet deadlines while using creativity in finding solutions. Highly adaptive and willing to navigate ambiguity.
- Excellent emotional intelligence competencies, including relationship management. Must retain situational awareness while tracking initiatives related to sustainability.
- Insightful and consultive, providing practical and pragmatic solutions that are actionable

***For confidential consideration as a candidate or to suggest a prospective candidate, please email [info@leadingharvest.org](mailto:info@leadingharvest.org).***