

---

# Job: Talented R&D Engineer

Accepting applications until the end of June 2022.

Company: Giocoguardo Ltd (Trading as 9Barista)

## Summary

9Barista is a growing start-up company in Cambridge UK, which has developed a new type of espresso machine, able to produce top-quality espresso whilst having no moving parts or electronics - making the machine inherently robust and long lasting. We shipped our first machine in December 2019 and we have grown rapidly since then, now producing a significant quantity of machines each week from our production plant in central Cambridge, and shipping them directly to customers all over the world.

We're now looking to expand our R&D capabilities, with the aim of both developing new products, and introducing mechanical automation into our production processes (cobots, and CNC machinery).

To help us on this journey, we're seeking a highly creative, motivated and practical individual, with excellent skills/knowledge in mechanical design, thermodynamics, prototyping and CNC machining, to take the lead on a number of exciting projects.

## Background

The 9Barista espresso machine was developed in Cambridge over a number of years, and was released to the market at the London Coffee Festival in 2019, raising some of the initial production funds through a Kickstarter campaign. The machine has since been reviewed by World Barista Champion James Hoffman on YouTube, attracting over 2 million views, and becoming his most viewed espresso machine video to date.

## Our Customers

Our customers are spread all over the world, with most of our machines exported internationally. The machine is primarily intended for home use, and is typically bought from us directly by the end users. We keep a close relationship with our customers by providing full customer support and maintenance service in-house.

## The Team

We're a young, energetic and highly driven team with a broad range of skill sets in engineering, digital integration, manufacturing technology, brand development, graphic design, entrepreneurialism and business development. We have a flat structure, and we like to get everyone involved in as many parts of the business as possible. We have six members of the team working full time, with a number of remote contributors/advisors and a broad network of investors and dedicated customers.

## How we work

We're focused on continuously changing and improving the way we operate our business, never settling or being completely content with our current processes, products and services. We're highly analytical, measuring the performance of all aspects of the company, and using the results to determine where best to focus our development efforts. We spend considerable time and effort on the automation of data collection and analysis.

In parallel to producing and tweaking our existing machine, we are developing and prototyping new products and manufacturing processes, and we use our in-house CNC machinery, 3D printers and other tools to do this. We're expecting to introduce general purpose robots into the production space shortly, to take on some of the production work.

In all aspects of the business we are building in rapid feedback loops to speed up the product development cycle. For this reason we keep the majority of our manufacturing in the UK and manage close relationships with all of our suppliers and customers. All members of the company take on some customer service responsibilities to ensure we're all fully informed of how our products are being received.

## Job responsibilities

What you get involved in will almost certainly depend on your interests and what skills you can bring to the table.

Primary responsibilities;

- Development of new products and product features, in line with our development plans. This will involve taking projects through initial value definition and prioritisation, concept generation, low order modelling, in-house prototyping & testing, patent applications, detailed CAD work, volume manufacture planning, integration of new products into the supply chain, and monitoring of subsequent performance and customer feedback. The emphasis will be on rapid development cycles, where our ideas are progressed through to testable concepts within a week.
- Development and implementation of new and improved production processes, with the aim of finding and introducing ways of making our products and services more consistent, less time consuming, and of a higher quality. This will require a high level of creativity, practical skill, and the ability to look past the way things are currently done, and imagine radically improved systems.

Secondary responsibilities;

- Helping to build automation into every aspect of the business, both in our digital systems, and through the implementation of robotics.
- Contributing to discussions and problem solving in a broad range of business areas, from financial planning to marketing and product development strategy.
- Helping our customers by solving their problems and offering product support (the whole team spends a short time at the beginning of each day doing this)
- Attending exhibitions and coffee festivals with the rest of the team, sharing insights into our company with prospective customers.

- All other aspects of growing and developing a global product development and manufacturing business.

## Essential requirements

- Lots of enthusiasm, drive and ambition.
- Experience designing, building and testing thermo-mechanical systems.
- An excellent practical understanding of undergraduate level thermodynamics and fluid dynamics.
- Experience operating metal working machines, such as lathes and milling machines.
- Excellent CAD skills (ideally with SolidWorks or Fusion 360)
- Excellent team working skills, and ability to form strong interpersonal relationships with colleagues.
- An excellent command of English, and an ability to communicate concisely and tactfully with our customers and the wider 9Barista team.
- Excellent numerical literacy and analytical skills, with experience scripting and programming.
- A highly methodical and structured approach to work.
- A firm understanding of the importance of quality and consistency in customer satisfaction.
- Relevant higher-level education, such as a degree in mechanical or industrial engineering.

## Valued experience/interests

- An interest in specialty coffee.
- Experience with robotics and automation.
- Experience with just-in-time manufacturing methodologies.
- Experience developing custom electronics, such as working with Arduino boards.

## Benefits

- Salary: We offer good salaries. The exact figure will depend on the candidate and the value we think you're likely to bring.
- Every employee will be enrolled in our Employee Ownership Scheme, where you will be given a significant number of share options in the company, so everyone benefits as the company grows.
- Deliveroo lunch every Friday, on the company, along with a fridge stocked with drinks of your choice.
- Great on site coffee, of course.
- 33 days annual leave, inclusive of national holidays.
- Flexible working arrangements are possible.
- As an early member of the team, you will have a significant impact on the emerging company culture. You will have the opportunity to help guide the company through its teenage years. It's a fun and impactful time to join!

## Contract Type

- Full time employment, with a 6 month probationary period.
- Location: On site. Cambridge, United Kingdom

## Applications

If you're interested in applying, please contact Will Playford on [will@9barista.com](mailto:will@9barista.com). Please send in;

- Covering note.
- Your CV with any relevant qualifications and experience.

We welcome applicants from a diverse background, and we are consciously working toward employing more women in the company. Applications will be accepted during May & June 2022.

Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you!

## Further Information

- [9barista.com](https://9barista.com)
- [instagram.com/9baristaespresso](https://www.instagram.com/9baristaespresso)
- James Hoffmann review ([youtube.com/watch?v=ZcZMGx15QBU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcZMGx15QBU))