

# Director of Engineering

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## About Oben:

Founded in 2014, ObEN is an artificial intelligence company based in one of the world's most successful incubators: [Idealab](#) in Pasadena, CA. We have developed a sophisticated speech technology that allows any Internet of Things to speak in any voice and in any language.

[Company intro video](#)

[Know more about ObEN's incentives.](#)

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### Your responsibilities:

We are looking for an entrepreneurial leader with a strong technical background that can lead our talented group of developers. This role will be responsible for the back-end team and mobile app team. We are looking for someone who is highly technical, a heavy coder and is comfortable reviewing code and having spirited debates with the engineers and software architects as well as with our team of world class scientists in areas of NLP, deep learning and speech. This role will report to the Executive team (CTO, COO and CEO).

### You will:

- Manage overall technical architecture of company (US, China and beyond)
- Mentor and lead a team of 5-6 back-end and mobile (iOS/Android) engineers and help hire and onboard new engineers.
- Work with the engineers to design and build features that are easy to maintain and scale.
- Establish and drive the best agile development practices within the team.
- Ensure timeliness and quality of deliverables.
- Identify the bottlenecks within the development process and optimize the productivity of the team.
- Collaborate cross-functionally with key stakeholders from the Engineering team, Product and Marketing to identify and build features that impact our end users and drive business feature deliveries and platform enhancements.

### You must have:

- Must be very comfortable reviewing code and having technical discussions with the engineers.
- Very clear understanding of Service Oriented Architecture and REST principles.

- Must be very comfortable with agile and Test Driven Development methodologies.
- Experience with Amazon Web Services is required.
- Good understanding of front-end technologies, event-driven architectures and NoSQL stores.
- Excellent communication and collaboration skills.
- Excellent problem solving skills.
- Must be self-directed and thrive in a fast paced and entrepreneurial culture.
- Chinese speaking/ writing/ reading is a big plus

**Qualifications:**

- BS/MS in Computer Science or equivalent work experience.
- Experience managing teams of 5+ back-end engineers or architects.
- Experience with implementation and delivery of large-scale projects using Java, PHP, Python or other languages
- Experience with high traffic, consumer-facing websites and apps
- Experience with global architecture especially in China
- 8+ years of development experience.
- 4+ years of management experience.

**Great to have:**

- You thrive in a fast-paced and constantly changing start-up environment.
- You're amazing under pressure and you don't mind wearing a few different hats.
- You enjoy a variety of tasks and don't mind switching between projects throughout the day.
- You are extremely detail oriented and can effectively manage team workflow.
- You are analytical, resourceful and a creative problem solver.
- You are a team player who is willing to do what it takes to support your co-workers

## **Application Requirements**

Please send the following to [careers@oben.me](mailto:careers@oben.me)

- Detailed resume and/or LinkedIn profile
- Links to any research / papers you have been an instrumental part of and are proud of
- Name of instructor / adviser, if any along with link to their profile
- Cover Letter identifying your five favorite apps on your phone

**Interview process:**

STAGE 1: Phone Interview

STAGE 2: In-person Interview at [Idealab](#) (we cover travel expenses for the day)

STAGE 3: We require a sample project submission and a candidate proposal submission  
(To know more about what an ObEN candidate proposal is, [click here](#))

STAGE 4: Spend a day at our office and participate in all team activities.

STAGE 5: Offer Letter