

The Lightsmith Group – VP/Principal Job Description

Opportunity:

A recently established, award-winning private equity firm focused on superior financial returns through sustainable investment seeks a highly motivated, entrepreneurial Vice President or Principal to join the founding team. In addition to developing investment experience, the VP/Principal will have the rare chance to work directly with senior partners in the launch phase of the fund and to gain exposure to investment strategy and investor and stakeholder engagement in a global context.

The Firm:

Founded by Harvard College classmates with deep direct investing, government, international development, and climate finance backgrounds, the firm seeks to hire a VP/Principal to join the team as it moves toward first close of a global growth equity direct investment fund strategy. The firm's senior partners each have over 20 years of experience at leading private equity and growth equity firms (Carlyle, VantagePoint Capital) as well as US and international government agencies (OPIC, IFC). The firm targets a \$250-400 million global growth equity investment strategy and has already secured commitments of over \$50 million.

Responsibilities:

The VP/Principal will be involved in directly supporting the two senior partners in the development and investment of the fund. Key activities will include:

- Leading analysis of 1-2 subsectors for investment strategy;
- Identifying potential investment target companies;
- Co-leading/supporting origination and deal execution with senior partner;
- Leading, assisting in due diligence, financial modeling, and deal execution; and
- Supporting investor and stakeholder engagement and communication.

As a core member of the founding team, the VP/Principal will also be involved in the development of the firm's culture and values, processes and strategic positioning.

Qualifications:

An ideal candidate would have the following attributes:

- At least 5-7 years of top tier investment banking, private equity, or hedge fund finance and investing experience. Select backgrounds in management consulting or technology operating companies will also be considered;
- Strong undergraduate education, with MBA or graduate education a plus;
- Extremely strong analytical and financial modeling skills;
- Very strong writing and communications skills, including presentation (PowerPoint) and social media skills; and
- Entrepreneurial, self-starting personality with strong team orientation.

In addition, the following fund-specific experience and skills are a plus:

- International experience and foreign language skills;
- International development experience;
- Climate finance experience or exposure to climate science or environmental engineering;
- Sector-based exposure to data and analytics, water, food and agriculture, energy, transport, financial services.

Location:

- New York City (Manhattan)

Compensation:

- Market competitive compensation, with the potential for accelerated advancement as the firm grows.

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