

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Technical and Quality Management

The European Space Agency is an equal opportunity employer
and encourages applications from women

POST

Mechanisms Engineer in the Mechanisms Section, Structures and Mechanisms Division, Mechanical Engineering Department, [Directorate of Technical and Quality Management](#).

This post is classified in the A2/A4 grade band of the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.

LOCATION

ESTEC, Noordwijk (The Netherlands).

DUTIES

The postholder will report to the Head of the Mechanisms Section of the Structures and Mechanisms Division. The Mechanisms Section's activities cover the following technical domains: space mechanisms and space mechanical systems; mechanical elements for launcher, re-entry and landing systems as well as for robotics and planetary exploration tools; miniaturised mechanical devices and mechanical micro-nano technology developments; tribology for space mechanisms.

The incumbent's duties will include:

- establishing relevant technology development requirements within the Agency's basic and supporting technology programmes;
- defining, initiating and monitoring appropriate industrial research and development activities;
- providing support to projects, programmes and general studies;
- participating in project reviews and procurement package evaluations;
- identifying critical development problems and assisting in their resolution. This includes performing mechanism mathematical simulations, assessing mechanisms with respect to tribological design and sizing, kinematics, dynamics and performance, as well as the assessment of mechanisms development and verification test programmes;
- monitoring applicable technological trends and maintaining state-of-the-art expertise in the relevant domains;
- pursuing product developments for science and commercial space market applications in the field of space mechanisms;

- fostering new application areas for multidisciplinary mechanical systems, placing emphasis on innovative concepts, cutting-edge technologies and system architectures that can lead to potential breakthroughs in mission capabilities;
- defining relevant infrastructure requirements in terms of testing, standards and numerical simulation.

The postholder may also be called upon to support other activities within the domain of competence.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in mechanical or aeronautical engineering or a similar domain, with several years' experience in the development of high reliability mechanisms in the aeronautics or space field.

Candidates should have good interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to work effectively and cooperatively in a diverse and international team environment and to define and implement solutions in line with team and individual objectives and project deadlines. In addition, they should have good analytical, organisational and reporting skills, a proactive attitude to solving problems and an interest in innovative technologies.

The working languages of the Agency are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these languages is required. Knowledge of another member state language is an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **02 January 2014**.

Applications from external candidates for this post should preferably be made [on-line](#) at the ESA Web Site (www.esa.int/careers). Those unable to apply on-line should submit their CV to the Head of the Human Resources Division, ESTEC, Keplerlaan 1, 2201 AZ Noordwijk ZH (The Netherlands).

ESA staff members wishing to apply for this post should fill in the [Internal Application Form](#) and email it to [Apply2ESTEC](#).

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

Under ESA Regulations, the age limit for recruitment is 55. Please note that applications are only considered from nationals of one of the following States: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Priority will be first given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented member states.

In accordance with the European Space Agency's security procedures and as part of the selection process, successful candidates will be required to undergo basic screening before appointment.