

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

Optical Engineer in the Optics Section, Mechatronics & Optics Division, Mechanical Engineering Department, [Directorate of Technical and Quality Management](#).

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

LOCATION

ESTEC, Noordwijk (Netherlands).

DUTIES

The postholder will report to the Head of Section, which deals with:

- spectroradiometric imaging instruments in the visible and infrared;
- interferometry and optical aperture synthesis;
- optical ground support equipment for calibration and performance verification of optical instruments;
- optical component technology, including micro-optics, fibre and passive integrated optics, x-ray optics;
- technologies for large and lightweight mirrors and optical benches;

Within the technical areas described, the duties include:

- providing support to projects, programmes and general studies in optical systems and instrument design, including Concurrent Design Facility studies;
- participating in project reviews, evaluating procurement proposals;
- defining scientific and technological trends, maintaining state-of the-art expertise, fostering new application areas;
- establishing technology development activities within the Agency's basic and support technology programmes, further monitoring industrial R&D activities;
- identifying critical development problems, assisting with their resolution, performing related analysis and design work as required;
- contributing to defining and setting up optical ground support equipment for performance verification and spectroradiometric calibration of optical instruments and the relevant components;

- contributing to the dissemination of the results of activities performed and knowledge transfer across the Agency.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in Optical Engineering or Applied Physics (with major emphasis on optics). Preference will be given to candidates with a PhD or equivalent in a relevant field.

Several years' industrial experience in the design, assembly and testing of optical instruments is required for one or more of the following optical instruments: spectrometers, interferometers, astronomical telescopes, optical aperture synthesis. Hands-on experience involving optical ground support equipment for spectroradiometric calibration and optical laboratories is highly desirable.

Candidates should have good interpersonal and communication skills. They should be able to work autonomously, effectively and cooperatively in a diverse and international team environment, defining and implementing solutions in line with team and individual objectives and project deadlines.

Applicants should also have good analytical, organisational and reporting skills, a proactive attitude to problem-solving and an interest in innovative technologies.

The Agency's working languages are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these languages is required. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **1 September 2015**.

Applications from external candidates for this post should preferably be made [online](http://www.esa.int/careers) from the ESA website (www.esa.int/careers). Those unable to apply online should submit their CVs to Human Resources, ESTEC, Keplerlaan 1, 2201 AZ Noordwijk ZH, The Netherlands.

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

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

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 first be 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.