

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Operations

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

POST

System Engineer in the Columbus and Payloads Engineering Section, Columbus Operations Division, ISS Programme and Exploration Department, [Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Operations](#).

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 directly to the Head of the Columbus & Payloads Engineering Section and contribute to the planning and oversight of the engineering activities concerning the ESA ISS infrastructure elements. The scope includes all European systems and payload facilities flying on the ISS, part of which will be assigned under his/her engineering management responsibilities.

Specific duties will include:

- ensuring industry provides proper engineering support to the operation centres and that mission needs and requirements are thus met;
- monitoring industry's provision of services for the engineering integration and verification of experiments on Columbus;
- supporting the definition of requirements and processes for supplier level support for troubleshooting and anomaly resolution of malfunctions;
- participating in the establishment of strategy and policy for long-term ESA flight system operations and maintenance;
- supporting the implementation of the engineering industrial organisation to ensure it is properly set up to meet ESA needs and obligations, including interagency agreements if applicable;
- contributing to the contractual transition to operations of projects whose development phase has been completed. This may include participation in project milestone reviews, and transfer to operations reviews;
- interfacing with industry engineering managers as required with respect to implementation of the maintenance function. This will include monitoring the industrial activities required for hardware repair and upgrades;
- supporting and coordinating with the Product Assurance authority the Material Review Boards (MRB) process as needed to support failure resolution and recovery;

- supporting integration of the engineering database needed for the long-term maintenance and operations of the relevant projects;
- supporting and participating in mission management boards representing the engineering function, and the ESA Engineering Change Board.

QUALIFICATIONS Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in engineering with extensive space system engineering management experience. This should include experience in project development and hardware procurement.

A proven aptitude for teamwork and interpersonal communication is mandatory, along with the ability to manage interfaces with many counterparts and contractors.

Considerable knowledge and experience in the following areas is desirable:

- Columbus systems, payload and equipment (including avionics and communication aspects);
- Space Station engineering integration and operation processes;
- interaction of the Columbus Systems with the rest of the Space Station.

The post requires candidates to be system-minded and have a result-oriented approach to work in a highly operational environment. They should have a marked competence for planning and organising tasks, good communications skills and the ability to coordinate activities with groups spread across different sites.

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 would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE The closing date for applications is **29 July 2014**.

Applications from external candidates for this post should preferably be made [online](#) from the ESA website (www.esa.int/careers). Those unable to apply online 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.

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.