

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

Payload System Engineer in the Material Science Payloads Unit, Utilisation Infrastructure and Payloads/Experiment Development Division, Development 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 be responsible for system and AIV engineering for the payloads under development in the Division, with particular emphasis on the material science payloads. However, the incumbent will also support the final phases of the ACES (Atomic Clock in Space) project, with particular attention to the verification and final acceptance processes.

The postholder will report to the Section Head, and will liaise closely with the industrial prime contractors, with the Physical Science Office (HSO-UP), and with the ESA team responsible for ISS Integration and Operations (Columbus Operations Division: HSO-IC).

Specifically, the incumbent will be responsible for:

- monitoring industrial activities for the development, integration, test and initial operations of the material science payloads;
- supporting the project manager in continuous status monitoring of the payload activities, assigning corrective actions, elaborating solutions for resource conflicts and implementing necessary changes to the established requirements and plans;
- supporting the progressive establishment of the payload baseline, from requirements up to and including the end item definition;
- providing support to the contractors in defining and implementing the functional specifications, in defining and controlling the payload external and internal interfaces, and in verifying and documenting the verification of all payload requirements;
- supporting and providing inputs to the ISS Integration and Operations teams (including ESA, Industry and the USOCs) and to the Physical Science Office to prepare the operational phase of the payloads;
- supporting coordination with the specialised engineering support from the Directorate of Technical and Quality Management as required;

- supporting technical discussions/negotiations with launch authorities for the launcher interfaces;
- supporting the organisation and the conduct of project reviews at system, ground segment, and payload level;
- providing support to other projects in critical phases. In particular, supporting the verification and final acceptance of ACES.

QUALIFICATIONS Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in Engineering and/or Physics.

A proven ability to co-operate with industrial partners in achieving common goals is required. Candidates are expected to demonstrate excellent technical and system-level coordination skills, and the ability to synthesise complex technical information.

Applicants should also have:

- good interpersonal skills with the ability to work effectively in a diverse team environment;
- a proactive attitude to solving problems and achieving solutions in line with team objectives;
- good communication skills, both verbal and written;
- good organisational skills, together with a self-motivated, innovative and creative in their work approach.

For behavioural competencies expected from ESA staff, please refer to the [ESA Competency Framework](#).

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

CLOSING DATE The closing date for applications is **7 January 2016**.

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 Human Resources Division, 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, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, 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.