

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

On-Board Computers and Data Handling Engineer in the On-Board Computers & Data Handling Section, Data Systems Division, Electrical 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 the On-Board Computers and Data Handling (OBDH) Section. The Section's domain of responsibility covers control and data handling computers, low-level software, data transfer interfaces, command & control protocols and buses, solid state mass memories, authentication/encryption modules, and general underlying microelectronics devices such as microcontrollers and interface components.

The duties will mainly consist in providing support to projects and contributing to the Section's R&D activities.

- To support projects, duties will range from monitoring subsystem and equipment specification and procurement activities to evaluating detailed design and analyses, participating in reviews and meetings, developing and qualifying equipment up to final integration of the avionics and data handling subsystems.
- To support R&D activities, the incumbent will contribute to proposing, defining and executing new activities in the OBDH area, which will include:
 - spacecraft platform avionics and interaction with the spacecraft payload;
 - OBDH system architectures and building blocks (equipment/units, modules and key components);
 - mass memories with file system access;
 - on-board interfaces like MIL-STD-1553B, SpaceWire, CAN bus;
 - on-board communication services and protocols;
 - on-board communication-related ECSS and CCSDS standards;
 - interfaces with telemetry/telecommand (TM/TC) front end;
 - hardware/software implementation of security concepts for space avionics.

The postholder will additionally contribute to the distribution of the results of activities performed and the transfer of knowledge across the Agency.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in computer science, networks, electronics, telecommunications or a related field, plus some years' experience of OBC and DH systems. A good background in the design, simulation, manufacturing and testing of spacecraft platform equipment, modules, boards and components is also required.

Knowledge and experience of on-board data interfaces, buses and networks is mandatory.

Candidates should also be familiar with space applications of computers and data handling and communication systems, and have knowledge of the space environment, related ECSS engineering standards and space quality requirements.

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

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

For behavioural competencies expected from ESA staff in general, 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 **10 May 2016**.

Applications from external candidates should preferably be made [online](#) 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, 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.