

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality

ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. Applications from women are encouraged.

POST

Thermal Engineer in the Thermal Control Section, Thermal Division, Mechanical Department, [Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality](#).

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

This position forms part of ESA's Advance Recruitment Scheme which is established to provide appropriate staffing resources when requirements materialise. Appointments are therefore made for an initial duration of two years subsequent to which the selected candidate may be appointed to a permanent post in the Agency.

LOCATION

ESTEC, Noordwijk (Netherlands).

DUTIES

The post holder will report to the Head of the Thermal Control Section within the Thermal Division. The Section provides functional support to ESA projects and carries out technological research (R&D) in the thermal domain, including in particular heat transport, cryogenics, and thermal protection.

Within the technical domain described above, the main tasks and responsibilities of the post will include the following:

- providing expert technical support and consultancy to ESA projects, programmes and general studies in the field of thermal throughout all project phases. Initially, the postholder will be expected to contribute mainly to Agency spacecraft and instruments requiring the use of advanced heat transport systems;
- participating in project reviews and evaluations of procurement proposals;
- performing analysis as required to support the thermal subsystem definition;
- participating in thermal testing activities in support of these projects and correlating analysis and test results;
- identifying critical development problems and assisting in their resolution;
- contributing to the definition of technology development requirements and work plans for the Agency's technology programmes;
- defining, initiating and managing R&D activities covering both long- and short-term needs, in particular for heat transport systems;
- fostering new application areas for multidisciplinary activities, placing emphasis on innovative concepts, cutting-edge technologies and system architectures;
- monitoring applicable scientific and technological trends and maintaining state-of-the-art expertise;

- contributing to European Cooperation for Space Standardization (ECSS) activities in the thermal engineering area;
- contributing to the dissemination of the results of the 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 physics or thermal/mechanical engineering. General knowledge of space thermal control and of the associated thermal analysis tools e.g. ESATAN-TMS, is required. A first experience with thermal control technologies and associated hardware e.g. two-phase heat transport systems, would be an asset.

Candidates should have good interpersonal and communication skills. They should 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. In particular, they should be able to demonstrate a high degree of professional curiosity and a strong interest in learning.

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 languages is required. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **6 April 2017**.

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 CV 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.

If you require support with your application due to a disability, please email contact.human.resources@esa.int.

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, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Recruitment will normally be at the first grade in the band (A2); however, if the candidate selected has little or no experience, the position may be filled at A1 level.

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.