

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** AOCS¹ & Pointing Systems Engineer in the AOCS & Pointing Systems Section, Guidance, Navigation & Control (GNC), AOCS & Pointing Division, Systems Department, [Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality](#).
- This post is classified in the A2–A4 grade band on the Coordinated Organisations' salary scale.
- LOCATION** ESTEC, Noordwijk (Netherlands).
- DUTIES** The AOCS & Pointing Systems Section provides functional support to ESA projects and carries out technological research in competitive, innovative and high-accuracy control systems and attitude sensors.
- Reporting to the Head of Section and within the above technical fields, the postholder will carry out the following main tasks and responsibilities:
- providing support to projects, programmes and general studies in the field of AOCS and pointing systems, contributing to conceptual design studies for future missions and monitoring the activities of industrial contractors during all phases of satellite procurement from preliminary definition to launch;
 - participating in project reviews and evaluations of procurement proposals;
 - identifying critical development problems and assisting with their resolution;
 - contributing to the definition of technology development requirements for the Agency's technology programmes;
 - defining, initiating and managing R&D activities covering long- and short-term needs and addressing both AOCS-enabling concepts and hardware technology (star trackers, sun/earth sensors, gyroscopes, accelerometers, magnetometers, magnetic torquers);
 - fostering new application areas for multidisciplinary activities, placing emphasis on innovative concepts, cutting-edge technologies and system architectures;
 - participating in laboratory work for the evaluation and prototyping of new AOCS, pointing systems and attitude sensor designs;
 - monitoring applicable scientific and technological trends and maintaining state-of-the-art expertise;
 - contributing to the dissemination of the results of activities performed and the transfer of knowledge across the Agency.

¹ Attitude and Orbit Control Systems

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in control and aerospace engineering, with at least five years' experience in the development of satellite AOCS, preferably with exposure to the full development cycle from design to launch. Demonstrated experience in control design, analysis and simulation, as well as existing/future sensor and actuator technologies, is required.

Preference will be given to those with expertise in one or more of the following areas related to AOCS:

- failure detection, isolation and recovery (FDIR);
- software implementation;
- testing and verification;
- space hardware qualification;
- in-orbit operations.

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.

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 **18 April 2017**.

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

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.

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.