

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Science

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 Experiment System Engineer in the PRODEX Office, Future Missions Department, [Directorate of Science](#).

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

LOCATION ESTEC, Noordwijk (The Netherlands).

DUTIES PRODEX is an optional programme devoted to the development of scientific instruments and experiments for space science missions. The development may involve industry and/or scientific institutes and may cover either a full instrument or instrument contributions/subsystems.

Reporting to the Technical Support Manager, the postholder will be in charge of implementing a number of PRODEX activities, with emphasis on instrument hardware development.

Typical duties include:

- being the focal point for technical and administrative interfaces between PRODEX experimenters and the Technical Support Manager;
- establishing the overall work programme for the development of PRODEX experiments within the scientific institutes in line with the relevant delegations' instructions;
- being responsible for monitoring the technical, schedule and financial status of experiment development, identifying potential problem areas and proposing remedial action;
- assisting, in coordination with scientific institutes, with preparing tender documents, participating in proposal evaluations, preparing the information required for contract negotiations and subsequently monitoring the end-to-end development of projects/activities contracted to industrial consortia;
- liaising between the relevant scientific institutes and industry for the duration of the contracts;
- interfacing internally with ESA project teams or specialists on technical/programmable matters and with the relevant financial and procurement experts on financial and contractual matters.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a university PhD or Master's Degree in physics or space engineering with solid experience in space instrumentation development and system engineering.

Experience of interacting with the scientific community will be an advantage. Candidates should demonstrate a good balance between interacting with scientific institutions and with industrial partners. Familiarity with project management concepts and project control principles is mandatory.

Candidates should be system oriented and adaptable to the specific management style of each project and all partners. They should be able to manage progress of each contract taking into consideration both technical aspects as well as financial and scheduling constraints.

Applicants should be able to liaise and consult with Agency specialists where specific expertise is needed, integrating their input into a more global solution.

Candidates must have effective interpersonal skills and excellent communication skills in order to cooperate with a wide range of interfaces both internally and externally to achieve their goals.

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 together with a working knowledge of the other. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **11 May 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.

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.