

Job Title: Topography Mission and Payload Performance Engineer

Req ID 1041 - Posted 21/07/2017



EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Earth Observation Programmes.

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

Topography Mission and Payload Performance Engineer

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

Location

ESTEC, Noordwijk, The Netherlands

Topography Mission and Payload Performance Engineer

Topography Mission and Payload Performance Engineer in the Copernicus Sentinel-3 Project Division, Earth Observation Projects Department, Earth Observation Programmes Directorate

Duties

Copernicus Sentinel-3 is an element within the Agency's Copernicus Space Component (CSC) Programme. The Sentinel-3 project comprises the procurement of 4 nearly identical spacecraft (A/B/C and D models). The Sentinel-3A model was launched in February 2016, the B model is set for launch end 2017/early 2018, while the procurement of the C&D models started early 2016 and will continue until the beginning of the new decade.

The holder of this post will be responsible for all Topography Mission aspects, also including the performance of the Topography Payload, which encompasses a SAR Radar Altimeter (SRAL), a Microwave Radiometer (MWR), a GNSS Receiver and Doris navigation equipment.

The main tasks consist in:

- Supporting the assessment and resolution of possible in-flight anomalies observed on Sentinel-3A and later on Sentinel-3B, during their respective routine operations Phase (Phase-E2);
- Leading the preparation of the Sentinel-3B commissioning activities related to the Topography Payload: establishing the associated SIOV and CalVal plans and coordinating the test and rehearsal activities of the commissioning tasks with the support of relevant experts;
- After the launch of Sentinel-3B, leading the in-orbit commissioning activities of the Topography Payload (Phase-E1) within the allocated schedule;
- Supporting the Sentinel-3 C/D Topography Payload procurement activities within applicable schedule and cost and ensuring compliance with the relevant instrument performance requirements and the associated mission requirements;
- Coordinating and monitoring the external support activities provided by CNES in the framework of the ESACNES cooperation agreement for Sentinel-3 C&D;
- Coordinating and monitoring the Topography Mission support activities contracted to industry in the framework of the ESA-CNES cooperation agreement and related to the SRAL and MWR instruments.

In the execution of his/her tasks, the postholder will report to the Sentinel 3 Payload Manager, while also supporting the Sentinel-3 Mission System & Operations Manager for those aspects related to the preparation and implementation of the in-orbit commissioning phase. The Topography Mission and Payload Performance Engineer will liaise closely with the relevant Instrument Procurement Engineers within the Section and with the engineers of the other sections in the Project.

Furthermore, he/she will constitute the main technical interface between the ESA Project and CNES for the implementation of the ESA-CNES cooperation agreement.

Technical competencies

Knowledge of cost and schedule aspects related to area of responsibility
ESA and industrial development, verification and procurement processes
Knowledge of other technical domains with interfaces to own area of responsibility
Experience in mission, spacecraft and/or payload operations
Knowledge of ESA programmes/projects
Knowledge of space projects, including instrumentation and operations
Launch campaign
State-of-the-art knowledge in area of responsibility at required level
Commissioning in flight of Earth Observation payloads and supporting activities

Behavioural competencies

Communication
Planning & organisation
Problem solving
Responsible decision-making
Results orientation
Teamwork

Additional requirements

As the incumbent is expected to support the in-flight commissioning of Sentinel-3B immediately after take-up of duties, a good knowledge of the Sentinel-3 Topography Payload and previous experience in commissioning activities is considered necessary.

Education

Applicants should have a university degree or equivalent qualification in a relevant engineering field, together with previous experience in the development of microwave instruments for space projects.

Other information

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. The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

The closing date for applications is 25 August 2017.

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

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.