

# Job Title: Spacecraft Operations Engineer

Req ID 8796 - Posted 30/07/2019



## EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Operations.

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

#### Spacecraft Operations Engineer

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

### Location

ESOC, Darmstadt, Germany

### Description

Spacecraft Operations Engineer in the Gaia Spacecraft Operations Unit, Astronomy and Fundamental Physics Missions Division, Mission Operations Department, Directorate of Operations.

### Duties

Initially assigned to the Gaia Flight Control Team, the postholder will report to the Gaia Spacecraft Operations Manager (SOM). Tasks will include:

- assisting the SOM with preparing/executing Gaia operations, including nominal and extended routine and end-of-mission phases;
- being Acting SOM when delegated that role;
- assisting the SOM with Operations Ground Segment (OGS) evolution and validation, including internal/external interfaces;
- defining, preparing and executing ground segment validation tests, including acceptance, system validation and ground segment system testing for any upgrades;
- planning and executing routine, special and contingency recovery operations, including mission planning, reporting, anomaly investigation and resolution;
- analysing and reporting spacecraft and ground segment long-term performance;
- interfacing with mission management and the Science Ground Segment for related activities;
- interfacing with ESA specialists and industry regarding technical matters, including spacecraft design and operations;
- interfacing with other ESOC Divisions regarding spacecraft operations and ground segment technical matters;
- supporting other missions delegated to the Division, including XMM, Integral, Euclid, PLATO, Ariel, and future astronomy and fundamental physics missions as required;
- supporting ESA and ESOC corporate activities as required.

### Technical competencies

General background and specific experience in the technical domains covered by the position

Experience in mission, spacecraft and/or payload operations

Experience in development and maintenance of ground infrastructure and/or software systems

Knowledge and experience of ground segment, simulators and operations covering all mission phases

### Behavioural competencies

Communication

Planning & Organisation  
Problem Solving  
Teamwork  
Customer Focus  
Innovation & Creativity

## Education

University degree (Master's level) or equivalent qualification in engineering or physics.

## Additional requirements

Experience with both spacecraft platform and subsystem operations is required. Launch/LEOP experience in an operational capacity would be an asset.

Flexibility and adaptability are required, to deal with a multi-subject/multi-project operational environment.

## 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 8 September 2019.**

If you require support with your application due to a disability, please email [contact.human.resources@esa.int](mailto:contact.human.resources@esa.int).

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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.

According to the ESA Convention the recruitment of staff must take into account an adequate distribution of posts among nationals of the ESA Member States. When short-listing for an interview, priority will first be given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented Member States. (<http://esamultimedia.esa.int/docs/careers/NationalityTargets.pdf>)

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.

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.