

# Job Title: Spacecraft Operations Engineer

Requisition ID 11963 - Posted 28/01/2021



## 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. For this purpose, we welcome applications from all qualified candidates irrespective of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, beliefs, age, disability or other characteristics. 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 Solar System and Exploration Missions Division, Mission Operations Department, Directorate of Operations.

The Solar System and Exploration Missions Division is responsible for the design, implementation and operations of the mission operations ground segment and the spacecraft operations for ESA missions that travel in interplanetary space, typically from start of phase B through in-flight commissioning to routine mission operations until the end of mission.

### Duties

You will initially be assigned to the Mission Operations Definition Unit within the Solar System and Exploration Missions Division and will report hierarchically to the Head of Unit.

Your tasks will include the following:

- Assisting the Head of Unit or delegated representative in the definition, preparation and execution of mission operations assigned to the Unit, including nominal, special and contingency operations, spacecraft and ground segment anomaly investigation and resolution, and performance evaluation and reporting;
- Performing the acting Spacecraft Operations Manager (SOM) role when delegated;
- Assisting the SOM in the specification, development, validation, maintenance and evolution of the ground segment systems and operational products required to conduct mission operations;
- Interfacing with other areas within the Agency, industry, the user community, external centres and/or agencies on all aspects related to the area of responsibility;
- Providing support to the SOM / Head of Unit in discharging the Unit's mandate and preparing for new missions to be operated by the Unit(s)/Division. This may include participation in reviews, preparations and operations of other missions delegated to the Unit, Division or Department and support to other D/OPS or ESA activities.

### Technical competencies

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

Knowledge of mission, spacecraft and/or payload operations

Understanding of development and maintenance of ground infrastructure and/or software systems

Knowledge of large operations and associated software systems, preferably space-based

### Behavioural competencies

Result Orientation

Operational Efficiency

Fostering Cooperation

Relationship Management

Continuous Improvement

Forward Thinking

### Education

A Master's degree in engineering or physics.

## **Additional requirements**

---

The initial assignment will be primarily in the area of mission operations definition, thus focusing on Phase 0/pre-A/A/B1 activities. Understanding of and if possible experience in the definition of mission operations concepts, ground segment preliminary requirements, and costing would be an asset.  
System and broader business thinking.

## **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 February 2021.**

At the Agency we value diversity and we welcome people with disabilities. Whenever possible, we seek to accommodate individuals with disabilities by providing the necessary support at the workplace. The Human Resources Department can also provide assistance during the recruitment process. If you would like to discuss this further please contact us at [contact.human.resources@esa.int](mailto: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, Latvia 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. (<https://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.