

## Spacecraft Operations Engineer

**Job Req ID:** 12480

**Closing Date:** 09 June 2021

**Publication:** Internal & External

**Vacancy Type:** Permanent

**Date Posted:** 12 May 2021

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.

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

### Location

ESOC, Darmstadt, Germany

### Description

Spacecraft Operations Engineer in the Earth Observation Missions Division, Mission Operations Department, Directorate of Operations.

The Earth Observation Missions Division is responsible for the design, implementation and operations of the flight operations ground segment and the spacecraft operations for all ESA Earth observation satellites and the Copernicus missions entrusted to ESA, typically from the start of phase B through in-flight commissioning to routine mission operations until the end of the mission.

### Duties

You will be initially assigned to the Copernicus Sentinels Optical Imaging Missions Operations Unit in the Earth Observation Missions Division and will report hierarchically to the Head of Unit and functionally to the Sentinel-2 Spacecraft Operations Manager.

Your tasks will include the following:

- Assisting the Spacecraft Operations Manager (SOM) in the definition, preparation and execution of the mission operations assigned to the Unit, including nominal, special and contingency operations, spacecraft and ground segment anomaly investigation and resolution, performance evaluation and reporting;
- Performing the acting 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 in the Agency, industry, the user community, external centres and/or agencies regarding all aspects related to your 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 (LSTM, CHIM, S2NG). This may include participation in reviews, preparations for and operations of other missions delegated to the Unit, the Division or the 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 is required for this post.

### **Additional requirements**

Demonstrated practical experience in spacecraft operations over several years is essential. Knowledge of Earth Observation Projects, and Copernicus missions in particular, would be considered an asset.

### **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.

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 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, 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.