

Ground and User Segment Engineer

Job Req ID: 12341

Closing Date: 11 October 2021

Publication: Internal & External

Vacancy Type: Permanent

Date Posted: 27 September 2021

Vacancy in the Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality.

ESA is an equal opportunity employer, committed to achieving diversity within the workforce and creating an inclusive working environment. We therefore 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

ESTEC, Noordwijk, Netherlands

Description

Ground & User Segment Engineer in the Commercial User Segment and Navigation System Validation Section, Radio Frequency Systems Division, Electrical Department, Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality.

The Commercial User Segment and Navigation System Validation Section provides functional support to ESA projects. The Section covers the design, development and testing of pre-commercial and commercial ground (user/infrastructure) equipment. It provides support to the implementation and testing of satellite navigation, telecom and Earth observation systems falling within the terms of reference of the Division, and is responsible for the development of dedicated test facilities. The Section supports both institutional and commercial programmes and relies on ad-hoc support from specialists from other sections in the Directorate.

Duties

Reporting to the Head of Section and within the technical fields described above, your main tasks and responsibilities will include:

- providing expert technical support and consultancy to ESA projects, programmes and general studies in the field of ground and user segments for satellite navigation, telecom and Earth observation systems throughout all project phases;
- participating in feasibility studies, project reviews and evaluation of procurement proposals;
- identifying critical development problems and assisting in their resolution;
- contributing to the definition of technology development requirements and work plans for the Agency's technology programmes;
- defining, initiating and managing R&D activities covering both long- and short-term needs;

- fostering new application areas for multidisciplinary activities, placing emphasis on innovative concepts, cutting-edge technologies and system architectures;
- laboratory activities, as required;
- monitoring applicable scientific and technological trends and maintaining state-of-the-art expertise;
- contributing to the dissemination of the results of the activities performed and the transfer of knowledge across the Agency.

Your duties may also include supporting other activities within your field of competence.

Technical competencies

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

Understanding of related technologies, R&D trends and the industrial landscape including technology roadmap definition

Spacecraft systems knowledge

Experience in preparation of procurement activities for technology development and innovation (statements of work, proposal evaluation)

Experience in the management and monitoring of industrial activities, including participation in reviews

Behavioural competencies

Result Orientation

Operational Efficiency

Fostering Cooperation

Relationship Management

Continuous Improvement

Forward Thinking

Education

A Master's degree in telecommunications, navigation, computer science or aerospace for this specific post is required.

Additional requirements

Concerning the ground and user segments of satellite navigation, telecom and Earth observation systems, you need to show:

- Knowledge of the industrial landscape, value chains and markets
- Broad understanding of applied engineering and generic knowledge of technological equipment, methods and applicable processes.
- Knowledge and direct experience with the state-of-the-art technology for Radio Frequency Space Systems and understanding of the main technological issues.

It is considered an asset if you have expertise and several years' professional experience in some of the following topics:

- Satellite radio navigation systems, in particular technologies in the ground and user segments such as RF spatial and polarisation diversity, RF security and signal authentication, autonomous navigation, high accuracy positioning and integration with inertial sensors.
- Satellite telecommunications, in particular technologies related to Space for 5G
- Artificial intelligence applied to Earth observation, navigation and telecommunications user and/ or ground segments

- Management of projects in the framework of ESA co-funding programmes such as GSTP, NAVISP and Incubed

You must be eligible for security clearance from your national security administration.

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.

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, Lithuania 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.

[Apply now »](#)