

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

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. Applications from women are encouraged.

POST Mechanisms Engineer in the Mechanisms Section, Structure, Mechanisms and Materials Division, Mechanical Department, [Directorate of Technology, Engineering and Quality](#).

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

This position forms part of ESA's Advance Recruitment Scheme which is established to provide appropriate staffing resources when requirements materialise. Appointments are therefore made for an initial duration of two years subsequent to which the selected candidate may be appointed to a permanent post in the Agency.

LOCATION ESTEC, Noordwijk (Netherlands).

DUTIES The Mechanisms Section's main activities cover the following technical areas: space mechanisms (such as for deployment and pointing or hold-down and release, solar array drives, and reaction wheels), tribology, pyrotechnics, and space mechanical systems for satellites and launchers.

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

- providing expert technical support and consultancy to ESA projects, programmes and general studies throughout all project phases;
- participating in project reviews and procurement package evaluations;
- identifying critical development problems and assisting in their resolution, as well as assessing mechanisms development and verification test programmes;
- establishing relevant technology development requirements under the Agency's basic and supporting technology programmes;
- defining, initiating and monitoring appropriate industrial research and development activities;
- monitoring applicable technological trends and maintaining state-of-the-art expertise in the relevant domains;
- pursuing product developments for science and commercial space market applications in the field of space mechanisms;
- fostering new application areas for multidisciplinary mechanical systems, placing emphasis on innovative concepts, cutting-edge technologies and system architectures that can lead to potential breakthroughs in mission capabilities;
- defining relevant infrastructure requirements in terms of testing, standards and numerical simulation;
- contributing to dissemination of the results of the activities performed and the transfer of knowledge across the Agency.

Duties may also include supporting other activities within the post holder field of competence.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master's degree or equivalent qualification in mechanical or aeronautical engineering or a similar field. Some years of experience in the development of mechanisms for space or aeronautical applications will be considered an asset.

Candidates should have good interpersonal and communication skills. They should be able to work autonomously, effectively and cooperatively in a diverse and international team environment, defining and implementing solutions in line with team and individual objectives, as well as project deadlines. In particular, they should be able to demonstrate a high degree of professional curiosity and a strong interest in learning.

They should have also good analytical, organisational and reporting skills, a proactive attitude to solving problems and an interest in innovative technologies.

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 languages is required. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **6 April 2017**.

Applications from external candidates should preferably be made [online](#) from the ESA website (www.esa.int/careers). Those unable to apply online should submit their CV to Human Resources, ESTEC, Keplerlaan 1, 2201 AZ Noordwijk ZH, The Netherlands.

ESA staff members wishing to apply should fill in the [Internal Application Form](#) and email it to [Apply2ESTEC](#).

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

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

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.

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.